

MANCHESTER PICKWICK CLUB

Minutes of the 505th Meeting held at Headquarters,
the Nag's Head Hotel, Manchester, on
Wednesday, 21 May 1941

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A very fair number of Pickwickians assembled in the downstairs bar for a preliminary center and eventually wended their way to the lounge of the Nag's Head which mine hostess had placed at their disposal.

Mr. Pickwick duly opened the Meeting and the Minutes of the 504th Meeting were read and on the motion of Pott supported by Snoddy approved.

Apologies for absence were received by letter from Jack Hopkins, Tony Weller and Sgt. Buzfuz.

Jack Hopkins on behalf of the Chorlton Liberal Club offered accommodation to the Pickwickians for their next meeting, but pointed out that the third Wednesday in each month coincided with meetings of the Chorlton Club. He also invited as many Pickwickians as could attend to an exhibition billiard and snooker match to be held at the club on 27 May. This invitation was greatly appreciated and the members hoped to be able to make their arrangements.

With regard to the Pickwickian meeting at the Chorlton Club, it was decided to take advantage of this kind offer and as Jack Hopkins came on the telephone to express further regret for absence and to fix up a date it was agreed that the meeting be held on Wednesday, 11 May ~~June~~ at 7 p.m.

George Nupkins explained that he had been unable to obtain accommodation at the Old Trafford Hotel; the windows and doors had been blown out and it would probably be some time before we could fix a visit there.

Reference was made to the death of Mr. Molyneux (late host of the Nag's Head) and the Secretary was instructed to convey the condolences of the Club to his widow.

During this time the worldly comforts of the members had not been neglected and in the absence of the lift Mr. Fogg worthily supported Podder - so much so in fact that he was complimented on his ability as a barman. (Perhaps Mr. Fogg will now consider a new career).

The talk ran on and presently descended on one Joe Toole (late Mayor of Manchester). These ^{stories} were many and varied but hardly meet for including in these chaste records.

Mr. Pickwick now produced a papal bull, which was as comprehensive a curse as the members have seen and enough to depress the recipient for the rest of his natural life.

Snoddy produced a book which most members would remember as having a considerable reputation amongst the school girls some thirty or forty years ago - Little Women - and he read a highly entertaining extract regarding the doings of this Pickwick Club which comprised only two very youthful members.

Horatio Fizkins whom we were all pleased to learn had been able to spare a night away from his innumerable activities gave us the recitation in dialect "The Sun" which was much appreciated.

It was moved by Mr. Pott seconded by Mr. Geo. Nupkins that Mr. Grocock, Orchard Wood Road, Whalley Range, be invited to attend future meetings with a view to electing him as a ^{new} young member.

The toast to Charles Dickens, Absent Members and to the King were in their turn duly honoured.

This was the first of the summer meetings and a very pleasant evening was spent by all. We hope other meetings of this present session will be equally well attended.

Present: Mr. Pickwick, Mr. Snodgrass, Mr. Pott, Mr. G. Nupkins, Mr. Horatio Fizkins, Dr. Slammer, Mr. Fogg, Mr. Podder, Alf Jingle and Dodson.