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PIONEERS OF SURPRISE RINGING.

A note concerning a peal of London Surprise rung at Royston, Herts, is a reminder of how modern is the general practice of Surprise ringing. In these times the methods of London, Cambridge and Superlative are in everyday use and are rung by hundreds of ringers. Last year the peals in these methods exceeded those of Stedman Triples and were nearly as many as Grandsire Triples—which shows, quite apart from the rest of the Surprise peals, over a hundred in number in more than thirty other methods, how far and how rapidly method ringing has advanced. Our note recalls that Mr. Frederick Dench, whose name was more prominently before the Exercise a generation ago both as a ringer and composer than it is to-day, rang his first peal of London Surprise in 1895, as a member of a celebrated band at Crawley, Sussex. Up to that time only twenty-six peals of London Surprise had ever been rung! And, apart from three early peals, rung up to the year 1870, and regarded almost as freak performances, the bands concerned could be numbered on the fingers of one hand, while even in the whole twenty-five years, to the end of the nineteenth century, during which period Surprise ringing was being popularised, the conductors of London Surprise peals numbered a bare twenty, while, perhaps, only five of those could really be regarded as frequent conductors of these methods.

Surprise ringing in those days was practically limited to London, Cambridge and Superlative, and the men who rang them not unjustifiably regarded their performances as the 'top of the tree.' It was the band at Burton-on-Trent, of which William Wakley was the leader, that really showed Surprise ringing to be something more than the 'crank' stuff it was often previously, and even afterwards, termed. They laid the foundations of its popularity and demonstrated that competent bands could practise it with success. Oxford Guild ringers, with J. W. Washbrook and the Rev. F. E. Robinson, followed the lead of the Burton men, and soon the society at St. Peter's, Brighton, took up the example set, until, in the early nineties the interest which Surprise ringing provided over what were known as 'standard' methods, was beginning to be widely recognised. Nevertheless, peals were by no means 'cheap.' The men who rang them earned their success, and they deserve all the credit which is theirs for raising ringing from the rut of the previous century, and laying the foundation of the aspirations of the majority of ringers to-day. A peal of London, Cambridge or Superlative raises little comment now; but fifty years ago it was a thing to stir the interest of every change ringer with an outlook not con-

(Continued on page 498.)

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finned by the four walls of his own tower. It is just as well, perhaps, in these times when Surprise ringing has reached a stage undreamt of a generation ago, that ringers should be reminded of the pioneer days and of the men, some, happily, still living, whose enterprise and perseverance brought Surprise ringing within the realm of "practical politics."

TEN BELL PEAL.

BECCLES, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, July 17, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

IN THE CAMPANILE OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt. in D flat.

JAMES SPALDING Treble	*STANLEY W. GALL 6
NOLAN GOLDEN 2	GODFREY G. WALPOLE 7
MISS K. M. LEWIS 3	*DONALD A. LONG 8
*STANLEY FENN 4	EDWIN R. GOATE 9
MISS D. R. CONSTANCE 5	CHARLES F. SAYER Tenor

Arranged by E. R. GOATE.

Conducted by C. F. SAYER.

* First peal of Treble Ten.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WORKSOP, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 17, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF GAINSBOROUGH LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

ARTHUR MULVEY Treble	KENNETH MAYER 5
PERCY HOLMES 2	HERBERT T. ROOKE 6
*FRANK VERNON 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE 7
HAROLD DENMAN 4	CLIFFORD A. VESSEY Tenor

Composed by W. AYRE.

Conducted by C. A. VESSEY.

* 25th peal. First peal in the method by all the band and for the association.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, July 17, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

EDWIN A. CRACKNELL Treble	SHELFORD SPARROW 5
HARRY D. LISTER 2	FRANK L. FISHER 6
ARTHUR GRIMWOOD 3	GEORGE A. FLEMING 7
FREDERICK J. SMITH 4	WILLIAM C. ROMSEY Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by G. A. FLEMING.

WHITWORTH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 17, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ALWYN TAYLOR Treble	FRANK LAWTON 5
WILLIAM BERRY 2	HAROLD HAMER 6
JOHN MEADOWCROFT 3	JAMES H. BASTOW 7
OGDEN, MOORES 4	IVAN KAY Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM BERRY.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 17, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 27 lb. in E flat.

*HARRY CHEESMAN Treble	ALBERT E. CHEESMAN 5
ALBERT J. ADAMS 2	WILLIAM HENLEY 6
EDWARD G. TALBOT 3	ROYDON DAVIES 7
WILLIAM WELLING 4	TONY PRICE Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by WILLIAM WELLING.

* First peal of Major and aged 13.

ELVEDON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, July 18, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE MEMORIAL TOWER, ATTACHED TO THE PARISH CHURCH.
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

SHELFORD SPARROW Treble	KEITH W. WHITTELL 5
ARTHUR GRIMWOOD 2	HARRY D. LISTER 6
ARTHUR R. WOODARD 3	GEORGE W. ABLITT 7
*ROBERT J. STEED 4	EDWIN A. CRACKNELL Tenor

Composed by GEO. H. CROSS. Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

* First peal in the method.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 21, 1937, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5888 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

CHARLES LOOME Treble	FREDERICK W. MUNNINGS 5
ALFRED SMITH 2	ROBERT D. GUNTON 6
CHARLES BAKER 3	FREDERICK ROOPE 7
FREDERICK G. GUNTON 4	ERNEST WHITING Tenor

Composed by D. PRENTICE. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

Rung in honour of the 70th birthday of the Rev. R. H. Stacey,
Rector of Pulham Market.

WIRKSWORTH, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 21, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. W. PARKER'S FIVE-PART, No. 93. Tenor 14½ cwt.

MADRICE SWINFELD Treble	SIDNEY F. PALMER 5
JOHN H. SWINFELD 2	BENJAMIN GREATORIX 6
JOSEPH BAILEY 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
CHARLES DRAPER 4	GEORGE L. RODEN Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

First peal on the bells since rehanging by John Taylor and Co.

ROYSTON, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 22, 1937, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt.

VIOLET SHORTER Treble	BERRY WAYMAN 5
KITTY WILLERS 2	ERNEST G. HIBBINS 6
ALFRED E. PITSTOW 3	FREDERICK DENCH 7
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 4	LEONARD PITSTOW Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FREDK. DENCH.

First peal of London Surprise on the bells.

LONGTON, STAFFS.
THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 22, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS'.	Tenor 16 cwt.
*W. J. CARTER Treble	*H. CARTER 5
E. STEELE 2	A. D. STEEL 6
N. R. HOLLAND 3	H. ROSE 7
†G. A. MOORE 4	W. H. BLOOR Tenor

Conducted by A. D. STEEL.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal 'inside.' Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Eric Holland, youngest member of the tower (age 13) and brother of the 3rd ringer.

SURFLEET, LINGS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EASTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 24, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

*SIDNEY APPLEBY Treble	JOHN R. KEMP 5
GEORGE R. BURRELL 2	†WILLIAM WILKINSON 6
ARTHUR YOUNG 3	WILLIAM E. CLARKE 7
JOHN R. YOUNG 4	ALBERT E. FLATTERS Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES.

* First peal, 16 years of age. † First peal of Treble Bob 'inside.'
First peal of Treble Bob by all the band except ringers of 6 and 7.
First peal of Treble Bob in the branch by all branch members.

BUCKLEBURY, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 24, 1937, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SPLICED BOB MAJOR AND KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. (approx.).

WALTER F. JUDGE Treble	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 5
STELLA DAVIS 2	GEOFFREY E. FOWLER 6
MARIE R. CROSS 3	REGINALD W. REX 7
RUBY M. HAZELL 4	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

First peal rung with these two methods spliced.

UTTOXETER, STAFFORDSHIRE
THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 24, 1937, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STAFFORDSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

*ALAN D. STEEL Treble	*KENNETH LEWIS 5
WILLIAM CARNWELL 2	WILFRED STEVENSON 6
JOHN E. WHEELDON 3	*JAMES A. MILNER 7
THOMAS HURD 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by K. LEWIS.

* First peal in the method. J. Worth's 200th peal. The first peal in the method by the association within its own territory.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 24, 1937, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

ERNEST F. POPPY Treble	*FREDERICK W. MUNNINGS 5
LEONARD E. LAST 2	WILLIAM J. FLATT 6
MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 3	ERNEST WHITING 7
FREDERICK C. GUNTON 4	CHARLES W. LOOME Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 24, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-WITHOUT-THE-WALLS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.	Tenor 20 cwt.
WILLIAM FLETCHER Treble	JAMES SWINDLEY 5
HARRY LEWIS 2	PERCY SWINDLEY 6
JOHN HAYES 3	HARRY PYE 7
SAMUEL JONES, JUN. 4	EDWARD PRICE Tenor

Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.

Rung as a compliment to Miss Florence Lilian Minus and Mr. Eric Hopkinson on the occasion of their marriage which took place earlier in the day at Chester Cathedral. All the above ringers are regular Sunday service ringers.

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SIX BELL PEALS.

EAST BUCKLAND, NORTH DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, July 17, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings.

Tenor 7½ cwt. in A.

EDWARD V. WESTCOY ... Treble	AMBROSE H. HAYWARD ... 4
PETER R. DALE ... 2	THOMAS YEO ... 5
REV. J. H. B. ANDREWS ... 3	FREDERICK P. W. BRAY ... Tenor

Conducted by AMBROSE H. HAYWARD.

First peal on the bells and first peal by all except the conductor. Ringers of treble, 2nd, 3rd and tenor are members of the West Buckland School Guild. Ringers of 4th and 5th hail from Combe Martin.

MATCHING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.

Tenor 10 cwt.

D. BARKAWAY ... Treble	H. SAMS ... 4
D. JENNINGS ... 2	D. JENNINGS ... 5
H. E. TOWNSEND ... 3	R. SOCKLING ... Tenor

Conducted by R. SOCKLING.

TERRINGTON ST. JOHN, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Double Court and Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

SYDNEY FLINT ... Treble	CLAUDE COUSINS ... 4
WALLACE W. COUSINS ... 2	EDWARD GREENACRE ... 5
NOLAN GOLDEN ... 3	CECIL V. EBBERSON ... Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

GRESSENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents called differently.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*GORDON CHAMBERS ... Treble	JOHN A. GODFREY ... 4
ERNEST S. NAYLOR ... 2	FRED R. WILBY ... 5
*ROBERT C. BUNNING ... 3	ERNEST V. BLAKE ... Tenor

Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.

* First peal.

APSLEY END, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 19, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... Treble	*WILLIAM J. RANDALL ... 4
EDWIN JENNINGS ... 2	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 5
*HORACE L. WAITE ... 3	WALTER AYRE ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor. Arranged for Mr. A. Tomlinson, of Blackburn.

WROXHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of seven true extents: (1) Hereward and Double Bob; (2) College Bob and London Bob; (3) Wavertree College and Lytham; (4) Childwall and Thelwall; (5) Plain Bob and Oxford Bob; (6) St. Clement's and Double Oxford; (7) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

SYDNEY FLINT ... Treble	CECIL V. EBBERSON ... 4
NOLAN GOLDEN ... 2	HERBERT C. READ ... 5
GEORGE MAYERS ... 3	GEORGE BAILEY ... Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in 14 methods by all and on the bells. First peal in 14 methods contained in seven true extents by the association. A birthday peal for David Bailey, son of the tenor ringer.

BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

One extent each of College, Childwall, Double Court, St. Clement's, Single Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

RICHARD M. HARVEY ... Treble	THOMAS VESSEY ... 4
JACK VESSEY ... 2	FRANK VERNON ... 5
MISS DOROTHY VESSEY ... 3	CLIFFORD A. VESSEY ... Tenor

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. VESSEY.

First peal in seven plain methods by all the band.

WISSETT, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(HALESWORTH DISTRICT.)

On Thursday, July 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 10 six-scores each of Plain Bob, Old Doubles and Canterbury, and 12 six-scores of Grandsire.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*GEORGE LINES ... Treble	HERBERT G. JILLINGS ... 4
FREDERICK C. LAMBERT ... 2	*GORDON WRIGHT ... 5
C. JACK GIBSON ... 3	*SAMUEL EKINS ... Tenor

Conducted by F. C. LAMBERT.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the Coronation of their Majesties King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth. Also to celebrate the birth of a son for the ringer of the fourth.

GARVESTONE, NORFOLK.

On Saturday, July 24, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Two callings.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HENRY TOOKE ... Treble	*THOMAS SPIGHT ... 4
R. WILLIAM BARBER ... 2	*JOHN A. GODFREY ... 5
GEORGE MAYERS ... 3	WILLIAM CLOVER ... Tenor

Conducted by H. TOOKE.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in the method. First peal of Minor as conductor.

DRAYCOTT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 24, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores with ten callings.

Tenor 14 cwt.

KENNETH SHELLEY ... Treble	JOHN G. CARTLEDGE ... 4
THOMAS TAYLOR ... 2	ANDREW THOMPSON ... 5
SIDNEY THOMPSON ... 3	ARTHUR T. ALLMAN ... Tenor

Conducted by ANDREW THOMPSON.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, July 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT TRENTWOOD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor size 14½ in C sharp

MRS. J. BRAY ... 1-2	JACK BRAY ... 5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON ... 3-4	MRS. R. RICHARDSON ... 7-8

Conducted by J. BRAY.

GRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

IN THE OLD PARISH ROOM,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

*F. G. GROOMBRIDGE ... 1-2	DEREK M. SEARP ... 5-6
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 3-4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7-8

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

* First peal in the method with a working bell.

A DEVON TOUR.

The following five peals were rung in six attempts under the auspices of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

TOTNES, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Monday, July 12, 1937, in three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HARRY W. SIMMONS Treble	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 5
CHARLES H. KIPPIN 2	*THOMAS G. MYERS 6
WALTER CLAYDON 3	DANIEL D. COOPER 7
C. ERNEST SMITH 4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON

Conducted by F. E. COLLINS.

* First Surprise peal. First Surprise peal as conductor. First peal on the bells since their restoration by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 13, 1937, in three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 35 cwt. in C sharp.

ROBERT COLLINS Treble	WALTER CLAYDON 6
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN 2	FREDERICK E. COLLINS 7
MRS. C. H. KIPPIN 3	*THOMAS G. MYERS 8
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN 4	DANIEL D. COOPER 9
C. ERNEST SMITH 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by C. H. KIPPIN.

* First attempt for a peal of Surprise Royal. First peal of Surprise Royal in the county of Devon and for the Guild.

BUCKFASTLEIGH, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, July 15, 1937, in two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

DANIEL D. COOPER Treble	HARRY W. SIMMONS 5
C. ERNEST SMITH 2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE 6
AUBREY L. BENNETT 3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN 7
ROBERT COLLINS 4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

First peal of Stedman on the bells.

MORETONHAMPTSTEAD, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Friday, July 16, 1937, in three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER Treble	HARRY W. SIMMONS 5
CHARLES H. KIPPIN 2	C. ERNEST SMITH 6
*ROBERT COLLINS 3	FREDERICK E. COLLINS 7
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN 4	DANIEL D. COOPER Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by D. D. COOPER.

* First Surprise peal. + 300th peal. First Surprise peal on the bells. First peal in the method as conductor.

KINGSTEIGNTON, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, July 17, 1937, in three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

ROBERT COLLINS Treble	C. ERNEST SMITH 5
*MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN 2	DANIEL D. COOPER 6
FREDERICK E. COLLINS 3	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN 7
MRS. C. H. KIPPIN 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by C. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal in the method. First Surprise peal on the bells.

PEAL NOTES.

PERFORMANCES AND PERSONALITIES.

Mr. Fred Dench, of Saffron Walden, who began his ringing career with the Crawley, Sussex, band in the days when Mr. James Parker was the leading spirit in that tower, conducted a peal of London Surprise at Royston, Herts, on July 22nd. It is 42 years since he rang his first peal in the method, at a time when London Surprise was a limit which very few ringers had reached.

When Mr. Dench rang his first peal of London, fewer than 30 peals had been rung in the method, and, of those who had conducted them, only Messrs. Joseph Griffin, George Williams, John Evans and James Parker are among us to-day.

A peal of Double Norwich Major, rung at Redenhall, Norfolk, on July 24th, was arranged to enable Messrs. E. F. Poppy and F. W. Munnings to ring a peal together. The last time they rang together was when they lost a peal of Treble Bob a few changes from the end on the same bells as long ago as the year 1899!

'Completing the circle,' which is ringing each bell in a tower to a peal, is a fairly frequent occurrence in these days. Mr. Charles Loane has now done this at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Pulham, by ringing the treble to a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major on July 21st. The peal was in honour of the 70th birthday of the Rector of Pulham Market (the Rev. R. H. Stacey).

The first peal on the bells at Garvestone, Norfolk, since October 7th, 1909, was rung on July 24th. It was seven 720's of Cambridge Surprise Minor.

The first peal on the bells at East Buckland, Devon, which were rehung last September, was rung on July 17th. The Rev. J. H. B. Andrews (chaplain) and three of the boys of West Buckland School took part, and it was the first peal by all except the conductor.

After the bells had been restored, a School Guild of ringers was formed at West Buckland, and the boys have made excellent progress, as this peal testifies. They ring regularly for Sunday service at East Buckland.

The other two ringers in the peal belong to Combe Martin. Mr. Ambrose Hayward was the conductor, and Mr. Yeo, who also scored his first, learned to ring at East Buckland when there were but four bells there. Two trebles were added in 1906.

A 'Coronation' peal at Wissett, Suffolk, was rung on July 22nd, when 5,040 in four methods of Doubles was rung. An attempt for the peal was made some weeks ago, but was lost after two and a quarter hours through one of the ringers missing the sally.

Harry Cheesman, of Banstead, Surrey, rang his first peal of Major on July 17th. He is only 13 years of age and he rang the treble to a peal of Double Norwich—not the easiest thing in change ringing by any means.

The enterprise of some of the young ringers in Nottinghamshire is a promising feature in the north of the county. Clifford Vessey and his band have now scored their first peal of Gainsborough Little Bob, and another company, with the same conductor, have rung their first peal in seven plain Minor methods.

They have rung other peals of Minor, but this was the first in which extents of Treble Bob were not rung. Four members of the Vessey family took part in this.

The Gainsborough Little Bob was rung at Worksop Priory Church and was Frank Vernon's 25th peal. All of them have been rung with Clifford Vessey.

The first peal by the Norwich Diocesan Association in 14 Minor methods in seven true extents was rung at Wroxham on July 22nd.

The first peal of Treble Bob entirely by members of the Eastern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was rung at Surfleet on July 24th. Sidney Appleby, aged 16, rang his first peal, five others (including the conductor) rang their first peal of Treble Bob and one his first peal of Treble Bob 'inside.' Rupert was not on the remaining bell. Puzzle: Where was he?

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

LEATHERHEAD DISTRICT AT NEWDIGATE.

Over 30 ringers from Capel, Cobham, Dorking, Epsom, Leatherhead, Ockley and the local band, with visitors from Billingshurst, Cranleigh, Haslemere, Kingston and the secretary of the Chertsey District, attended the Leatherhead district meeting at Newdigate. A good variety was introduced into the ringing and the service was conducted by the Rev. A. Stone.

Tea was served in the Six Bells. At the business meeting the elections previous to peals of H. E. Good, of Ewell, and E. W. Bugden, of Leatherhead, were ratified, and a sub-committee was formed to make arrangements for the summer festival.

The secretary (Mr. A. H. Smith) mentioned that the two books, 'Bells Thro' the Ages' and 'The History and Art of Change Ringing,' were now available in a 7s. 6d. edition. The meeting closed with hearty thanks to all who had helped in making such a successful and pleasant meeting.

Mr. James and his band gave a few of their handbell selections before going back to the tower, where everyone's requirements were successfully attempted—from rounds to London Minor. It was lucky that an old edition of Standard Methods was available when 'Violet' Treble Bob was asked for, as some of the 'experts' had to swot that and College Exercise up. The bells were finally lowered in peal at 9 o'clock.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT PETERSFIELD.

Satisfactory Financial Position.

A fine summer day favoured the annual gathering of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild at Petersfield, and some 70 members and friends attended from Alton, Basingstoke (All Saints' and St. Michael's), Bishopstoke, Blackmoor, Buriton, Deane, Froyle, Gosport, Hawkley, Kingsworthy, North Stoneham, Newport (I.O.W.), Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's), Privett, Petersfield, Steep, Soberton, Upham, Wickham, Winchester and West Meon. There were many visiting ringers from Brighton, Guildford, London, Sandhurst, Shoreham-by-Sea and Leatherhead.

The Guild service was held in St. Peter's Church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. O. A. Kent), who also gave a very interesting and helpful address. Tea and business meeting followed in the Church Hall, the Vicar expressing his pleasure in welcoming the Guild and apologising for not being able to remain during the meeting. The latter was presided over by the Master (Mr. G. Williams), who gave a warm welcome, on behalf of the Guild, to the many visitors present. The annual report was presented to the members.

VOLUNTARY SPADEWORK.

The report of the Master and hon. general secretary said that a very useful and successful year had been enjoyed. From subscriptions paid into the districts, however, there appeared to be a slight decrease in membership—175 honorary and 698 full, as compared with 180 and 728 respectively in 1935. This small difference might be due to the fact that some members might not have paid their subscriptions rather than lapsed membership. A definite increase in the next report was hoped for. The financial position of the Guild remained sound, upon which district secretaries and all contributors were sincerely congratulated.

Whilst no large sums appear to have been spent in instruction, continued the report, we should like to point out that this very important spadework is still being undertaken by quite a number of our members in a voluntary spirit. We should like to thank them especially for their efforts to teach beginners the art of change ringing, and trust they will bear fruit.

Perhaps not since the Armistice and peace celebrations of 1918 and 1919 have our bells been used to mark the occasion of national feelings as in 1936. To our deepest sorrows our bells rang out their muffled notes to mark the passing of our beloved King George V. Then the joyous pealing to herald the Accession of the new King, and before the close of the year to acclaim his successor, our present King, George VI.

We hope that more conductors and members will be found in the columns of the coming year's peals records. We should like to draw attention to the fact that still a number of members fail to send in their quarter-peals and 720's to the recorder of peals for publication in the report. Generally speaking, this shows a truer indication of the standard of ringing amongst the towers, as very often, for numerous reasons, peals are sometimes out of the question.

We regret to say that a few towers have for various reasons withdrawn from the Guild. Whilst deplored these losses and trusting that in the near future we may welcome them once more in our ranks, we have on the other hand to record that new towers have become affiliated during the year.

We had the opportunity to congratulate one of our presidents, formerly first Bishop of Portsmouth, on his preferment to our neighbours in the diocese of Salisbury, to which he sent a very courteous acknowledgment. We should like to express our warmest welcome and thanks to the present Bishop of Portsmouth (Dr. Frank Partridge), who so readily consented to fill the vacancy thus caused.

CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT IN BELL RESTORATION.

Numerous reports of bell restorations in the diocese show that our towers are making real efforts to restore their bells where necessary. Perhaps the crowning achievement of all is the complete restoration of the ring of 12 at Winchester Cathedral. A magnificent peal now replaces what was generally regarded as an indifferent lot, and our sincere thanks and appreciation are due to our generous benefactors, the Emma Barron Bell Trust, and also the Friends of the Cathedral. We hope that where appeals are made for restoration work our members will not be lacking in their support.

The hon. treasurer's balance sheet showed receipts of £50 5s. 10d. from the districts. The expenses were £38 4s. 11d., leaving a balance in hand of £103 18s. 6½d., compared with £91 17s. 7½d. in the previous year. In addition there is a balance of £47 14s. 6d. in the general purposes fund, from which a grant of £2 2s. was made to Longparish Bell Fund.

The districts have an aggregate balance in hand of £87 16s. 7½d., compared with £71 12s. 7d. in the previous year.

The Recorder of Peals (Mr. R. C. H. Connolly), in his report, said: One cannot belie the fact that 1936 did not prove so satisfactory a year from the point of view of peal ringing as its predecessor. The numbers are down in all departments except the number of conductors. Only 32 (45) peals were rung, in which 112 (122) ringers participated, and of these 11 (23) scored their first peal and in addition 24 (21) ascended higher the ladder of achievement by doing something in

advance of their previous best. The figures in brackets denote the corresponding numbers for 1935. The upper half of the table showing the methods rung in 1936 does not show much change except for a peal of Cinques, and the falling in numbers is chiefly at the more elementary end of the list. This is probably due to the younger ringers (in the sense of years of ringing) attempting higher methods without quite the success they attained in simpler ones. There is no doubt that many attempts have failed in more advanced methods; but excellent practice may be obtained though the actual peal be lost, and, as one great object of peal ringing is improvement in striking, it is hoped that Sunday service ringing has benefited in quality. There are, however, some bright spots in the gloom. The peals at Blackmoor and Hawkley must have given great satisfaction to both bands. H. P. Reed called his first peal before he was 15 years of age, and the band included one ringer of 13 (first peal) and one 'first inside.' We hope others will follow suit and that this is only the beginning of brilliant careers. At the other end of the scale Mr. Woodley shows that it is never too late to start. Our Ringing Master has crowned his remarkable career by calling 1,000 peals on tower bells, being forestalled only by that ringing marvel, the late William Pyc. He also collected a star at Christchurch where Mr. Preston conducted a peal of Grandsire Cinques with nine 'stars' in the band. The peals were rung in 24 towers and there were 16 conductors.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The Master, in the absence of the hon. treasurer, congratulated the Guild on its finances and remarked that it was the first time that the balances in the hands of the districts had reached over £200, thanks to the hard work put in by the district secretaries.

The officers, except for a change of peals recorder, necessitated by the departure of Mr. R. C. H. Connolly to Watford, were re-elected, viz., Mr. G. Williams, Master; Mr. F. W. Rogers, hon. secretary; Rev. Evan Jones, hon. treasurer. Mr. R. A. Reed was appointed peals recorder.

It was unanimously agreed to elect as an additional vice-president the Rev. N. C. Woods (Winchester) as an appreciation of his valuable services to the Guild.

New members elected were Messrs. J. Forder, A. Swatton, E. Barrett (Privett), C. A. Snell (Blackmoor), E. Glaspool, H. Nash (Froyle) and Mr. W. J. Parker, of Sandhurst, a compounding member.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Winchester on July 2nd, 1938.

After the routine business had been disposed of, Mr. G. Bullinger gave a comprehensive report of the recent Central Council meeting, emphasising many of the points under discussion which were of particular interest to the Guild. The other representatives present confirmed what had been reported to the members.

Grants of five guineas each were made towards the restoration of the bells at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, Soberton and Bishop's Waltham. Votes of thanks were accorded the incumbents of the various churches whose bells were placed at the disposal of the members, also to the organist and caterers.

During the afternoon and evening ringing took place at Petersfield, Privett, East Meon, Buriton and Steep, the methods ranging from Doubles to Spliced Surprise Major.

MIDDLESEX AND HERTFORD ASSOCIATIONS.

JOINT MEETING AT BARNET.

Originally arranged to be held on Saturday last at Monken Hadley, a joint meeting of the Middlesex and Hertford Associations took place at Barnet, by the kindness of the Rector (the Rev. P. C. Dean), as serious illness at the former place prevented ringing for any length of time.

The attendance was by no means anything to boast about, albeit some 30 ringers attended, including some welcome visitors in Mr. C. Raine (Edinburgh), and Messrs. G. Fearn (Birmingham) and M. Melville (Coventry), who, with a ringing friend, were on their way to a London twelve-bell tower for a peal attempt.

The two associations participating were officially represented by Mr. G. W. Fletcher (vice-president), Mr. A. W. Coles (Master) and Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary), Middlesex Association; and Mr. W. Nash (district secretary), Hertford Association.

Tea, served at 5 o'clock, was quite an 'easy going' meal. There was no official business to transact, but there was, of course, the very necessary vote of thanks. This was duly proposed and seconded by the two secretaries, Mr. Coles expressing the gratitude of the company to the Rev. P. C. Dean, Rector of Barnet, for coming to the rescue at short notice when it was found that ringing could not take place at Monken Hadley. Mr. Coles also thanked Messrs. Arbin and Eldred for taking the matter in hand during the previous week-end, when the change was found to be necessary.

Congratulations and good wishes were sent to Mr. J. Sumpster in anticipation of his 86th birthday (July 26th).

The ringing during the afternoon and evening was under the able guidance of Mr. A. W. Coles, and included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, London and Spliced Surprise Major (four methods). A feature of the afternoon was a touch of Stedman Triples by eight 'Georges,' conducted by George Pyc. There was nearly a touch of 'rounds' for Mrs. George Fletcher, but only nearly. Perhaps she will try next time!

CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AT PINNER.**SMALL ATTENDANCE AT SUMMER MEETING.**

The summer meeting of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths was held at St. John the Baptist, Pinner, on Saturday, July 17th. Very few 'Youths' attended, chiefly, it is supposed, owing to holidays and other attractions. The excellent peal of eight (tenor 19 cwt.) were got going somewhere in the region of 4.15 p.m., and Plain Bob, Grandsire and Treble Bob were rung with varying success.

The service, unfortunately, had to be cancelled, owing to the fact that the Vicar had to be present at a local children's fête. A halt for tea was called at 5 o'clock, and the small gathering sat down to an excellent repast in the hall of the adjacent Conservative Club. After tea touches were rung on the beautiful peal of handbells kindly brought along by Mr. C. W. Taylor, of Watford.

A short business meeting was held, Mr. W. Bottrill presiding in the absence of the Master, Mr. George Cross, who was away on holidays. Reference was made to the passing of Mr. G. A. Card, late hon. secretary of the society. Letters of sympathy from the Middlesex Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths were read, and those present stood in silence for a few moments as a tribute of respect.

It was announced that the autumn meeting would be held at St. George the Martyr's Church, Southwark, on a date to be fixed later.

The business concluded with votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Harding for having made such excellent arrangements.

After further handbell ringing a return was made to the tower, where ringing included Treble Bob, Stedman, Grandsire and Cambridge Surprise. The meeting was brought to a close at 8.15 by lowering the bells in peal, the hope being expressed that the autumn meeting would be attended by a record number of 'Youths.'

FIRST QUARTER-PEAL ON BITTON BELLS.

The first quarter-peal on the bells at Bitton, Glos., since their augmentation from six to eight by Messrs. John Taylor at the beginning of the year was rung on July 1st. The founders are to be commended on their excellent work. The 'splice' is as nearly perfect as possible and the 'go' all that can be desired. The method rung was Grandsire Triples, and it was specially arranged for Mr. F. Beer, the leader of the Bitton ringers. It was his first quarter-peal in the method and on eight bells: Miss Norah G. Williams 1, Miss Nesta Gardiner 2, Frank Beer 3, Frank Skidmore (conductor) 4, Alfred Maggs 5, Joseph T. Dyke 6, Bertram G. Worsdell 7, John G. Jefferies 8.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**STOCKPORT BRANCH AT POYNTON.**

A meeting of the Stockport Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Poynton on Saturday, July 10th, when about 35 members and friends were present from all parts of the branch and neighbouring branches. The weather was exceedingly hot and this caused the ringing to be confined to rather shorter touches than usual on the recently rehung six bells, but, nevertheless, a variety of methods was rung before the service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. K. B. Somerville), who gave the members a hearty welcome to Poynton. In his address he laid special emphasis on the duties of ringers both within and without the tower.

Tea followed in a nearby cafe where a substantial meal was soon disposed of.

The business meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr. S. Hough, in the unavoidable absence of the branch chairman. He said how much the visits to Poynton were always enjoyed, and extended the congratulations of the branch to the band which had just recently rung the record Minor peal.

Details of the annual festival, to be held at Chester on July 17th, were announced, and the meeting was asked to elect, subject to the proposal to be submitted to the Guild general meeting by the Grappenhall Branch being accepted, a representative to take part in the first peal attempt on the ten bells at Chester Cathedral. Mr. A. Barnes was unanimously elected.

The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the Vicar, wardens, organist, the ladies who served tea and the local ringers for their efforts on behalf of the members.

Those were replied to by the local secretary, Mr. G. Turner, who said he was always pleased to welcome any ringers to Poynton, as were also his colleagues, one of whom was prevented from being with them that day by sickness.

The meeting decided to send a message expressing their regret at his absence and best wishes for his speedy recovery.

A return was then made to the tower, where the ringing ranged from Bob Minor to Spliced Minor in various methods.

DEATH OF A DARESBURY RINGER

The death occurred on Wednesday, July 21st, of Mr. Joseph Littler at the age of 41 years. He had been a member of the Daresbury tower attached to the Grappenhall Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild for a number of years, and was an able ringer and conductor.

The funeral took place on Saturday, when all the towers of the branch were represented. The local ringers rang a short course of Bob Minor with the bells fully muffled.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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'A HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.'

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

*To be published in September by
'The Ringing World'*

BELFRY GOSSIP.

The distance covered on the South Devon tour was close on a thousand miles, counting the outward and the return journey.

Only one peal of Cambridge Surprise Major has ever been rung by eight brothers and that was by the famous Bailey family of Leiston, Suffolk. That peal was rung 15 years ago last Saturday.

The name of Mr. S. Moston was inadvertently given as Morton in the report of the annual meeting of the Chester Diocesan Guild. Mr. Moston is one of the few survivors who attended the first meeting of the Guild in 1837.

Longton, Staffs, has lost the youngest member of the tower—Eric Holland, aged 13. A half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in his memory on July 22nd.

BROADCASTING.

FALLING OFF IN QUALITY OF RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—After the plain and salutary remarks of the president and the strong comments made by others at last year's meeting of the Central Council there was a distinct improvement in the quality of the ringing broadcast from various churches, but the effect seems most regrettably to have since worn off. Ringing, broadcast on two or three recent Sundays, has been anything but a credit to the Exercise.

Where a local band cannot undertake to ring half-pull changes with faultless accuracy, it is incomparably better to be content with well-struck rounds—and in some cases further practice is needed even to do that.

F. LI. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna Rectory.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

PROPOSED RESTORATION FUND.

The proposed launching of a restoration fund came up for discussion again at the quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild at Southam on July 17th. The Chairman (the Rev. Canon O. M. Jones, Rector of Southam) said such a fund would be an excellent idea. Authorities at many churches where the bells were in a bad state, he continued, would receive encouragement to proceed with their repair if they were to get a grant from a body like the Guild. He mentioned instances of rings of bells in his rural deanery which might soon be put in order if the Guild were to set the ball rolling by giving the first subscription.

Several methods of building up such a fund were put forward at the meeting, among them being that a collection be made at the quarterly services, or at the tea table; that a certain percentage of the Guild's income should be set aside annually and credited to the fund.

The latter idea was thought to be preferable, as it gave everyone in the Guild an opportunity of subscribing, whereas collections at the meetings would always come upon the same faithful few who regularly attended the meetings.

A resolution was passed, proposed by Mr. Stone and seconded by Mr. Burt, that the annual meeting be asked to consider the setting aside of a certain proportion of the Guild's income annually in order to build up a restoration fund.

Earlier in the afternoon ringing had taken place on the five ring of eight bells until 4.45 p.m., and a short service held, conducted by the Rev. Canon O. M. Jones, the Rural Dean.

At the business meeting the following towers were represented: Allesley, Exhall, Bulkington, Nuneaton, Chilvers Coton, Lillington, Rugby, Stratford, Leamington Hastings and members of the local band.

Meeting places for the next three months were arranged as follows: August, Arley; September, Church Lawford; October, Stratford-on-Avon.

The following new members from Leamington Hastings were elected: Messrs. F. J. Briscoe, K. Gardener, F. Gurney, C. Goode and E. Hopkins. The election previous to peal attempts of Messrs. William Thorpe and James Upton, of Wolvey, and Mr. E. H. Johnson, of Stoke, was also ratified.

The bells were again put to good use, and a well-attended and thoroughly successful meeting came to an end at 8.30 p.m.

ROUND THE EMPIRE. CELEBRATING THE CORONATION IN THE DOMINIONS.

Ringling News from Canada, Australia and Tasmania.

News of ringing in distant parts of the Empire has reached us, and will be read with interest by ringers of the homeland.

The Coronation was celebrated with ringing in Vancouver, and Victoria in Canada, in Australia and Tasmania.

On the new ring of bells, with tenor of 34 cwt., recently installed at Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, ringing began on Coronation Day at 7.30 a.m. Pacific Standard time, and was broadcast over the British Broadcasting Corporation, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Network and the American stations, coming on the air immediately after the Empire Coronation broadcast. The bells were heard in England for three minutes. The ringing for the broadcast consisted of rounds, Queen's and the Plain Hunt well struck. The original programme of ten minutes was cut short on account of the additional time taken by the procession.



ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, MELBOURNE.

The Bells (13 in number) hang in the right-hand tower.

After the ringing the ringers had breakfast with the Rt. Rev. Bishop Sexton and Mrs. Sexton.

The bells were rung again, starting at 11.45 a.m., and at midday were fired 21 times for the 'Royal Salute,' the ringing finishing with Grandsire Triples.

In Hobart, Tasmania, the new bells at St. David's Cathedral were rung prior to a special service at 8 p.m. on Coronation Day (corresponding with 10 a.m. in England). Some of the newly-formed band, augmented by ringers from Holy Trinity Church, and the Rev. A. A. Bennett (Vicar of St. George's, formerly of Gloucester), took part.

On the previous evening Holy Trinity bells were rung to Doubles and Minor and the bells were also 'fired.' The tower was very effectively floodlit, with electric light totalling 5,000 candle power. The interior of the belfry was decorated, the flag presented by Mr. W. H. Fussell, on the occasion of the English ringers' visit in 1934, being included. At the close of the ringing the National Anthem was sung.

On Coronation morning the Union Jack was flying from the tower and the bells were broadcast over the Australian national network from 9.20 to 10.35 a.m. The ringing included six-scores of Grandsire Doubles and courses of Bob Minor. The striking was good and the Hobart ringers are justly proud of their performance.

Holy Trinity ringers also helped to celebrate the birthday of the Governor of Tasmania (Sir Ernest Clark), who has shown his interest in the society by various kindly acts. The bells were rung on April 13th in honour of the occasion, and afterwards the hon. secretary (Mr. A. R. Wilson) received a letter from the Governor, in which he said, 'Please convey my very sincere thanks to the Holy Trinity bell-ringers for their most kindly thought in ringing a peal on my birthday. Our mutual goodwill and regard has been a great pleasure to me during my stay in Hobart.'

Special ringing took place at Holy Trinity in connection with the patronal festival of the church, which was observed by a week of celebrations from May 23rd to 30th.

Some slight overhaul has been given to Holy Trinity bells, and the 7th has been placed on ball bearings.

In May the Rev. A. A. Bennett visited Melbourne, where he formerly resided for a time and used to ring at St. Paul's Cathedral. The Cathedral Society gave him a specially warm welcome, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,260 changes) was rung in 56 minutes: Miss Frey Shimmis 1, F. Broughton 2, J. Murray 3, W. Waghorn 4, Rev. A. A. Bennett 5, J. P. Trotter 6, H. J. Ross 7, A. A. Savage 8, J. W. Spencer (conductor) 9, E. B. Nott 10. It is interesting to note that this band included all the six Australian ringers who took part in the peal of Grandsire Cinques on Armistice Day, 1934, and that Mr. Bennett was the only Tasmanian resident to take part in a peal during the English visit to Hobart.

The King's birthday was celebrated on June 9th in Victoria, British Columbia, by a 'royal salute' of 21 'shots,' fired on the bells of the Cathedral, followed by Grandsire Triples. The ringing was broadcast, those taking part being E. W. Izard, A. C. Meluish, R. Lane, W. P. Jaime, Com. C. H. Brown, T. Quest, R. Carrier, E. Lake, H. Lingham, E. J. Merrett, O. A. Gill and J. Beckerleg.

On Sunday, June 27th, seven members of the Vancouver Guild visited Victoria and shared in some excellent ringing. The visitors were A. C. Limpus, A. King, R. Pitman, F. Hird and Mrs. Hird, W. Sampson, A. Lomas and W. Watts.

The visitors left Vancouver by the midnight boat, and, seemingly little more than drifting across the intervening 83 miles of water, arrived at 7 a.m.

One course of Stedman Triples, two touches of 168 Grandsire, our touch of 476 Grandsire, one of 252 and another 266 Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. Lomas, were rung for morning service. Several plain courses of Grandsire Triples were accomplished by the Victoria ringers, some of whom also took part with the Vancouver ringers on inside bells in two of the above touches.

The visitors spent part of the morning exploring the beautiful surroundings of the city, and in the afternoon, with several of the Victoria Guild, had tea in Mr. and Mrs. Izard's garden overlooking the water at Portage Inlet. After tea they rang several touches on the handbells. It was a fine clear afternoon, and the bells sounded very beautiful over the water, being heard nearly a mile away. They also rang for evening service at the Cathedral, scoring a course of Stedman Triples and 476 of Grandsire, and later they rang the congregation out of church with further touches.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

WELLINGBOROUGH BRANCH VISITS ISOLATED TOWER.

A quarterly meeting of the Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday, July 17th, at Whiston, quite a small village and rather difficult to get to, unless by one's own means. The church is situated on the top of a hill overlooking the Nene Valley and is well worth a visit. A short service was held during the afternoon, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. J. Smale), and the organ was played by his sister. Ringers were present from Higham Ferrers, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Brayfield, Yardley Hastings, Stanwick, Eton, Cogenhoe, Earls Barton, Grendon and Whiston, and 25 sat down to an excellent tea.

The Rector presided over the business meeting which followed. The branch president (the Rev. A. G. Bagshaw) and Lord Northampton were among those who sent apologies for absence.

Wilby was chosen for the October meeting, and Mr. A. E. Johnson, of Eton, was elected a new ringing member.

The branch secretary reminded the members of the Guild's decision to hold the next general annual meeting at Wellingborough and hoped they would do their best to make it a success.

He also read the telegram sent to H.M. King George from the last annual meeting and the reply since received.

Thanks were offered to the Rector for the use of the bells, for conducting the service and arranging for the tea, also to the organist and the ladies who served the tea.—The Rector suitably replied.

The meeting closed with selections of tunes and change ringing on handbells by the Irthlingborough party and Mr. Martin, of Higham Ferrers.

There are five bells in the tower of fine tone, and these were kept going during the afternoon and evening. Although it was the smallest meeting of the branch for some years, nevertheless it was a very pleasant one.

ANOTHER MEMORIAL TO WILLIAM PYE.

TABLET ERECTED AT FAMOUS CITY CHURCH.

As announced in 'The Ringing World' of February 12th last, when the balance sheet of the William Pye Memorial was published, the committee had decided to use the surplus of £8 in the fund to record one of the late Mr. Pye's greatest ringing performances, the 7,392 Cambridge Surprise Maximus at St. Mary-le-Bow, with an appropriate footnote, as a further memorial to that great ringer.

This decision has been given effect to, and on Tuesday, July 20th, the peal tablet was dedicated in the presence of a representative gathering of ringers and friends, including three brothers and the son of William Pye, nearly all the surviving members of the band that rang the peal, and Messrs. G. W. Fletcher and J. A. Trollope (vice-presidents) and W. Oram (treasurer) of the Middlesex Association.

After the peal board had been unveiled by Mr. C. T. Coles, the Rector (the Rev. S. Gordon Ponsonby) dedicated the record with the following prayer: 'To the glory of God, we dedicate this tablet recording the peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus rung in the steeple of this church, in memory of William Pye and as an example to those that come after him. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.'

Then followed appropriate prayers and collects, and an address by the Rector, who referred to the work of Mr. Pye and ringers generally, for which they of the Church were grateful.

Mr. J. A. Trollope referred to the Memorial Committee's decision to erect this tablet as one which, he felt sure, would commend itself to all subscribers to the fund raised last year. He went on to speak of the late Mr. Pye's great abilities as a ringer and conductor, and of his long ringing career, during which his determination enabled him to perform many great things, including the ringing of this long peal on a tenor of over 50 cwt.

Mr. G. W. Fletcher thanked the Rev. S. G. Ponsonby for giving his permission for the erection of the tablet, and for his services that evening; and Mr. E. S. Underwood, surveyor, for his great assistance.

The Rector, in reply, expressed his own thanks to the Exercise for the board.

The peal board, which is made of oak, in fluted frame with gilded bosses, is written in gold on black enamel background. It records the peal of 7,392 Cambridge Surprise Maximus rung on December 19th, 1925, in 5 hours and 38 minutes, with the following footnote:—

'This tablet is erected by the Ringing Exercise to the memory of the conductor, William Pye, who died on March 8th, 1935.'

After the service the bells were rung to Grandsire and Stedman Cinques, the ringing ending with six leads of Cambridge Surprise Maximus by the eleven surviving members of the peal band, assisted by Mr. E. Barnett.

The cost of the tablet was wholly met by the balance of the memorial fund, which is now entirely disposed of and closed.

The main memorial to the late Mr. Pye is at St. John the Baptist's Church, Leytonstone, where two treble bells were installed to increase the ring to eight, and a recording tablet placed in the church porch.

DEATH OF MR. JAMES BATTERS.

VICE-CAPTAIN AND CONDUCTOR AT MERSTHAM.

The ringers of St. Katherine's, Merstham, have sustained a very deep loss in the death of Mr. James Batters at the early age of 31 years. The deceased first learnt to handle a bell on leaving school and the choir, at about 14 years of age, and throughout the whole of the intervening 17 years of his life remained a regular and punctual member of the Merstham band. He had held for a time the office of secretary, but, owing to business reasons, he relinquished this office. He was, however, persuaded to become vice-captain, an office he well and truly fulfilled until his untimely death.

Business claims gave him but little opportunity for peal ringing, and he had in fact, only rung a few, but he was a good ringer and able to ring practically any method. He early took to conducting and became the 'genial conductor' at his own tower. Very popular with his fellow-ringers, his smile and kindly nature will be greatly missed by his fellow-ringers.

The interment took place at Merstham on Wednesday, July 7th, when a large number of villagers as well as ringers were present. Among those who attended were Mr. D. K. C. Birt (Master of the Surrey Association), Mr. Walter Claydon (secretary, Southern District), Messrs. Sanders and Robinson (Ruckland), Mr. R. Fuller (Master, Southern District) and all the Merstham ringers.

Among the many beautiful wreaths was a white floral bell from his fellow-ringers and a wreath from the Surrey Association.



THE LATE MR. WILLIAM PYE.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

WEDDING GIFT TO DORCHESTER DISTRICT RINGING MASTER.

The summer quarterly meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at Wyke Regis on July 10th and was attended by over 100 ringers and friends. A short but beautiful service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. E. de B. Thurston.

The Rector, in his address, spoke of the bells of Wyke Regis Church and their particular associations with the parish. Originally, he said, there were only four bells, which were later removed, supposedly by order of the King (but of that there was no proof), and later a peal of seven bells was hung and these in their turn were restored in 1891. They were not now bells in the strict sense of the word, but the old metal had been melted down and new material added, and so they had new bells, but made from the old metal.

An excellent tea, served in the Memorial Hall, was provided by the wives and friends of the Wyke Regis ringers and was greatly enjoyed. In the absence of the chairman (the Rev. A. W. Markby), the Rev. R. P. Farrow presided over the business meeting and was supported by Mr. C. H. Jennings (secretary), the Rev. E. de B. Thurston, the Rev. K. E. Alexander, Capt. G. Wheeler (churchwarden) and the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards, general secretary of the Guild. There were also present representatives of the following towers: Abbotsbury, Bere Regis, Bradford Peverell, Buckland Newton, Dorchester, Frampton, Preston, Sydling, Upwey, West and East Lulworth, Wool, Wyke Regis, Bourneouth, Lytchett Matravers, Lytchett Minster, Poole, Swanage, Wareham, Wimborne, Ferndown, Andover, Bovington Camp, Swindon and Thornford. Other distinguished visitors included Mr. C. H. Kippin, of Beddington, assistant secretary of the Surrey Association, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Melville, formerly of Guildford and now of Winchester, and Mr. D. Cooper, of Croydon Parish Church, and other ringers from Surrey.

When it was announced that the next meeting would not be held at Frampton as previously decided on, the Chairman said, 'Frampton is one of those places where they want a Vicar, but cannot afford to pay him, and, of course, even the clergy have to live. If there is anybody here who knows of a person who would be willing to take on the job, Bishop Joscelyne would be very pleased to hear of him.'

It was decided unanimously to hold the meeting instead at Maiden Newton, on the first Saturday in September.

The Chairman then extended a warm welcome to the visitors and new members, especially the visitors, remarking that he never attended more sociable and jolly meetings than in Dorset. He announced that the dedication of the two new bells to make a peal of ten at Poole, hung to commemorate the Coronation, would take place on Saturday, September 25th.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and the Memorial Hall, and the Chairman further thanked the organist (Mrs. Howard), the organ blower (Mr. J. Rose) and the local ringers for preparing the meeting.

In responding the Rector expressed his pleasure at the meeting, and added: 'There is one regret this afternoon, namely, that Mr. Alfred Rose, a member of Wyke Regis Guild for 40 years and lately our captain, is no longer with us.' He asked the company to stand for a few seconds in silent tribute.

The Chairman further expressed thanks to Mr. C. H. Jennings, who was directly responsible for the organisation of the whole meeting. The Rev. F. L. Edwards said he would like to associate himself with this vote of thanks and he paid a high tribute to the work Mr. Jennings did on behalf of the Guild. In reply, Mr. Jennings said he was always ready and willing to do anything for the dear old Church, and in these days when people were so indifferent it was up to every body to 'do their bit' (applause). Mr. Jennings, continuing, said the meeting was a unique one, for there was to be a presentation in recognition of his work for bellringing in Dorset to their Ringing Master, Mr. E. T. Paul Field, who was to be married in a fortnight's time. The gift was a peal of handbells in the key of C. He hoped every time this peal was brought out for practice, or ringing a peal, it would bring back happy memories of times spent among bellringers in Dorset, and particularly the Dorchester Branch, by Mr. Field and his bride.

The Rev. Llewellyn Edwards, in making the presentation, said Mr. Field had always been a very valuable officer to the Guild. He was marrying a Dorset woman who was herself a ringer, and was to settle down and live in Dorset. Mr. Field was a pupil of Mr. William Shuttle—who he was glad to see present—and had often given help and instruction to other members and to other guilds (applause).

The Chairman joined in the congratulations to Mr. Field and wished him and his bride every happiness.

Mr. Field, whose fiancée was also present, in reply, said that he was very grateful to the Guild for giving him such a beautiful present, and assured them that it would always remain one of his most treasured possessions.

Afterwards a trio of Poole ringers, conducted by the chairman, demonstrated the beautiful tone of the handbells, and a course of Grandsire Triples was also rung on them.

The meeting concluded with a resolution to hold a by-meeting at Hilton. Everybody agreed they had spent a very pleasant afternoon. In the evening the Wyke bells worked overtime and could be heard until a late hour. Methods rung ranged from rounds to Cambridge Major.

FOR BEGINNERS.

CALLING THE BELL ROUND IN GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

While on the subject of calling touches of Grandsire Triples, it will not be out of place to give the beginner a few hints on the way to call the bells round. Perhaps, when ringing, something goes wrong; there may be a 'change course,' or it may be that some error is made in the calling of the pre-selected touch. If it is merely something rung for practice, there is no harm in the conductor going on and bringing the bells round, even if it turns out afterwards that the touch was false.

It is of no use to go on calling bobs or singles haphazard to do this, the bells might never come home, but with a little knowledge of how to proceed it can always be done within a reasonable length.

A first essential qualification for the bob caller is to be able to 'read' the coursing order of the bells. In a recent article we dwelt upon this part of the conductor's training, and we will assume that the necessary powers of observation have been acquired.

The simplest way to call the bells round in Grandsire Triples is first to get 6-7 into their proper coursing order, if they are not already there.

Get one or other into the hunt as quickly as possible, and then, if it is the 7th, call the 6th Before; if it is the 6th, make the call the lead after the 7th comes Before. This will put them together in the right order.

If it happens that there is only one bell coursing between 6 and 7 you can bring them together, and sometimes more quickly, by simply calling the 7th Before, thus sending the intervening bell into the hunt.

The next bell to concern yourself with is the 5th. If 6 and 7 are coursing, there are only four positions which the 5th can occupy; one is its right place—coursing the 7th. Another is in the hunt. If the 5th is in the hunt you put it in proper coursing order behind 6 and 7 by calling the 7th 'Before with a double'—a term which means calling the 7th Before and a bob at the next lead.

A third position in which the 5th may be found is immediately in front of the 6th: that is, 5, 6 and 7 are coursing in that order. The 5th can be placed behind the 7th by calling the 6th Before and then the 7th Before, the 5th being in the hunt between the two bobs.

The only other position is when there is one other bell coursing between 7 and 5. You get rid of the intervening bell (into the hunt) by calling the 5th Before.

When you have got 5-6-7 into position, the bells may be in the plain course. If they are not, make a call to bring 5-6-7 Home, that will be the lead after the 6th comes Before. Use either a Bob or Single as required. If this call brings the 4th out of the hunt (in other words, if the 4th went into the hunt at the previous call), use Bob or Single, whichever will bring the 2nd into the Hunt. If 3 comes out of the Hunt 4 must be brought in; if 2 comes out, 3 must be brought in. If 2 goes in rounds are produced; if 4 goes in rounds are got by another bob Home; if 3 goes in call the 5th Before with a double.

Sometimes it is quicker to bring the bells round at the handstroke lead of the treble, particularly if 7-6-4 are coursing in that order, or even, merely, if 6 is after 7. You then treat the 4th as if it were the 5th, and 3-2-5 to correspond with 2-3-4 respectively. Do not, however, overlook the fact that if you bring the bells round with a Single your touch is inevitably false, for you have reversed the first lead.

In this matter of calling the bells round, a little preliminary study with pencil and paper is well worth while. Put down a few lead-ends at random and apply the rules which are set out above. It will not only enable you to see how they work, but will also probably reveal how from certain combinations there may be quicker cuts to rounds.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP OF ELY WITH THE RINGERS.

The summer festival of Ely Diocesan Association was held at Soham on Saturday. The Vicar, the Rev. P. F. Boughey, conducted service and the Rev. J. Cook read the lesson. An inspiring address was given by the Bishop of Ely, who spoke of the importance of corporate worship. He sounded a note of encouragement in saying we need not feel dismayed by times of unhappiness in our own lives, for God is sure to answer in some way our prayers for help. The evil in the world around should not discourage, because it will be finally overcome, and 'Jesus shall reign.'

A generous tea was provided by Mrs. Boughey and helpers in the Church Hall. A short business meeting followed, and it was a very great honour to have the president, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Heywood, in the chair.

It is hoped to hold the 1938 summer festival at Wisbech.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. R. Copeman for his handsome gift of the book, 'Legends of the bells,' by Ernest Morris.

The Rev. P. F. Boughey was elected an honorary member of the association. The Rev. J. Cook and Messrs. R. E. Cavey, C. E. Cavey, J. Edwards, V. Johnson, L. Long, R. Palmer and F. Pluck were elected ringing members, and Mr. Wright, of Mildenhall, a non-resident life member.

Proceedings concluded with votes of thanks to the Lord Bishop, the Vicar and to the ladies who prepared tea.

The Vicarage gardens were thrown open to the visitors by the kindness of the Rev. and Mrs. Boughey.

SHEFFIELD SOCIETY'S SIX-BELL CONTEST.

BOLSOVER WON FOR THIRD SUCCESSIVE YEAR.

The six-bell ringing contest for the Sheffield and District Society's silver cup took place at Dronfield Church on Saturday, July 17th. The bells, a splendid ring, recently rehung, are all that can be desired for such an event.

The cup was won by the Bolsover Parish Church company, this being their third successive achievement in holding the cup, which is competed for annually.

The judges (Messrs. George Lewis and S. F. Palmer) presented a most interesting and instructive report on the contest. The errors of each band were pointed out, with an explanation why and how the faults mounted up against the competitors.

The Vicar of Dronfield arrived just as tea was over and gave the society a very hearty welcome. He also conducted a short service in the choir stalls.

Ringling was continued until 9 p.m., the tower being open to all after the contest. Every one departed with the satisfaction of having spent the day well.

TYNEMOUTH BELLS.

SCHEME FOR RESTORATION.

The parishioners of Christ Church, North Shields, the Parish Church of Tynemouth, are making an effort to get their bells tuned and rehung. Saturday, July 10th, was observed as a 'gift day,' when the clergy sat at the church door to receive contributions. Collecting envelopes had been previously distributed. The bells were rung at various times, in which the Whitley Bay ringers assisted, and also a few touches on handbells.

The result of the appeal was that 237 envelopes were returned containing an aggregate of £73, which brought the fund up to a total of £103. The appeal is for £400. This is a large sum for the parish to raise, but a great effort is being made to get it, and assistance from any ringer friends would be gratefully appreciated. Contributions may be sent either to the Vicar (Canon C. Milner) or the captain of the ringers, Mr. J. E. Scott, 74, Hollywell Road, North Shields.

The condition of the bells, which are a pair of ten, has been a cause of trouble and anxiety for some years. Six of them were cast at the Whitechapel Foundry in 1769. In 1874 two were added to complete the octave, and in 1879 two others were hung to make the ten. Having been cast in three instalments they are not accurately in tune, and now they are heavily corroded, which reduces their resonance. To make the ring perfectly satisfactory it is necessary to dismantle the ten bells and send them to a foundry to be cleaned by sand-blast process and correct their notes and harmonic tones; fit new clapper staples and clappers; provide new headstocks for the ten bells; and rehang the bells with new steel gudgeons and self-aligning ball bearings fitted in dust-proof housings. The timbers of the bell frame appear to be sound and no work in respect of the frame or its supports is necessary.

In their appeal for the sum of £400 the Vicar and churchwardens say: 'Christ Church bells have been ringing for 166 years. We feel it is our duty to ensure their continuance and at the same time improve their tone. We have a band of ringers who are devoted to the old English art of change ringing, and we believe that the music of the bells is appreciated by everyone who hears it.'

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

INVITATION FROM BARNSELY SOCIETY.

The July meeting of the Leeds and District Society was brought forward a week in order to allow those ringers to attend who will be affected by the Leeds holidays, which start to-morrow.

Ringling, slightly delayed at the outset owing to a funeral, continued from 3.30 until 9 p.m., except for the breaks when tea and the meeting intervened. The latter was held in the tower. Mr. H. Davison (vice-president) was in the chair, and members were present from Armley, Batley, Burley, Birstall, Bradford Cathedral, Brighouse, Felkirk, Headingley (St. Michael's and St. Chad's), Idle, Holbeck, Leeds Parish Church, Rothwell and the local company, also friends from Aston-under-Lyne, Rotherham and Ulverston.

One new member was elected, Mr. V. Bairstow, of Denholme.

The usual vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and local company was proposed by Mr. L. W. G. Morris and seconded by Mr. A. Armitage.—Miss Mary Stilson replied for the Drighlington ringers.

The next meeting is due to be held at Shipley on Saturday, August 28th, but an invitation to hold a joint meeting with the Barnsley and District Society at Horbury on August 14th was received. After discussion it was decided that owing to the holidays and short notice it would not be possible to hold a joint meeting on that date, but hope was expressed that as many of the Leeds members who could get to Horbury on that date would do so.

Methods rung during the day were Plain Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Superlative, Stedman Triples, College Exercise, Cambridge and Oxford Minor.

A VILLAGE CALAMITY.

ATTRIBUTED TO ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER, RINGERS.

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster, visited Kent and Sussex for their annual outing. Leaving Kennington Church just after 8 o'clock, a couple of hours of beautiful travel through Kentish lanes at their best brought them to St. Mary's Church, Lenham. Stedman Triples and Cambridge Surprise were successfully accomplished, and it would have been better for the Double Norwich if 'non-intervention' had prevailed. In the middle of it a farrier in the village burst into the belfry in a frenzied state and shouted to the ringers, in an almost incoherent voice, to stop 'pulling the bells' because his horse had stumbled and refused to get up. The Double Norwich was, however, finished in spite of such a village calamity.

Afterwards the journey was continued to Wye. Here upon a very nice peal the first touch of Spliced Surprise Major of the day was attempted, but at the ninth and last lead it went where so many more have gone before. A touch of Grandsire Triples was rung for the representative of the local company, who afterwards joined the party at dinner and welcomed the visitors to Wye on behalf of the Vicar.

At Ashford the ringing was curtailed owing to a funeral, and a course each of Treble Bob and Superlative were all that could be managed at this very beautiful church. Over the border, in Sussex, the ringers reached Salehurst in time to ring before tea. London Surprise and Grandsire Triples were rung on this lovely peal. After a very excellent tea thoroughly enjoyed, the journey was continued to Fairwarp. Here upon a new and very handy little peal a course of Bristol was rung as the opening touch, followed by Stedman Triples. Two youths of the local company who came to welcome the party said they could not hunt the treble to Grandsire, so the day's ringing concluded with some call changes with which the Fairwarp ringers were very pleased. This was a rather unusual method for the Westminster band. A couple of stops on the way home and Kennington was reached about 10.30 p.m. with repeated thanks to Mr. W. H. Hewitt for all his excellent arrangements. G. M. K.

LYME REGIS RINGERS' TRIP.

A LONG DAY IN WILTS AND SOMERSET.

Lyme Regis ringers made Trowbridge their objective for their annual outing on Saturday, July 10th. A 7.30 a.m. start brought them to Blandford by 9.15, where they found a well-lighted ringing chamber and a grand ring of eight, all recently rehung and tuned. Some well-struck Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Kent Major were thoroughly enjoyed, ringing finishing with a good fall in peal. The organist keeps a little tea parlour here, and showed the visitors a unique apple tree in his garden, the trunk being quite hollow, while the branches are laden with fruit. From Blandford the road took the excursionists via many alarming corners into Shaftesbury, eventually broadening out over fine Wiltshire Down country, which provided some splendid panoramic views. Nearing Westbury three magpies took flight from a fence—poetic precursors of a wedding—and, sure enough, the wedding was met on the approach to Westbury Church! Here the visitors were welcomed by the Vicar, the Rev. R. C. Turner, and some of the local band. Heavy metal had to be encountered, but good going bells, and a touch of Bob Major was somewhat indifferently struck. Grandsire and Stedman Triples, however, went along quite respectably.

Trowbridge was reached a little late, but luncheon was none the less acceptable. After a leisurely meal, Messrs. S. Hector and C. Raison welcomed the party at the tower, with its graceful, lofty spire. It is recorded that handbells have been rung here by ringers sitting on the weathercock! Ringing was limited owing to illness near the church. While it is true to say that Grandsire and Stedman Caters were attempted, it would be better to speak of the Kent Major and a course of Double Norwich as rung, finishing up with a touch of Stedman Triples. An hour or so was left for shopping, and after tea the road was taken again to Beckington. Here a long draught of rope interfered sadly with the 'rise,' but, once up, the bells responded well to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, though wandering sallies provided occasional acrobatics. From there, through Frome, a very pleasant run brought the ringers to Stourton, one of the 'show' places of Wiltshire. Some hours could well have been spent here exploring the lovely park and gardens of which the visitors had to be content with only a corner, but that of real beauty. The little church nestling under a hill had a nice ring of six, which by some mistake had been left half-muffled. As a parish party from Weymouth was waiting to hold a service ringing was cut down to a short touch each of Kent Minor and Stedman Doubles.

The final tower of the day was Templecombe, reached punctually to programme. Here Mr. Stuckey and another member of the local band welcomed the ringers, the Rector, Preb. Windsor, arriving a little later. The good going ring of six were kept on the move for some time in Boh Minor, Kent, Cambridge and London. Thence, after some delay for such refreshment as could be found at that hour of the evening, the car made steadily homewards, landing the party in Lyme at 10.40 p.m.

The thanks of all are given to the incumbents who granted, in every case, most willing permission to ring; also to all who either left everything in readiness for the party or met them in the towers. With kindly weather, bells worth ringing and beautiful scenery en route, a happy and interesting day was spent. C. C. C.

AMONG EAST SUFFOLK TOWERS.

A SIX-BELL EXCURSION.

The ringers attached to St. Matthew's Church, Ipswich, had their first outing on Saturday, July 10th. It took the form of an afternoon and evening tour by coach to some East Suffolk towers. They were joined by the five lady members. Travelling via Bromswell and Eyke and over several miles of heathlands, the first stop was at Tunstall (6), where they were met by the Rector and his wife, who were interested, as they had not met lady ringers before. Leaving here a short run brought the party to Blaxhall (6). The bells here hang left-handed and caused some trouble at first to the less experienced. The next stop was at the fine old church at Aldeburgh (6). Here the ladies took part in some Cambridge Surprise and other Treble Bob methods. Tea was well served at the East Suffolk Hotel. After looking round the town and a walk on the sea front, a move was made to Little Glemham (5), a church difficult to find. It stands in a fine park and is only reached after some rough riding. However, after a ring and a group photo had been taken by one of the party, the homeward journey was begun. On the way a stop for a short ring was made at Wickham Market (6), and the last stop was at Pettistree (6), where, owing to late arrival, it was necessary to search the church for a lamp. Here a good course of Cambridge Surprise brought the ringing for the day to a close. A run of 12 miles brought the band home by 10.30 after a most successful trip. During the day the band, assisted by the ladies, rang Oxford, Kent, Plain Bob, Cambridge and Ipswich Surprise. They wish to thank all who met them or had the bells ready for them.

TOLD IN VERSE.

ST. ANDREW'S, HOLBORN, RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, July the 3rd—a warm and sunny day—
To Reading Town from Paddington we made our early way.
Some thirty in the party—and all of us were males—
We very soon had started, and were speeding o'er the rails.
Some members of the Guild we missed, no Norton and no Hughes,
But they had reasons good, the invitation to refuse.
Our leader was J. Hawkins, who his father brought along,
And many more—too many to be named in this, my song.
But our photographer was there, his young son by his side,
And camera, which, through the day, he diligently plied.
Arrived at Reading, there we found our coach and took our place,
And drove along the country roads at quite a gentle pace.
To Londoners it was a treat to note each country scene;
The trim and flowery gardens, and the fields and hedgerows green.
At times the trees which bordered the roads down which we passed,
Their spreading branches, full of leaf, a welcome shadow cast:
Haymakers, here, were seen at work; there, fruit pickers as well,
But it would take too long of all the pleasant sights to tell.
Cows many—mostly black and white—and chickens by the score,
Beehives in cottage gardens, or a child beside the door.
At last we stop—Great Milton—we get down and leave the coach,
And to the Parish Church, close by, we one and all approach.
While some go up to ring the bells, the others saunter round,
And view the church and village, while the chimies melodious sound.
Then on again to Woodstock, a most pleasant country town,
Where Blenheim Park and palace tell of Marlborough's renown.
'Twas here we lunched at the hotel—the sign before the door
Showed 'Bear' and dog at deadly grips—such sights were seen of yore.
The sun was hot, the wind was fresh, and clouds of dust did greet
Those of us who, to see the place, had wandered down the street.
There was a 'ring' here, too, and then, with all aboard,
The coach drove on to Gloucestershire, and dropped us at Fairford.
Here, as before, the ringers rang, but not in belfry hid,
But, standing on the church's floor, their skilful task they did!
And many stood to watch them, while the others walked about
To see the famous windows, English work without a doubt.
There, drawn and highly coloured, one traced the fall of man,
Our Saviour's birth and death, and how Redemption it began,
There was the Resurrection, the stone just rolled away,
The Lord's return to heaven, and the future judgment day!
The time passed all too quickly, for there was so much to see,
And we were due at Wantage, where we planned to have our tea.
But, first, to work, some climbed the tower, and rang round after
round,
And passers-by stayed on their way to hear that cheerful sound.
The Red and White Refreshment Room meanwhile set out its best,
And those who rang required more cups of tea than all the rest!
But 'ere the meal was ended, and the journey back begun,
A pleasant little ceremony waited to be done.
A short address was read aloud, expressing their regret
That they must lose their Rector soon, though he was with them yet.
Their feelings there they showed in song familiar, and meanwhile
Their president had hid his face—but looked up with a smile,
To take their gift—a case of pipes—and, as if not enough,
A tin of choice tobacco, too, was given him to puff!
The company applauded as, his thanks the Rector spoke,
But one thing more remained before their homeward way they take:
A cordial vote of thanks to him who had arranged the treat.
(Our secretary's organising powers there's very few can beat.)
Now wasn't that a birthday to be stored in memory?
A happy day for all who went—but most for E. C. B.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**SOUTH NORFOLK BRANCH.**

A very successful meeting of the South Norfolk Branch took place at Kenninghall on Saturday, July 10th. The Rev. W. M. Harper Mitchell, Rector of Quidenham, conducted the service and gave an excellent address.

Afterwards over 30 members and friends attended the tea and meeting. Mr. W. L. Duffield presided, supported by Mr. A. L. Coleman (vice-president), Mr. P. Nolan Golden (general secretary and treasurer), Mr. A. G. Harrison (branch secretary) and members from Alburgh, Diss, Garboldisham, Palgrave, Pulham, Redenhall, Saxlingham, Shelfanger and Winfarthing. Other branches were represented by members from Buxton, Dersingham, Norwich and North Walsham, while Suffolk towers represented were Debenham, Stoke Ash, Redgrave and Newmarket. Mr. F. Hurry, of Cambridge, was also present.

Rounds for beginners and methods up to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise were rung at both Kenninghall and Quidenham.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Bergh Apton on October 9th. The methods chosen for practice on that occasion are London Surprise and Oxford Bob Minor.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISIT CHISWICK.**

For the first time since 1922, the London County Association on Saturday, July 17th, visited Chiswick. It was hoped, especially as it was a fine afternoon, to get a better attendance than usual, but the 20 members and friends who did avail themselves of the opportunity thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A short service was conducted by the curate, the Rev. Fellowes-Brown, and an excellent tea was served in the Parish Hall.

The business meeting followed, with Mr. H. Mance in the chair.

Mr. E. R. Bowman, of Hammersmith, was elected a member, and Kingston proposed for the next meeting, on September 18th, subject to permission being granted.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar (the Rev. E. R. Rich) for his kindness in granting permission for the use of the bells, to the curate for conducting the service, to Mr. N. Manning for his valuable assistance in obtaining the necessary sanction to ring, and to the caterers for the tea.

After the business meeting, handbell enthusiasts demonstrated how to ring Stedman Triples. Other members returned to the tower and rang the bells going until 8.10 p.m., when they were lowered in peal.

Methods rung during the day included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Superlative and a good course of London Surprise Major. Members and friends attended from Barnes, Chiswick, Chelsea, Hammersmith, Isleworth, Streatham, Twickenham, Ealing, Kensington, Bishopsgate, and welcome visitors included Mr. H. H. Pearn, of King's Norton, Birmingham (back from a holiday in Paris) and the popular Northern District secretary, Mr. J. G. A. Prior.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**A PROMISING YOUNG MEMBER.**

The South-Eastern Division of the Essex Association had a very successful meeting at Goldhanger on July 3rd, when 35 members and friends were present from Great Baddow, Boreham, Broomfield, Chelmsford, Goldhanger, Maldon, Springfield, Great Totham, Little Waltham, Writtle, Blackmore, Newmarket, Sawston and Swindon.

Several of the party took advantage of travelling by the coach which had been booked for the purpose, and enjoyed a run through the country on a perfect summer day.

Ringing in the afternoon was followed by the association's form of service. The Rector of Goldhanger (the Rev. R. Gordon Roe) welcomed the ringers and gave a very interesting and helpful address. The singing of the hymns and psalms was led by the organist and choir, the lesson being read by the hon. secretary.

A very welcome and enjoyable tea was partaken of at the Chequers, and this was followed by a short and pleasant business meeting.

The Rector was elected an honorary member with the hope that he would soon be eligible as a ringing member, and Mr. J. South, of Tolleshunt D'Arcy, was elected a ringing member. One other ringing member was elected, H. Alan Shadrack, of Springfield, who on the Sunday week previous had rung his first 720 of Bob Minor for his twelfth birthday. A remark was made that if he continued as he was going he would make a better ringer than his father, who is divisional hon. secretary.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Great Waltham (where the peal of eight bells have recently been rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co.) on the last Saturday in August, if this date should be convenient.

A vote of thanks to the Rector, the organist and choir and Mr. J. D. Buckingham was proposed by the Divisional Master, Mr. H. Mansfield, and, in reply, the Rector reiterated his welcome and said they were proud to have the association at Goldhanger. He greatly appreciated them electing him an hon. member. He apologised for the absence of the Vicar of Tolleshunt D'Arcy (the Rev. W. J. Sullivan), who was unable to be present owing to a church fete being held in his garden.—Mr. Buckingham also replied.

After handbell ringing and ringing at the tower, a general move was made to Tolleshunt D'Arcy and Tolleshunt, where the bells were available for the evening, ringing at the latter place continuing until about 9 p.m., when another enjoyable gathering came to a close.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

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SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Western Division will be held at Westbourne on Saturday, July 31st. Tower open 3.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. each, at 5.15. Half rail fare, maximum 1s. 6d., allowed to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Keynsham on Saturday, July 31st. Bells (8) 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15.—Theo Grant, Swainswick, Bath.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Kimpton on Saturday, July 31st. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea arrangements will be made. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. Nash, North Mimms, Hatfield, and H. V. Frost, 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans, Dis. Secs.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — On Saturday, July 31st, a meeting will be held at King's Walden. The bells will be available at 3 p.m. Book the date, and don't be late.—Don Mears, Fritton, Moormeade Close, Hitchin, Herts.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton and Wigan Branches.—A joint meeting will be held at Westhoughton on Saturday, July 31st. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.30. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook and Sydney Forshaw, Secs.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Arksey on Saturday, July 31st. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m.—Ernest Cooper, 1, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, nr. Doncaster.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY. — The next quarterly meeting of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society will be held at St. Mark's Church, Glodwick, Oldham, on July 31st at 3 p.m.—C. Wilson, Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch. — A ringing practice will be held at Newport Pagnell. Bells (8) available from 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, July 31st. All ringers welcome. — Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

DORCHESTER, ST. PETER'S.—Re-opening of the bells, Sunday, August 1st. Services 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. A ring of eight rehung by John Taylor and Co.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held on Bank Holiday, Aug. 2nd, at Rotherham Parish Church. Bells (10) ready at 1 p.m. For tea, café close by church. All welcome. — M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A special meeting will be held at Sunderland on Bank Holiday, Monday, Aug. 2nd. Meet at St. Michael's, Bishopwearmouth, at 3 p.m. Tea will be served in St. Ignatius Institute, Burlington Road, at 5

p.m., to those informing Mr. G. S. Taylor, 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland, by Friday, July 30th. — Roland Park, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Giles', Cripplegate, on Aug. 3rd, St. Magnus' on the 5th and 19th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 12th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 17th, Southwark Cathedral on the 26th, St. Mary-le-Bow on the 31st. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Combined practices during August: Winchester Cathedral (12 bells), Wednesday, Aug. 4th, at 7 p.m.; Holy Rood, Southampton (8 bells), Fridays, Aug. 13th, 20th and 27th, at 7.30 p.m. All ringers welcome. — G. Williams, Master, 1, Chestnut Avenue, Eastleigh.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church, St. Mary's (12 bells) on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m. A hearty welcome to all ringers and friends to come along and support us.—Stephen Lloyd Parry, Branch Sec., 24, St. James' Street, Milnrow, Rochdale, Lancs.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Norton on Saturday, Aug. 7th. The bells, which have recently been overhauled by Taylor and Co., available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Numbers for tea by Tuesday previous.—T. E. Newman, The Cross, Hinton-on-the-Green, Evesham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Accrington, on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome. — F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch. —A meeting of the Wirral branch will be held at Christ Church, Port Sunlight, on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30 p.m. Meeting afterwards.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch. —The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Enmore on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells available 2.30. Service 4. Tea 5. Please let me know not later than Tuesday how many will require tea from your tower.—C. Evans, Hon. Sec., 17, Wellington Road, Bridgwater.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —The monthly meeting will be held at Rowde on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells (6) from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringing friends welcome.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —Quarterly meeting Saturday, Aug. 7th, Walesby (8 bells). Names for tea not later than Wednesday, Aug. 4th, to K. W. Mayer, Hon. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch. —The branch will meet at Upwell on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

CLAY CROSS, near Chesterfield.—The bells will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Chesterfield on Sunday, Aug. 8th, at 6.30 p.m. A ring of six recast and rehung in new framework by John Taylor and Co.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Repton on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. It is most essential that those intending to be present for tea should notify me by Wednesday, Aug. 11th. Ringers and friends welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Coddenham on Aug. 14th. Ringing on tower bells (8) afternoon and evening. Tea in Rectory garden, 4.30, at 9d. each.—Harold G. Herbert, Sec., 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Willesden, on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea, in the Church Hall, at 5.30, 1s. each. Please advise me by Aug. 11th. All ringers welcomed. Special method: Edmonton Bob Major.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Tel. Larkwood, 1959.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. George's, Mossley, Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells ready 5 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Rev. J. F. Southworth, B.D., will officiate and extends a hearty welcome to the Bolton branch. Names to be sent to H. Pickles, 11, Seel Terrace, Leas Road, Mossley, not later than Aug. 11th.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A souvenir invitation to the 300th dinner on November 6th has been prepared. Copies of this will be sent in due course, together with an admission ticket, to members who apply with remittances (10s. for members, 12s. 6d. for non-members) to any of the following:—Messrs. C. S. Burden, P. E. Clark, W. T. Cockerill, E. P. Duffield, E. G. Fenn, T. Groombridge, J. S. Hawkins, R. T. Hibbert, C. H. Horton, A. A. Hughes, H. Langdon, E. H. Lewis, F. M. Mitchell, H. R. Newton, A. B. Peck, L. B. Porter, W. Roughton, A. Walker, J. A. Waugh, C. F. Winney, E. A. Young. Members are reminded that seating accommodation at the Cannon Street Hotel is limited to 400.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec.

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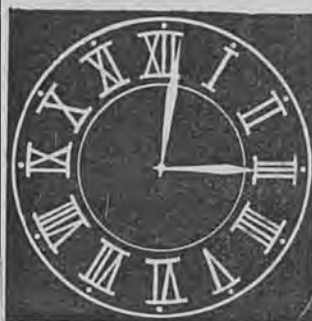
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