

No. 1,386. Vol. XXXII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15th, 1937.

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transmission as a newspaper.]

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STEDMAN.

Among the many links which couple the Ancient Society of College Youths with the distant past and the foundations of change ringing are Stedman—the man and the method. Stedman, the man, was not only a member of the Society but the holder of office and, in one year, its Master. He held the society in high esteem, as indicated by the fact that when he published 'Tintinnalogia,' the first of all printed books on the art of change ringing, he dedicated it to the 'Noble Society of Colledge-Youths,' and later, when 'Campanalogia' made its appearance, it was to his 'honoured and most esteemed friends, the members of the Society of Colledge Youths,' that he dedicated it. The College Youths were among the first, if not the first, to put Stedman, the method, into practice. From the society's early association with it, we can almost say that it is the College Youths' method, although, of course, it has never been in any sense their monopoly.

This week a suggestion is made in our columns that one way of marking the tercentenary of the society would be to re-adapt the 'start' of Stedman and to make rounds the last row of a 'six' instead of the fourth, as it now is, always in Doubles and Triples and usually in Caters and Cinques. That strange start of the method, although taken for granted, has aroused the curiosity of many thinkers, but no one is able to say precisely why it was adopted by the inventor. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, in the first chapter of Snowdon's 'Stedman,' suggests that the reason for it was to make the first three rows identical with those in Grandsire Doubles. Be that as it may, the method, as Stedman left it with us, begins in this curious fashion. But Stedman would still be Stedman if it were begun from some other place in the 'six,' and there are frequent instances of this in peals of Caters and Cinques. To secure certain properties in composition or a particular number of changes, composers have taken all sorts of liberties, the most common one being to start with a full 'slow' six, which means going off with 2 1 4 3, etc., instead of 2 1 3 5 4, etc. This 'tampering' with Stedman has never led to any protest, and, indeed, there is nothing to be said against it, except that it is not Stedman's way of beginning, although we must remember that Stedman produced it as a five-bell method pure and simple. But, having admitted that the method on nine and eleven bells may be begun with a full six, instead of with the last two changes of a six, there is no reason why the same 'going off' should not be used on five and seven bells—except tradition and the fact that in Doubles and Triples there is nothing to be gained by it. On the higher numbers the alteration can be made to serve a purpose, on five

(Continued on page 678.)

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and seven bells, when peals are rung, there is no question of special lengths; the extent has to be completed, and there is no inducement to start otherwise than as Stedman began. Moreover, in matters concerning ringing, tradition is hard to kill, and about the last people to kill it would be the College Youths, in whose ranks tradition is cherished more than anywhere in the Exercise.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BUCKFAST, DEVONSHIRE.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE BENEDICTINE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 41 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb. in C.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH Treble	ROBERT RICHARDSON 7
ALBERT WALKER 2	WILLIAM A. CAVE 8
CHARLES T. COLES 3	FRANK E. PERVIN 9
FRANK W. PERRENS 4	A. PADDON SMITH 10
GEORGE R. PYE 5	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD 11
GEORGE F. SWANN 6	JAMES H. SHEPHERD Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARRER.

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

First peal on the new bells.

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in C sharp.

WILLIAM H. HEWETT Treble	*DUDLEY BOXTON 7
CHARLES H. KIPPIN 2	*GEORGE H. HUMPHRIES 8
ROYDON DAVIES 3	*AMOS W. CLARK 9
*HERBERT J. SKELT 4	*FRANK E. MITCHELL 10
THOMAS G. BANNISTER 5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS 11
*JAMES E. COOPER 6	DANIEL D. COOPER Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY.

Conducted by D. D. COOPER.

* First peal of Maximus. First peal of Maximus as conductor. This peal was rung as a welcome to the Rev. W. L. Anderson, M.A., who was inducted as Vicar of Croydon the previous Wednesday.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM TILLET Treble	*DAVID VINCENT 7
Sylvia R. E. BOWYER 2	GEORGE A. FLEMING 8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3	FREDERICK J. TILLET 9
WILLIAM P. GARRATT 4	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 10
HARRY R. ROPER 5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 11
HAROLD E. SYMONDS 6	JOHN F. TILLET Tenor

Arranged by G. E. SYMONDS.

Conducted by W. J. G. BROWN.

* First touch of Cambridge Maximus. Rung on the 70th birthday of Frederick J. Tillet and as a birthday compliment to Mr. Robert Brundle, who is 86.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BURGESS HILL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, September 29, 1937, in Two Hours & Fifty Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

KEITH HART Treble	REGINALD V. JOHNSON 5
MISS FLORRIE WYMAN 2	KENNETH SNELLING 6
MRS. F. I. HAIRS 3	RAYMOND OVERY 7
FRANK I. HAIRS 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

LUTTERWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 2, 1937, in Three Hours,

At THE WYCLIFFE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HAROLD G. JENNEY Treble	ROGER W. DANIELS 5
F. JOHN WOODFORD 2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER 6
KENNETH A. ROE 3	ERNEST W. TIPLER 7
R. FREDERICK ROE 4	FRED PERRY Tenor

Conducted by F. H. DEXTER.

* First peal and first attempt. Rung on the eve of harvest festival.

SLAUGHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 2, 1937, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 11½ cwt.

REGINALD V. JOHNSON Treble	* EDWARD J. CHARMAN 5
CECIL NICE 2	* FREDERICK GODSMARK 6
* ALBERT E. LAKER 3	OLIVER SIPPETTS 7
KENNETH SNELLING 4	† CHARLES A. WOOD Tenor

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

* First peal of Grandsire 'inside.' † First peal.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, October 3, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

OLIVER SIPPETTS Treble	NELSON ELLIOTT 5
RAYMOND OVERY 2	KENNETH SNELLING 6
EDWARD J. CHARMAN 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON 7
JACK M. CRIPPS 4	C. ERNEST SMITH Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

First peal of Surprise Major as conductor.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, October 3, 1937, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in D.

ALBERT G. HARRISON Treble	ERNEST WHITING 5
NOLAN GOLDEN 2	CHARLES W. LOOME 6
WILLIAM CLOVER 3	CECIL V. EBBERSON 7
ERIC G. BENNETT 4	FREDERICK SEAGER Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by N. GOLDEN.

First peal of New Cambridge on the bells.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, October 4, 1937, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES E. DAVIS Treble	JAMES BENNETT 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	EDWIN F. PIKE 6
BERNARD H. SWINSON 3	ERNEST BRITT 7
* HARRY HOSKINS 4	THOMAS G. BANNISTER Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by G. R. PYE.

* 200th peal.

MILES PLATTING, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 5, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOSEPH HALL Treble	* JOHN HASSELL 5
WILLIAM H. SHUKER 2	* JOSEPH SAUNDERS 6
WILLIAM BRAMMER 3	ALAN J. BROWN 7
HERBERT MCKINNELL 4	NORMAN HEAPS Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by N. HEAPS.

* First peal of Bob Major. A birthday compliment to Miss E. Garner, of Liverpool.

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, October 5, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

* MISS EDNA SOUTHEY Treble	PERCIVAL ELDRIDGE 5
† JACK AMOS 2	† THOMAS E. DENYER 6
WILL H. VIGGERS 3	REGINALD J. WHITFORD 7
† ERNEST GOWER 4	CHARLES W. DENYER Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by C. W. DENYER.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Bob Major. First peal of Bob Major as conductor. Rung as a farewell to E. Gower, who is leaving the district for Worley, Essex. All are members of the local company.

TURNER'S HILL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 6, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES A. LAKER Treble	KENNETH SNELLING 5
REGINALD V. JOHNSON 2	ALBERT E. LAKER 6
MISS FLORRIE WYMAN 3	OLIVER SIPPETTS 7
RAYMOND OVERY 4	NELSON ELLIOTT Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

PENSNETT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 6, 1937, in Three Hours,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 8½ lb.

SAMUEL HUGHES Treble	WILLIAM C. DOWDING 5
ALFRED ROWLEY 2	* SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY 6
DANIEL T. MATKIN 3	JAMES H. SHEPHERD 7
WILLIAM SHORT 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

* First peal of Treble Bob 'inside' at first attempt.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION AND THE SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.

On Thursday, October 7, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 36 cwt.

* RONALD F. SALTER Treble	RALPH NARBOROUGH 5
GEORGE E. FOSTER 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER 6
FRANK BRADLEY 3	† FREDERICK A. SALTER 7
J. ALFRED BARRATT 4	WALTER NICHOLS Tenor

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

* First peal of Stedman. † 150th peal.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Thursday, October 7, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

LESLIE TREMEER Treble	FRANK BENNETT 5
JOHN W. FAITHFULL 2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE 6
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 3	REGINALD A. REED 7
GEORGE WILLIAMS 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

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CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, October 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

ERNEST H. OXENHAM ... Treble	DEREK M. SHARP ... 5
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 2	HARRY HOSKINS ... 6
*FREDERICK G. GROOMBRIDGE ... 3	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. ... 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 4	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.
 Bob Major on tower bells. Rung as a birthday * First peal of Treble day compliment on the eve of the 70th anniversary of Thomas Groombridge, sen.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of the Annunciation,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 20 cwt.

ALBERT A. HUGHES ... Treble	WILFRED WILLIAMS ... 5
THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. ... 2	ERNEST BRETT ... 6
HARRY HOSKINS ... 3	ALFRED B. PECK ... 7
HERBERT LANGDON ... 4	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. ... Tenor

Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.

The first peal in the method on the bells. Rung as a special compliment to the conductor on his 70th birthday.

PINNER, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.	
ARTHUR J. HARDING ... Treble	*EDGAR C. RUSSELL ... 5
PERCY L. PARSLow ... 2	EDWIN JENNINGS ... 6
EDWARD P. ASHEY ... 3	JOHN E. ROUTES ... 7
*JOHN W. PARSLow ... 4	WILLIAM SEELEY ... Tenor

Conducted by E. JENNINGS.

* First peal in the method.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF WATFORD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*HENRY HODGETTS ... Treble	*MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 5
WALTER G. PAUL ... 2	*FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 6
STEPHEN H. HOARE ... 3	*FRANCIS KIRK ... 7
*CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY ... 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

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

CHURCH, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JAMES PARR ... Treble	LESLIE L. WILLIAMS ... 5
HERBERT HOLDEN ... 2	ARNOLD BRUNTON ... 6
*JACK CLEGG ... 3	*JAMES BARNES ... 7
ERIC BRUNTON ... 4	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by L. J. WILLIAMS.

* First peal in the method. All are regular Sunday service ringers at this church.

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EYNSFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5030 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

JAMES BENNETT ... Treble	JOHN E. LYDDIARD ... 5
EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 2	HARRY HOVERD ... 6
JOHN WHEADON ... 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 7
ALLISON PURDOM ... 4	EDMUND MOUNTER ... Tenor

Conducted by H. E. AUDSLEY.

A birthday peal for E. A. Barnett. J. Wheadon's 300th peal for the association.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

WILLIAM E. FLETCHER ... Treble	*WILLIAM PILKINGTON ... 5
JAMES MARSH ... 2	*ARTHUR MAWDESLEY ... 6
MARTIN HARRIS ... 3	JOSEPH RIDYARD ... 7
JAMES SWINDLEY ... 4	PERCY SWINDLEY ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.

* First peal of Major and first attempt. A birthday compliment to Mr. James Marsh.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

GEORGE BENNETT ... Treble	FREDERICK J. SMITH ... 5
GEORGE WHITING ... 2	JAMES M. BAILEY ... 6
JAMES BENNETT, JUN. ... 3	T. WILLIAM LAST ... 7
ERNEST S. BAILEY ... 4	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by L. C. WIGHTMAN.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of the Immanuel,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

WILLIAM RILEY ... Treble	ISAAC WHALLEY ... 5
JAMES SHAW ... 2	ROBERT PARKINSON ... 6
FRANK SHAW ... 3	JAMES HOULDSWORTH ... 7
ALFRED T. HOULDSWORTH ... 4	CHARLES SHARPLES ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. GOODALL.

Conducted by J. HOULDSWORTH.

Rung to celebrate the centenary of the church.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mark,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ... Treble	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 5
JOHN BOOTH ... 2	ERIC W. YATES ... 6
*ALAN CARPENTER ... 3	ROBERT ALLRED ... 7
*JAMES BLACKBURN ... 4	JAMES GROUNDS ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.

* First peal of Major.

WARFIELD, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael-the-Archangel,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb.

WILLIAM H. FOSSELL ... Treble	GEORGE MARTIN ... 5
MISS K. E. FLETCHER ... 2	WILLIAM WELLING ... 6
MISS D. R. FLETCHER ... 3	WILLIAM HENLEY ... 7
REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ... 4	HARRY WINGROVE ... Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

CULWORTH, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, September 29, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being forty-two 120's, ten callings.

Tenor 16 cwt. in E.

*FRANK HAYTON Treble	*ALFRED BASSELEY 3
*FREDERICK GREEN 2	HARRY GIBBARD 4

SUPT. FRANK R. WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by H. GIBBARD.

* First peal. First peal on the bells. Rung as a farewell to Canon Hill, for 39 years Rector of Culworth.

SHILTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, October 2, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of Oxford Treble Bob and three extents each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 7 cwt.

*ROY D. HAYNE Treble	†DOUGLAS F. ELLENDER 4
†EDWARD H. JOHNSON 2	CHARLES FREEMAN 5
WILLIAM T. COX 3	FRANK E. PERVIN Tenor

Conducted by F. E. PERVIN.

* First peal. † First peal in three methods. Rung on the eve of the harvest festival, also as a wedding peal for Miss Lily Sprigg and Mr. William Malabon, whose marriage took place earlier in the day at Stoke Church, Coventry.

AMPTHILL, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 2, 1937, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

HERBERT L. HARLOW Treble	REGINALD J. HOUGHTON 4
C. HENRY HARDING 2	CHARLES W. CLARKE 5
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES 3	PEARL INSKIP Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

LILLINGTON, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 2, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents (each called differently) of Union, Place Bob, Chase, St. Dunstan's, Stedman, St. Vedast, New Doubles, St. Bartholomew's, Reading, Stedman Slow Course, St. Simon's, Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury and Grandsire, with 42 callings.

Tenor 9 cwt.

MAURICE BATTEN Treble	HAROLD C. R. VINE 3
HUBERT SMITH 2	H. DENNIS W. BISHOP 4

ARTHUR G. CHURCH Tenor

Conducted by H. D. W. BISHOP.

First peal in 14 methods for all and for the Guild. All are members of the Evershot (West Dorset) Guild.

ALDFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 2, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents, five different callings.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*THOMAS SNELL Treble	WILLIAM E. FLETCHER 4
FRED HARTMAN 2	†HARRY PYE 5
JOHN THOMAS 3	PERCY SWINDLEY Tenor

Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

ASSINGTON, SUFFOLK.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(St. Andrew's Guild, Earls Colne.)

On Saturday, October 2, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 11½ cwt. (approx.).

*HARRY CARTER Treble	ALEC M. GENERY 4
ALBERT L. DIXEY 2	FRANK CLAYDON 5
REGINALD G. SIMMONDS 3	RALPH BIRD Tenor

Conducted by R. BIRD.

* First peal in seven methods.

LANCHESTER, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 2, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of an extent each of Double Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Single Oxford, St. Clement's Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 gr. 9 lb. in A.

THOMAS W. DODD Treble	REGINALD H. HEWITT 4
JOHN A. BROWN 2	KENNETH ARTHUR 5
STEPHEN THOMPSON 3	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON Tenor

Conducted by K. ARTHUR.

Believed to be the first peal on the bells.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, October 3, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being ten 120's of Canterbury Pleasure, 18 six-scores of Grandsire, two of Pitman's and five of Morris' 240's of Grandsire, 21 callings.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH T. MORRIS Treble	JAMES P. HYETT 4
*FREDERICK J. WATKINS 2	JAMES T. RANDLE 5
ALBERT E. JONES 3	ARTHUR INSEAL Tenor

Conducted by A. E. JONES.

* First peal in two methods. First peal as conductor in two methods. Rung for the harvest festival service.

WILLINGHAM, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, October 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Cambridge Surprise, two each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

E. JACK PARISH Treble	ALBERT E. AUSTIN 4
CHARLES ROBINSON 2	T. REGINALD DENNIS 5
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 3	FRANK WARRINGTON Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

Rung as a farewell peal to Canon A. C. Hair, who is retiring from Willingham Rectory.

ELLESBOROUGH, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 9 cwt.

*RONALD WOOLMER Treble	HARRY C. JONES 4
†EDWARD TIMPSON 2	†WALTER LEE 5
ROLAND BIGGS 3	PERCY NEWTON Tenor

Conducted by PERCY NEWTON.

* First attempt for a peal. † First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor away from the treble. First peal of Minor as conductor. Rung for the harvest festival.

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BIDFORD-ON-AVON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten callings.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ARTHUR T. SHOREY Treble	J. WILLIAM HEATH 4
FREDERICK KINCHIN 2	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN 5
FRANK TUFFLEY 3	LEONARD A. BASKETT Tenor

Conducted by J. W. HEATH.

Believed to be the first peal on the bells. Arranged for ringers of treble and tenor, who are members of the local band.

GESTINGTHORPE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, Double Court, St. Clement's, Plain, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob.
Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

GEORGE E. PANNEL Treble	ALEC M. GENERY 4
VICTOR MORLEY 2	RALPH BIRD 5
REGINALD G. SIMMONDS 3	THOMAS BIRD Tenor

Conducted by R. BIRD.

* First peal in seven methods 'inside.'

BREDE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Saturday, October 9, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents called differently.

HENRY M. GIBBS Treble	CHARLES A. LEVETT 4
ARCHIBALD STEVENSON 2	WILLIAM GORRINGE 5
JOHN A. DOWNING 3	JAMES G. POWELL Tenor

Conducted by J. G. POWELL.

* First peal of Minor. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Joan Kingdon (a ringer at the above church) and Mr. R. McCall.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

SOME STATISTICS FROM BUCKFAST.

A peal by the local company at Aldershot was rung on October 5th as a farewell to one of their members. There is always regret at the loss of a ringer from a tower, as they are generally hard to replace.

But Aldershot will not suffer so badly as some companies. At one of their recent practices, when no fewer than 11 members of the band were absent for various reasons, holidays included, no fewer than 20 members of all ages and both sexes were present and the methods rung went as high as Double Norwich!

The peal of Minor at Shilton, Warwickshire, on October 2nd, was a 'double purpose' performance. Rung on the eve of the harvest festival, it was also a wedding peal for Miss Lily Sprigg and Mr. William Malabon, whose marriage took place earlier in the day at Stoke Church, Coventry. The bridegroom has been a ringer at Shilton since 1925, when the bells were installed.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus rung at Ipswich on Oct. 9th was first arranged on Sept. 18th, Mr. R. H. Brundle's 86th birthday, but had to be postponed, as he met with a bicycle accident in August, from which happily he has now practically recovered.

It was rung as a birthday compliment to him, also on Mr. F. J. Tillet's 70th birthday. Mr. Tillet rang the tenor to Treble Bob Maximus on his birthday in the year 1888, and is still 'going strong.'

It is believed that Miss Sylvia Bowyer has set up a lady's record for one year on tower bells, this being her 25th peal this year.

In connection with the peal at Buckfast Abbey the following statistics may be interesting:—

Number of bells employed	12
Weight of tenor	41½ cwt.
Number of ringers engaged	12
Weight of back six (aggregate)	11½ cwt.
Total miles travelled, approximately	4,750
Total years of ringing experience	500
Number of pints of draught Bass consumed	*

* Unascertainable.

The peal was rung on the birthday of Mr. Fred Walker, of Birmingham, son of the conductor. Several other members of the party also seemed to be celebrating a birthday.

The marriage of Miss Joan Kingdon, of Brede, Sussex, and formerly of Woking, to Mr. R. McCull was celebrated by a peal of Bob Minor on the bells of Brede Parish Church on October 9th, and the excellence of the ringing brought compliments from local residents. Miss Kingdon and her sister, before removing to Brede, rang at Worpleston Parish Church, Surrey.

A peal of Bob Major, rung on the back eight at St. Mark's Church, Worsley, Lancs. on October 9th, was Mr. J. B. Ridyard's one hundredth peal for the Lancashire Association. The ringers, who included two from Standish and two from Coppull, were afterwards hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Yates, to whom the band wish to extend their best thanks.

The band at Evershot, West Dorset, rang the first peal in 14 methods (Doubles) for the Salisbury Diocesan Guild on the five bells at Lillingston, Dorset, on October 2nd. This is a distinctly meritorious performance. Three extents of each of the methods were rung, and it was, of course, the first peal in 14 methods by all the band.

During a visit to his native Norfolk, Mr. Fred Seager, of Keighley, Yorks, and formerly of Tibenham, rang three peals, at Redenhall, Pulham and Diss, the New Cambridge at the last-named tower being his one hundredth peal for the Norwich Diocesan Association.

The peal at Lanchester, Co. Durham, on October 2nd, is believed to be the first on the bells, which have been in the tower for over 50 years. They were rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank early in this year. The peal was specially arranged for the conductor, Mr. Kenneth Archer, while home on leave.

Believed to be the first peal in seven methods on the bells at St. Edmund's Church, Assington, Suffolk, seven 720's were rung on Saturday, October 2nd, by members of the St. Andrew's Guild, Earls Colne.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

PRESENTATION TO RECTOR OF CHURCH LAWFORD.

The September meeting was held at Church Lawford on Saturday, September 18th, and, in spite of the wet weather, was well attended. The beautiful little ring of six (tenor 8 cwt.), recently rehung and augmented by the famous Loughborough firm, were raised about 3 o'clock, and various methods of Minor and Doubles rung until tea time.

The Rector and about 30 members, including wives and friends, sat down to tea, after which the Ringing Master thanked the Rector on behalf of the Guild for his kind invitation to Lawford and asked him to accept a framed card, written by Mr. C. H. Webb, recording the first 720 of Minor rung on the bells.

After tea the tower was again visited, and touches in various Minor methods up to London Surprise were rung until 7.45, the bells then being lowered in peal.

A social hour was spent at the White Lion, selections of handbell tunes being rendered by Mr. Webb, his son and daughter, and Mr. J. B. Fenton. The Rector and churchwardens were present and an enjoyable evening was spent.

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LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**PRESENTATION TO FORMER BRANCH SECRETARY.**

The half-yearly meeting of the Northern Branch, held at Metheringham on Saturday, October 2nd, was well attended, between 50 and 60 members being present, representing 13 towers spread over the four districts of the branch, and non-resident members from Barnby-in-the-Willows, Notts and Treeton, Rotherham. The light ring of eight were kept going during the afternoon and evening to a variety of methods. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. W. Smith), who, prior to an interesting address, gave the members a hearty welcome. Mr. T. Cullingworth presided at the organ.

Tea was provided in the Church Room followed by the business meeting presided over by the president of the branch, the Ven. Archdeacon Parry. The formal business was quickly disposed of, Epworth being chosen for the next half-yearly meeting.

An interesting event was the presentation to Mr. F. S. W. Butler, late hon. secretary, of a wallet containing £11 subscribed by the members of the branch.

The President, in making the presentation, spoke of the very efficient way Mr. Butler had carried out the duties during his 14 years in office and referred to difficulties existing when he took over, which were ably straightened out by him.

Mr. J. A. Freeman, Branch Ringing Master, and Mr. F. W. Stokes, Guild general secretary, also spoke of the conscientious work done by Mr. Butler.

A letter from Mr. Rupert Richardson, Guild Master, was read, paying tribute to Mr. Butler's valuable services and expressing a wish that they would have him with them at their meetings for many years to come.

Mr. Butler, who was very warmly applauded, thanked the members and said he did not feel he deserved any reward for what had been to him a 'labour of love.'

Votes of thanks to the Vicar of Metheringham for all he had done, to the president for presiding, and to all who had in any way contributed to its success, brought an enjoyable meeting to a close.

A TWELVE-YEAR-OLD RINGER.

Denis Scott, aged 12, of Darley Dale, Derbyshire, rang his first quarter-peal at the first attempt when he piloted the treble through 1,260 of Oxford Bob Triples on Sunday, October 3rd, for the harvest festival morning service at St. Helen's Church. All the band were local ringers: Denis Scott 1, Robert Allsop 2, H. E. Taylor 3, H. W. Gregory 4, B. Allsop 5, Ron Allsop 6, G. H. Paulson (conductor) 7, R. Benton 8.

VARIETY AT COOKHAM.**HAPPY OXFORD GUILD MEETING.**

The East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild held a monthly meeting at Cookham on September 25th. To a visitor the gathering seemed to typify the real spirit for which ringing guilds were created. The good fellowship between the young ringers and the 'old hands' set the wheels of progress rolling.

Variety is the spice of life, so they say, and it certainly proved so at Cookham, for everyone called for his favourite method, and rang it (44,005 of them), and though 6, 5's at backstroke do not appeal to all, things ended happily.

Tea, that important item, was well and truly served by mine host of the Royal Exchange. The members were pleased to welcome Uncle Joe Hawkins. They got to look for him at these country places, but on this occasion forgot to inquire what he had done with his fellow-hikers.

A short interval of handbell ringing with the help of Mr. J. Truss added more variety, and on the return to the tower the bells were half-muffled in respect for the memory of a local choirman.

The next meeting is suggested for Hughenden on October 30th. This is a chance for those hikers who appreciate the glories of the autumn in the Chiltern beech woods.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A very pleasant meeting of the North-Western Division of the Essex Association was held at Epping Upland on the eve of the harvest festival. The Vicar (the Rev. Rubie) officiated at the service and also accompanied the singing. Afterwards he conducted those present round the fine old church and pointed out its interesting and historical features.

Tea was generously provided by the Misses Marters in the garden room adjoining the churchyard. It was a pity there were so few to share the hospitality, although perhaps the weather was partly to blame.

The District Master presided over the usual business meeting, at the commencement of which tribute was paid to two old district members who had passed away, viz., Walter Hobbs, of Harlow, and John Prior, of Stansted.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Wendens Ambo on the first Saturday in November.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the Misses Marters for providing such a bountiful tea.

The towers represented were Bishop's Stortford, Harlow, Harlow Common, Sawbridgeworth, Roydon, Walthamstow, Loughton, Barley, Hertford, Sawston and the local company.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

We understand that Mr. W. T. Cockerill is retiring this year from the office of hon. secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths, which he has filled so ably for nearly fifty years.

So great is the demand for tickets for the Lancashire Association's dinner at Blackpool on October 30th that it has been found necessary to transfer it to the Imperial Hydro, North Promenade.

It is hoped that the talented handbell band from Watford will be at Hillingdon on Saturday and ring during the social which is to be held in connection with the joint meeting of the Middlesex Association and Oxford and Ladies' Guilds.

Regular practices will be resumed at the Church of St. George the Martyr, Southwark, from 8 to 9.15 p.m. on Wednesdays, from October 20th.

We regret that owing to pressure on our space we have had to hold over our usual article for beginners, as well as several reports of meetings and outings.

THE START OF STEDMAN.

SUGGESTED CHANGE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I humbly suggest that one way of marking the 300th anniversary of the Ancient Society of College Youths would be to make a change in the start of Stedman.

I suggest that the first row after rounds should be the first row of a 'six' from now onwards, instead of the fifth row as it is at present.

It would be very interesting to know the views of members of the Exercise on this point.

H. MILES (Oxford University Society).

'NEGLECTED' WIFE SEEKS ENLIGHTENMENT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—My husband is one of those who neglects his wife on Saturday afternoons (and at other times as well) for peal ringing. He said, when I asked him recently whether all this peal ringing was necessary to improve the standard of ringing for Sunday service, that it was.

I then asked him, if that were the sole reason, why do some of the most enthusiastic peal ringers never ring for service? Why do ringers have long faces when they lose a peal?—my husband is an example—as it would be immaterial if it were done to improve the Sunday ringing. But he would not give me an intelligent answer.

Is it not true that the amassing of a large number of peals by individuals is really self-glorification, or is it conceit? Can someone enlighten me?

'RINGER'S WIFE.'

THE 'PEAL' OF LIFE.

RINGING PARSON'S ANALOGY.

A meeting of the Stockport Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Marple on October 2nd. The day was a fine autumn one, and the bells, cast in 1731 by Rudhall, were sending their cadences over the surrounding dales very soon after three o'clock, touches in several methods being rung prior to the service. The Guild form was used, as usual, and was conducted by the Rev. G. E. Bottomley (curate). The lesson was read and a short talk given by the Rev. F. Bonner, a ringing member of the branch. He took as his text Numbers x., 10. He likened life to a peal and pointed out that the co-operation and comradeship to be found in the belfry could be well extended to all walks of life. The individuality of each person was as necessary as were the different notes of a peal of bells, and just like a peal of bells, if all co-operated together, life could be quite as harmonious as the music which goes forth from our towers. Another point he made was that whilst we are ready to submit our wills to an earthly conductor for three hours or so, how many of us are willing to submit ourselves to the greatest conductor of all, so that He may order our lives, Who alone can correct the trips we make in life and keep us in our true course?

Tea was served in the Parish Hall, and 61 members and friends enjoyed an excellent meal. The usual business meeting followed, under the chairmanship of the Rev. G. E. Bottomley, supported by the branch chairman, Mr. W. Wolstencroft.

The Chairman welcomed the branch to Marple on behalf of the Vicar, who was unfortunately unable to be present, as he was attending the induction of the new Dean of Chester. He himself had only been in the parish a few days and had had no experience of ringers' meetings, but he hoped the members would make themselves welcome and that he would meet them all on many occasions.

The secretary gave a short report of the proceedings at the annual festival for the benefit of those members who were unable to attend. Three new members, all from St. Peter's, Ashton, were elected.

Votes of thanks were extended to the Vicar and wardens for permission to hold the meeting, to the Rev. G. E. Bottomley for his services, to the organist, the ladies who prepared the tea, and also to the Rev. F. Bonner for the excellent address.

This concluded the business of the meeting, and the members then adjourned to the tower for further ringing until a late hour, the methods ranging from Cambridge Surprise to Grandsire Doubles.

SIXTY-FIVE YEARS MARRIED.

RINGER'S CONGRATULATIONS FROM KING AND QUEEN.

Celebration at Newent.

The whole Exercise will join in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Williams, of Newent, Glos., upon celebrating the 65th anniversary of their wedding. They were married at St. Mary's Church, Cheltenham, on October 8th, 1872, and have a family of four: one son and three daughters. Both Mr. and Mrs. Williams are 84 years of age and are in the best of health.

Mr. Williams served 32 years in the Gloucestershire Police Force and is still affectionately known to many friends as 'the Sergeant.'

In 1891, Mr. Williams went to Newent in charge of the Newent Petty Sessional Division, where he remained for 12 years up till his retirement.

At the last Police Court he attended before his retirement he was presented by the chairman of the Bench with a testimonial and a purse of £50 which had been subscribed by the townspeople of Newent.

After his retirement from the Police Force he was appointed school attendance officer for the Newent district, and remained in this post for 19 years.

One exciting incident in his police career is worth recalling. In 1887, while Mr. Williams was a sergeant in Gloucester, information was received that a dangerous gaol-breaker had taken the keys from a warder in Brecon Prison and escaped.

This notorious character made his way to Gloucester, and, while posing as Capt. King and holding a service in the Salvation Army Barracks, he was arrested by Mr. Williams after a severe struggle.

King had previously escaped from several prisons in the North, and when he was brought before the Bench he had to be handcuffed. Mr. Williams was complimented and awarded £5 for having courageously made the arrest.

Mr. Williams, who has rung nearly two hundred peals, has also been a member of the choir at Newent for nearly 45 years.

OLD RINGING FRIENDS JOIN IN.

Last Friday's great event was celebrated with enthusiasm. In addition to a family gathering many of 'the Sergeant's' ringing friends were present. The bells of the Parish Church, a peal of six, which had not been rung since Easter, owing to their condition, had nevertheless to work overtime on this occasion. The intention was to ring a peal of Minor, but the 'go' was too much like donkey work for the full peal, and 720's were therefore rung, as well as Grandsire and Stedman Doubles. Six of the 'old boys' who did most of the ringing were J. Austin, aged 74; John Clark, 74; J. W. Jones, 72; J. Davies, 70; S. Romans, 68; and C. Sadler, 61; the total age of the six being thus 419 years.

Telegrams of congratulation, including one from the King and Queen at Balmoral, poured in during the day. There were so many that the stock of the special forms at the Post Office was exhausted.

The guests numbered 40, including the former Vicar of Newent, the Rev. A. T. Lowndes, now Vicar of Compton Abdale, and the Rev. N. E. Hope, Vicar of Chedworth, the latter taking part in the ringing in the afternoon.

At the afternoon reception a reproduction of the original wedding cake was cut and the health of both proposed. The general rejoicing, which included the use of the handbells in change ringing and tune ringing, was kept up until a very late hour, several of the party not reaching home until the small hours. Mention must, of course, be made of the fact that the usual course of Triples, four in hand and sitting back to back, was rung by J. Austin and 'the Sergeant.'

The ringers who took part will have happy recollections of the day and hope to repeat it on the occasion of the 70th anniversary.

DEATH OF A GILLINGHAM RINGER.

On Saturday, October 2nd, Mr. Edwin Friend, the secretary of the Gillingham (Kent) band of ringers, died somewhat suddenly. Although he had been indisposed for several weeks, he had only been absent from work for just over a week.

'Eddy' had been a member of the Gillingham band of ringers for about 33 years, as well as a member of the choir for 40 years. He will always be remembered by those with whom he came in contact for his quiet and very friendly manner.

On Thursday evening, October 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled by Messrs. Hone, Easter, Poulter, Allen, Shellock, Walker, Norris and Harmer, and on the Sunday following, for the evening service, with the bells half-muffled, touches of Grandsire Triples were rung by Miss Fooks, Messrs. Easter, Figgess, Poulter, Hone, Harris, Shellock and Cubitt.



MR. JOSEPH WILLIAMS.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PROPOSED ENTRANCE FEE FOR NEW MEMBERS.

The last meeting of the year of the West Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association took place at King's Lynn on Saturday, October 2nd, when representatives were present from Dersingham, Fakenham, Gaywood, Gressenhall, Swaffham and the local band. Other members of the association were present from Fincham, Norwich and Wymondham. Touches of Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Treble Bob Major and Double Norwich Major, Bob and Treble Bob Royal were rung during the afternoon and evening at St. Margaret's tower.

At the business meeting Mr. H. R. Heyhoo (chairman of the branch) was supported by Mr. W. J. Eldred (branch secretary), Mr. Nolan Golden (general secretary and treasurer), and Messrs. R. W. Cooke and J. A. Godfrey (members of the committee).

It was decided to hold the annual meeting for the election of officers on January 1st, 1938, at Fakenham.

Mr. N. Golden referred to the decision to include a record of all the ringing done on Coronation Day in the report of the current year, and the decision of the Standing Committee to adopt a badge.

It was resolved that new members on election should pay an entrance fee to cover the cost of a certificate and a badge in addition to the current year's subscription.

Mr. C. S. Tuthill (Fakenham) remarked on the fact that the flourishing town of King's Lynn had two rings of bells in need of attention and thought something might be done to remedy this unsatisfactory state of affairs.

Thanks were accorded the curate-in-charge, the Rev. E. H. Lister, who conducted a service, and Mr. Hill for his services at the organ.

SOUTH NORFOLK BRANCH SUPPORT.

Meeting at Bergh Apton on Saturday, October 9th, the South Norfolk Branch endorsed the proposal for an entrance fee for new members. Over 30 members took part in the ringing of Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Court, Cambridge and London Surprise on the six bells and also at the neighbouring church of Brooke.

A service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. St. J. Heard.

After tea at Thurton George and Dragon, the business meeting took place. In the absence of the branch chairman, Mr. W. L. Duffield, Mr. A. L. Coleman was voted to the chair. He was supported by Mr. A. G. Harrison (branch secretary), Mr. N. Golden (general secretary and treasurer), Messrs. E. G. Bennett, C. J. More and E. Whiting (members of the committee) and representatives from Diss, Pullham, Redenhall, Saxlingham and Winfarthing. Other branches were represented by members from Halvergate, Norwich, Norton Subcourse, Reedham, Wroxham and Wymondham.

Mr. N. Golden spoke with regard to the proposal to include a list of all ringing done in the diocese on Coronation Day in the current year's report, and appealed to all tower masters or secretaries to send in details of the performances that day at their respective towers. So far, he said, the response had been very poor.

Details of the badge to be adopted were then given by Mr. Golden, who explained his design.

In support of the West Norfolk Branch's resolution with regard to an entrance fee, it was unanimously resolved 'that in the opinion of this meeting new members on election should pay an entrance fee to cover the cost of a certificate and badge, in addition to the current year's subscription.'

The annual meeting for the election of officers was fixed for January 15th at Diss.

The Rev. A. St. J. Heard was elected an honorary member, and the belfry election of Mr. F. W. Adcock, of Lowestoft, was ratified.

The Rev. A. St. J. Heard was thanked for his services, and Miss M. I. Hepburn for officiating at the organ. Mr. H. C. Boggis, leader of the local band, which, incidentally, turned up in full force, gave much help in making the arrangements for the meeting.

STEDMAN'S BELLS.

MORE USE NEEDED.

The annual meeting of the Ely District of the Ely Diocesan Association was held at Cambridge on Saturday, October 2nd, when there was a good attendance of members from the district and other branches, an encouraging sign being the attendance of a number of young ringers from some of the newly-formed bands in the district.

Ringing commenced at St. Bene't's Church at about 3 p.m., service also being held there, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. N. Davey), who also took the chair at the meeting which followed in the vestry. In welcoming the ringers, the Vicar of St. Bene't's said he was proud to be connected with a church which held such a unique place in the history of ringing.

At the meeting the district secretary and committee were re-elected for the ensuing year.

After tea further use was made of the bells. Great St. Mary's bells were also available during the evening.

The interior of St. Bene't's has been redecorated and restored during the incumbency of the present Vicar, while as to the bells, despite various rumours that have appeared at times, no complaints were heard at this meeting. Although the writer makes no claim to any knowledge of the subject, his opinion is that the bells only want to be made more use of.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

NEW VENUE FOR JOHNSON DINNER.

Ideal weather favoured the members of St. Martin's Guild when they held their autumn quarterly meeting on Saturday, 2nd inst., at the ancient Warwickshire village of Coleshill. The Parish Church stands at the top of a hill, and its tower and spire are a well-known landmark for miles around. Good use was made of the bells both before service and again in the evening after the business meeting, the methods rung ranging from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Major. The Guild's special service was conducted by the Vicar, who also gave a very interesting and helpful address.

Between 40 and 50 sat down to tea, which was admirably served by ladies connected with the church.

The business meeting followed, at which the Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, presided. He thanked the Guild for the honour they had done him in ringing a peal of Stedman Cinques on the occasion of the celebration of his golden wedding day. Such an honour had never before been paid to a Birmingham citizen, and it would be many a long day before another would be similarly honoured. To know that he had the esteem of his fellow-ringers, such an esteem as prompted them to devote an evening to attempting a peal in his honour, was most gratifying to him. He was particularly grateful to Mr. W. H. Barber for having conducted the peal; he had rung with him many times, the first occasion being when he (Mr. Barber) was 14 years of age.

It was decided to hold the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner as usual next year. The hon. secretary reported, however, that it would be impossible to hold this at the Imperial Hotel as in former years, as it was definitely closing at the end of this year. The choice of a suitable room was very limited, but he had succeeded in securing the White Horse Restaurant No. 1 room for Saturday, March 5th, 1938, and he felt sure the proprietors would put on a good dinner. This arrangement was confirmed.

The next dinner being the 50th, Mr. G. F. Swann proposed that the Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, should preside. This was seconded by Mr. A. Walker and supported by Mr. Paddon Smith. Although the Master pointed out that he was getting old and his health might not permit him to attend, the resolution, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

The Master expressed his thanks for the honour conferred on him and promised to do his best not to let them down.

The tower election of Mr. J. W. Davidson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, as a life member was duly ratified.

The next meeting being the annual, it was resolved to hold this at headquarters as usual. The bi-quarterly meeting was fixed for Northfield on Saturday, November 13th.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for his address in church, to the organist who accompanied the service, and to the ladies who served tea, concluded the business.

'NOISE' OF CHURCH BELLS.

ESSEX VICAR'S VIEWS.

The Northern Division of the Essex Association had a very enjoyable meeting at Witham on Saturday, September 18th, when 52 ringers and friends, representing 21 towers, took advantage of the ideal afternoon. The bells were going soon after 2 o'clock, first for a wedding and then the meeting, and continued with the exception of a break for service and tea until 9 p.m. Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. B. E. Payne). In his address he welcomed the ringers and said they gave one of the most useful services to the church.

'For many years,' he continued, 'I had to endure a noisy one bell clanging, similar to a school bell. How different to listen to a good peal of bells.'

'Some complain about the noise of the bells when steps are being taken to abate other excessive noises, but as long as I am at Witham and you ring out your message on a Sunday, I am going to allow that noise to continue and very much so. It will be a very sad day for this country when bells are rung no more.'

Tea, at the Church House, was presided over by the Vicar. The district secretary (Mr. F. Ridgwell) said the charge made for the tea was very small and would not nearly cover the cost. They had to thank Miss Ayre and others who had made contributions towards the tea, and also the ladies who had kindly prepared it.

BENEVOLENT FUND SUGGESTED.

At the business meeting the District Master (Mr. A. Saunders) presided. The Vicar was unanimously elected an hon. member amid applause.

The annual meeting for the division is to be held at Bocking early in November.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and his inspiring address, also to the lady organist for her services.

The Vicar, in reply, said he was very much surprised and delighted to be elected an hon. member.

Mr. J. Chalk suggested a Benevolent Fund for the association, and after his explanation it was agreed to raise the question at all district annual meetings, so that opinions could then be brought forward at the annual meeting of the association next year.

During the afternoon and evening touches in various methods up to and including London Surprise Major were rung.

DEATH OF OLD RAUNDS RINGER IN U.S.A.

ONE OF THE 'FATHERS' OF THE PETERBOROUGH GUILD.

Many of the older ringers, and particularly those of Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire, will learn with regret of the death of Mr. Fred Gilbert at Kalamayoo, Mich., U.S.A., at the age of 71 years. He died on September 20th in hospital after a short illness.

Born at Raunds, Northants, he early began his ringing career there on the then six bells, and was one of the foundation members of the Raunds Ringing Society, when it was formed at Whitsun, 1883. He rang in the first peal of the society, one of seven methods, on September 26th, 1883, the band being George Kirk 1, Fred Gilbert (age 17) 2, W. J. Gilbert 3, W. Hall (age 19) 4, J. Wilmot 5, Henry Stubbs (conductor) 6.

The Raunds Ringing Society later became the Raunds, Wellingborough and District Society, then the Central Northants Association and finally the Peterborough Diocesan Guild.

A ringer and conductor of no mean ability, Mr. Gilbert rang almost a hundred peals, and, on his leaving the country, was presented with a gold medal by the Central Northants Association, which, at that time, presented them to members who had scored 100 peals for the association. Although Mr. Gilbert's total fell just short of this number, he was awarded the medal on his departure in recognition of his services.

His last peal was one of Bob Major on handbells in Peterborough Cathedral shortly before leaving the country.

Younger brother of the late William J. Gilbert, he married the only daughter of the late George Kirk, and thus became the brother-in-law of Mr. Frank Kirk, of Raunds, and uncle of Mr. Francis Kirk, of St. Albans.

A shoemaker by trade, he emigrated to America in 1911, and except for a short visit in 1915, never returned to England, but throughout the whole of this period he closely followed the ringing activities through 'The Ringing World,' and nothing delighted him more than to see the names of his relatives or ringing friends of bygone days appearing in this paper. Throughout last summer he was daily looking forward to having one of the gramophone records of the spliced handbell ringing, and news has been received that it arrived about a month before his fatal illness.

He leaves a widow and one son, his other son having been killed in the war.

GATHERING OF THE CLANS AT LEYTONSTONE.

ESSEX, HERTS AND MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATIONS AND LADIES' GUILD.

The annual gathering arranged jointly between the Essex, Herts and Middlesex Associations and the Ladies' Guild was held at St. John's Church, Leytonstone, on Saturday, October 2nd. Many members, representing all four of the societies, attended including Mr. E. J. Butler (district secretary) and Mr. A. Prior (District Master), Essex Association; Mr. W. H. Lawrence (district secretary), Herts Association; Mr. A. W. Coles (Master), Mr. C. T. Coles (joint hon. secretary), Mr. G. W. Fletcher (vice-president) and Mr. T. J. Lock (District Master), Middlesex Association; and Mrs. E. K. Fletcher (general secretary) and Mrs. R. F. Deal (vice-president), of the Ladies' Guild.

The ringing before service was in the hands of Mr. A. W. Coles, and many touches in all sorts of methods were rung.

The service was attended by some 60 ringers. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. W. Rowbotham, of St. John's, and an interesting address was given by the Rev. Guy Warwick, Vicar of St. Luke's, Leytonstone.

Tea, prepared by Miss Miller, daughter of the late Mr. William Miller, was served in the Church Hall. With over 60 sitting down, after less than half that number had sent in their names, it was surprising that there was enough food to go round, but eventually everybody was satisfied—at least, it appeared so. If there were any otherwise, the blame belongs to those who did not send in their names!

There was no business meeting, but Mr. E. J. Butler proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, Canon Brown (who was unfortunately prevented from attending), for the use of the bells; to the preacher and curate for their services; and to Miss Miller and friends for preparing tea.

This was supported by Mr. C. T. Coles, Mr. W. H. Lawrence and Mrs. E. F. Deal, on behalf of the members of their respective societies, and carried with applause.

Mr. Coles took occasion to remind those present that the two trebles at St. John's were recently placed in the tower by the Exercise as a memorial to that great ringer, William Pye, for 25 years Master of the Middlesex Association. St. John's, Leytonstone, was thus a most appropriate place for a meeting of that description, and it was sincerely hoped that many more would be held.

Afterwards there was further ringing, under the guidance of Mr. Alfred Prior, and, whilst there were several touches, including one of Spliced Surprise, by mixed hands or bands composed of mere men, an excellently struck course of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung by eight members of the Ladies' Guild—just to show that they are now 25 years old, and grown up, we suppose!

BUCKFAST ABBEY.

FIRST PEAL ON THE NEW BELLS.

In a beautiful setting in the upper part of the Dart Valley in Devonshire stands Buckfast Abbey, the home of a community of Benedictine monks. Centuries ago the Order occupied a monastery there, but at the dissolution in 1539, the building was dismantled and the occupants driven from the country. The Abbey completely disappeared from the face of the land.

Nearly 350 years later, in 1882, another community of the same Order reoccupied the site, started excavating the ancient foundations, and upon it, by their own hands, have raised a magnificent new building. Following the ground plan of the former structure, it reproduces the transitional style of the Norman and Early English period, is 240ft. from west to east and 62ft. in width across the nave and aisles. A massive central tower, the last part of the church to be completed, dominates the building, the crowning glory of which are the bells, which were placed there in 1936.

In 1910 a peal of twelve bells, with two semi-tones, cast by Warner and Son, were solemnly blessed under the shadow of the ancient Abbot's Tower (the solitary relic of former magnificent buildings). They were the generous gift of the late Sir Robert Harvey, of Dunderidge, near Totnes, as a memorial to his deceased wife, the late Lady Alida Harvey, and a few days after the ceremony were hoisted to the top of the Abbot's Tower, where they remained for ten years. Eventually they found their way to the uncompleted central tower of the Abbey Church. They were hung by Aggett and Sons, of Chagford, and on Christmas Eve, 1920, were chimed for the first time in their new abode.



BUCKFAST ABBEY.

The tower is not yet quite finished.

Before the tower was completed the old ring hung on the floor of what is now the ringing chamber, and were rung from a narrow stone gallery 51ft. from the floor of the Abbey. In October, 1930, the late William Pye took a band there and scored a peal of Stedman Cinques under these difficult ringing conditions.

Following the solemn consecration of the Abbey Church in 1932 by a Cardinal Legate, it was decided that the tower must be finished, and the Builder Brothers, who had already laboured incessantly for 25 years, resumed their work. A large bourdon bell was promised them as a reward, and this occasioned the recasting of the old bells. This was carried out by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. at their Loughborough foundry and magnificently have they completed their task. The giant bourdon weighs 7 tons 9 cwt. 18 lb. and strikes the lower F. It was the gift of Miss Hilda de Trafford in memory of her sister, Lady Mildred Bellew, who died on December 29th, 1934, and is named 'Hosanna.'

The old bells with a tenor of 28 cwt. have been transformed into a noble peal with a tenor of 41 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb. in C, and these are hung on one level round their big brother. The two semi-tones provide a variety of 'peals,' including three major eights.

The new bells, which bear the names and inscriptions of the old ring, were blessed according to the official rites of the Church on March 25th, 1936. So much for the history of the modern bells of the Abbey.

ONE OF THE PRIZES.

A peal on Buckfast Abbey bells may well be counted one of the prizes of a ringer's career, and the band who last Saturday rang a peal of Stedman Cinques on them valued their opportunity and success by this measure. The 'official' record of the peal will be found in its appropriate column, but in view of the wide area from which the company was drawn, it may be not uninteresting to readers to give a list of the ringers and the places from which they came: J. S. Goldsmith (Woking, Surrey), A. Walker (Birmingham), C. T. Coles (Walthamstow, Essex), P. W. Perrons (Coventry), G. R. Pye (Romford, Essex), G. P. Swann (Birmingham), R. Richardson (Surfleet, Lincs), W. A. Cave (Bristol), F. E. Porvin (Coventry), A. P. Smith (Birmingham), E. P. Duffield (Colchester, Essex), J. H. Shepherd (Swindon, Wilts). Six of this band took part in the peal of 1930.

The majority assembled in Exeter on Friday evening, and completed the journey to Buckfast on Saturday morning, having first renewed acquaintance with the interior of Exeter's grand old Cathedral, with its unbroken roof of fan vaulting from west to east, a feature which one of the party duly impressed upon all and sundry.

Arriving at Buckfast, the company were welcomed by Mr. Aubrey Bennett, who had been instrumental in getting permission for the peal attempt, and were joined by Mr. T. Laver, hon. secretary of the Devon Guild. Three ladies were also of the party—Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Coles and Mrs. Richardson.

Altogether the ringers spent five hours in the Abbey tower. The first hour was occupied in raising the bells (the front eight being pulled up in peal), adjusting ropes and waiting for the termination of a service. The ringing chamber is still in an unfinished state, but the noise of the bells just overhead has been admirably modulated by the provision of a sound-deadening ceiling. At present the walls are in their rough state, and there is no glass in the window openings, but some of these are boarded up to resist the noise of the bells. When the chamber is completed the conditions in the tower should be perfect with regard to sound. The circle is not a particularly good one, as the necessity for hanging the 14 bells round the bourdon has resulted in 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 being hung in a straight line. The eleventh on the other side of the big chamber looks isolated, and the tenor is rung from a platform that stretches across one side of the ringing room.

However, the small difficulties thus presented did not prevent an excellent peal being rung in 3 hours 47 minutes, the only anxiety to the conductor, caused by a slow start, being whether the peal would be finished by the stipulated time, 6.50 p.m. He, however, speeded up his team by just sufficient acceleration to bring the bells round with three minutes to spare.

Some of the monks were the first to congratulate the ringers upon their success and fine ringing, and each member of the band was presented with a souvenir in the shape of a charm bearing the image of St. Benedict.

Later on, round the dinner table, Mr. Albert Walker thanked Mr. Bennett for all the trouble he had taken in making arrangements, and asked him also to convey the warmest thanks of the visitors to the Father Abbot for permission to ring and to other members of the Community for the welcome extended.

Then the party gave themselves up to celebrating the event by a 'musical' evening, in which handbells played a part. About 1 a.m. one of the company courteously said to the hostess, 'I hope we are not keeping you up.'

The visitors—except two who had vanished immediately after the peal in order to get home the same night—dispersed on their various long journeys next morning, not only gratified with their success, but also happy in the reunion of old friends which it had brought about.

The bells of the Abbey are rung by the monks for the principal services on Sundays. Usually eight are used, but sometimes ten. They have not yet got as far as using the twelve in peal. There are some 16 or 18 Fathers and Brothers who can handle a bell, but the 'call' changes which they produce are rung from a stand, on which numbers are interchanged by another Brother, who rings a small handbell, when the ringers have to start upon the new change.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

BOBBING, KENT.—At St. Bartholomew's Church on September 20th before morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor in honour of the birth of a daughter to Mr. G. Rose, who is a local ringer: J. Wakelam 1. Ron Belson 2. J. Glover 3. Reg Belson 4. T. Jull 5. B. W. May (conductor) 6. First quarter-peal by the first four ringers and first local quarter-peal since before the war.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.—At St. James' Church on Sunday, October 3rd, for harvest festival morning service, 1,231 Stedman Cinques: S. J. Hector 1. C. F. Andrews (conductor) 2. R. Amor 3. J. Francis 4. C. Butcher 5. *R. Newton 6. W. Baxter 7. *E. Parker 8. G. H. Harding 9. C. Raison 10. N. V. Andrews 11. *S. Francis 12. *First quarter-peal of Cinques.

LONG SERVICE.

WORKMEN HONOURED BY MESSRS. JOYCE AND CO.

'The world's oldest clockmakers,' Messrs. J. B. Joyce and Co., of Whitechurch, Salop, who have been carrying on business for the last 300 years, are happy in possession of a staff whose senior members have spent their working lifetime with the firm. The skill, experience and technical knowledge thus accumulated goes into all the work of the factory and have helped to make the products of J. B. Joyce and Co. world famous.

The firm have established the happy practice of presenting souvenirs of long service to those who reach their jubilee, and recently two members of the staff received gifts on qualifying with 50 years' loyal service. They were Mr. George E. Beddow and Mr. John Green. The former chose a 'grandmother' clock and the latter a gold watch. Both timepieces were suitably inscribed and were presented by Mr. Arthur Mayhew, chairman of directors.

Among other employes with long service are Messrs. A. V. G. Ladds (manager), 39 years; James Thelwell, over 40 years; Hugh Langford, 35 years; Tom Briscoe, 33 years; William Millington, 32 years; Norman Joyce, 31 years; Cedric Batton, 20 years; and James Beddow, son of Mr. George Beddow, 19 years.

Among the foreign orders received just recently by Messrs. J. B. Joyce and Co. is one for a four-dial illuminated clock, with Westminster chimes and five bells weighing 30 cwt. for the Municipality of Ahmedabad, India, and another for a four-dial tower clock for the Dr. Gahine Memorial, at Belize, British Honduras, Central America.

A COLLEGE YOUTH'S BIRTHDAY.

MR. TOM GROOMBRIDGE IS 70.

The 70th birthday of Mr. Tom Groombridge, sen., has been celebrated by two peals, one at Crayford on the eve of the anniversary, in which his two sons took part with him, and the other on the new ring of bells at the Church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst, on 'the day.'

The peal at Crayford was rung for the College Youths, of which Mr. Groombridge has been a member for 40 years or more, and of which he is a Past Master. Mr. F. M. Mitchell, who also took part, is another Past Master, and Mr. E. H. Oxenham a former steward. It is believed to be 50 years since the last College Youths' peal was rung in this tower.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise at Chislehurst, where Mr. Groombridge has been instructing a new band, was rung under the auspices of both the Kent Association and the College Youths and was conducted by Mr. Groombridge.

After the peal the ringers were met by Mr. E. A. Young and two of the local band and taken by father Tom to the 'Albany Corner House,' where they were all entertained by Mrs. Groombridge, sen., to a very nice tea, to which ample justice was done. Handbell ringing was indulged in, and great interest was shown in the display of prizes won by Tom, when a trifle younger and no mean athlete. Sincere thanks were accorded to Mrs. Groombridge, sen., for her kindly thought, and to Mrs. Groombridge, jun., for her share in contributing to an enjoyable evening. The proverbial but none the less sincere wish of 'many happy returns' was coupled with the promise that (D.V.) the ringers would return in 1942 for a 'repeat' performance.

It is interesting to note that three generations of the Groombridge family are active members of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

KENT RINGERS VISIT CROYDON.

Tunstall, Sittingbourne and Queenborough ringers united in an outing on September 4th and were favoured with perfect weather. The party were picked up at intervals on the early stages of the journey, until the coach was finally filled at Maidstone with a party of 32, while the old Riley came along in the rear with an overflow of Spice. Sevenoaks was first visited, but unfortunately no ringing was possible owing to the bereavement of one of the church officials, whose son had met with a fatal air crash. Nevertheless, a pleasant hour was spent. Some made the ascent to the top of the tower to enjoy the view; the church was inspected and the model tidiness of the churchyard admired. At 10 a.m. the party were off again to Croydon, where they paid a visit to Messrs. Gillett and Johnston's foundry. They were welcomed by Mr. Stevenson, who conducted them over the factory and explained the many interesting works in progress. Mr. Spice, on behalf of the party, thanked Messrs. Gillett and Johnston and Mr. Stevenson. Ringing at St. John's Church followed. Some rounds were rung on this fine twelve and afterwards Stedman Caters. After lunch ringing took place at St. Peter's Church, where the visitors were met by one of their old friends, Mr. David Wright, and others of the local company, who assisted in ringing some of Mr. Lou Head's fancy touches of Stedman Caters and some Plain fare. A very pleasant run through lovely scenery brought the party to the picturesque village of Shoreham, where the light peal of eight was made good use of in a variety of methods. Tea and a 'social' at Ye Olde George followed, and then handbells on the green brought the villagers to their doorsteps to listen. At Wrotham another good 'ring' on a musical peal was enjoyed. Tunstall was safely reached at 9.45, after a most enjoyable day, with everyone satisfied with the arrangements made by Mr. W. Spice.

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.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.

—The next meeting will be held at St. Nicholas' Church, Newchurch, on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available from 6 p.m. Please do your best to attend. The success of the meeting depends on you.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec., 11, Chesham Bank, Huntley Mount Road, Bury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.

—Next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Whitworth, on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available from 3 to 9 p.m. Business meeting 7 p.m., when the subject of creating a Branch Ringing Master will be discussed. Will you please come along and make this meeting a success.—Stephen Lloyd Parry, Branch Sec., 24, St. James' Street, Milnrow, Rochdale.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.

—The next meeting will be held at St. James', West Derby, on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. For tea, please notify Mr. H. Hancock, 60, Sandstone Road, Stonecroft.—H. Grundy, Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.

A meeting will be held at Great Bromley on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available at 2.30. Service 4.15 p.m. Will all those intending to be present please notify me as soon as possible?—F. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Yatton on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

—Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Croscombe on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—F. D. Rickards, 3, Great Stanhope Street, Bath.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.

—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Lewisham, on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, and business meeting at 5 p.m. Please ensure that your tower is adequately represented.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

HERTFORDSHIRE AND BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

—A joint meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (10) will be available from 2.30 p.m. A short service will be held at 4 p.m., followed by tea at 4.45 p.m. The peal of eight at Linslade will also be available. Numbers for tea, etc., to Walter Ayre, Leverstock Green, or F. J. Plummer, Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Chesterfield District will be held at Clay Cross on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available 4 p.m. This peal has just been recast. All are welcome.—J. P. Tarlton, Dis. Hon. Sec.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—The autumn meeting will be held at Payhembury on Saturday, October 16th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, the Schoolroom, 5, followed by a short meeting. All ringers welcome.—John H. Godfrey, Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Stratford-on-Avon on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (8) available for short periods from 3 p.m. and after meeting. Committee meet 4 p.m., at No. 8, Trinity Street. Tea in the Riverside Cafe at 4.30. Service, with address, in Holy Trinity Church at 5.30, followed by general business meeting in the tower. Future meetings at Stratford will depend on your attendance at this meeting.—Malcolm Melville, Gen. Hon. Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—An informal meeting will be held at Garveston on October 16th (not 9th). Bells from 2.30. One mile from Thuxton Station. All are welcome.—H. Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Little Staughton on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (5) ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 by invitation of the Vicar. You will be very welcome. Just drop me a card.—Frank C. Tysoe, 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bishop's Waltham on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., in the Church Hall, followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Prestwich, on Saturday, October 16th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held to-morrow, October 16th, at St. Mary's, Leyton. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Short service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting.—James G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., 31, Limerston Street, Chelsea, S.W.10.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—By the kind invitation of Canon H. E. Fitzherbert, M.A., R.D., the autumn meeting of the above district will be held at St. Peter's, Netherseale, on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service 5.30, to be conducted by Canon Fitzherbert and Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, of Ordsall. All ringers and friends welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Halesowen on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church at 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting.—J. S. Mason, Branch Sec., 19, Broadwell Road, Oldbury, near Birmingham.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.—A joint meeting of the Ladies' Guild, the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild (S. and W. District), and the Oxford Diocesan Guild (East Berks and South Bucks Branch) will be held at St. John's Church on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (10) from 3.15 and after tea. St. Andrew's, Uxbridge (8), from 3 to 4.30 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea, in St. John's Hall, at 5.15 p.m., 1s. each. Social evening (refreshments) in the Hall from 7.30 p.m. All ringers and friends welcomed, but will you endeavour to notify for tea, please. Note: Hillingdon (Swakeleys) station is unsuitable; book to Uxbridge.—Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield; F. W. Goodfellow, Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks; and A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Hon. Secs.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 28th; Southwark Cathedral on the 21st; *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 26th (nomination night), at 7.30. * Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

THE LADIES' GUILD. Arrangements for the Jubilee Dinner, Saturday, October 23rd. The bells of St. Clement Danes' Church, Strand, will be available from 2.30-4 p.m. Special service for Guild members and friends at the same church at 4 p.m. Reception at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, from 5.30-6 p.m. Dinner will commence at 6 o'clock precisely, and all ticket holders are asked to be in their places by this time. On Sunday, October 24th, Corporate Communion will be celebrated at the Church of St. Lawrence Jewry, London, E.C., at 9.15 a.m. All visitors staying in London are cordially invited to attend.—E. K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec., 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The jubilee festival will be held on Saturday, October 23rd, at Alfreton. Ringing from 2.30 to 4.30. Service in church, address by Rev. R. E. Birtwistle (an old member of the association). High tea at 6 o'clock in the Parish Church Mission Hall, Mansfield Road. Tickets, 2s. gents, 1s. 6d. ladies. Applications for tickets, accompanied by remittance, must reach me by Monday, October 18th.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The October meeting will be held on Saturday, the 23rd, at Old Brampton, near Chesterfield. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Those hoping to be present, please drop me a card by Wednesday, October 20th.—H. L. Warburton, 72, Causeway Head Road, Dore, near Sheffield.

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PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Weedon (6 bells), on Saturday, October 23rd. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Hugglescote on October 23rd. Good bus service from all parts to Coalville, and then every few minutes from Loughborough Square. Big belfry; please fill it. For tea, post-card to H. O. Over, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hugglescote.

GRESFORD, NORTH WALES.—Re-opening of bells, Saturday, October 23rd. Bells available 2.30. Service 3.30. Tea, ls., 4.30. Notify requiring tea by Thursday.—George Williams, The Sexton, Gresford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury and District Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Swalcliffe on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting. For tea, please let me know.—E. Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Charlton Mackerell on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting following. Please advise for tea.—W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil, Somerset.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Nantwich on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Will all those who intend to be present please remember to send a card by the 20th inst.?—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Somersham on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Gt. Staughton, St. Neots.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN.—Bath Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bathwick, on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15.—Theo. Grant, Hon. Sec., Swainswick, Bath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Sacred Heart Church (R.C.), Talbot Road, on Saturday, October 23rd. Ringing on the eight bells from 4 to 6 p.m. only. Business meeting to follow.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool, S.S.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A special meeting will be held at Bishop Auckland on Saturday, October 23rd, by invitation of the Vicar, when a peal board will be unveiled. Bells available from 2 p.m. Requirements for tea to reach me not later than Wednesday morning, the 20th inst.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horwich on Saturday, October 23rd, instead of October 30th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Meeting 7 o'clock.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Willersey on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells (6), which have recently been rehung, available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Numbers for tea by Tuesday previous to J. E. Newman, Hinton, Evesham.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Twywell on Saturday, October 23rd. Bells (5) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Handbells also available.—W. J. Whitmore, 80c, High Street, Raunds, Northants.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual dinner at Blackpool on Saturday, October 30th. Owing to the large demand for tickets the County Hotel cannot find the necessary accommodation. The dinner will therefore be held at The Imperial Hydro, North Promenade, Blackpool (a penny tram fare from Talbot Square). Tickets 4s. each. A special room is being reserved for ticket holders from 5 p.m. onwards.—C. Sharples, 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Carisbrooke on Saturday, October 30th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m., at the Eight Bells Hotel, followed by business meeting. All requiring tea please notify by October 28th.—H. P. James, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Portland Street, Newport, Isle of Wight.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Annual meeting, Tonbridge, Saturday, October 30th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at the Carlton Cafe, High Street, 5.15. It is *your duty* to see that your tower is represented. Half fares up to 2s. will be allowed members. Please notify me for tea by Wednesday, October 27th.—Alec. E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

LADIES' GUILD AND GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Joint meeting at Aldershot on Saturday, October 30th. Book the date!—(Miss) H. F. Mills and C. W. Denyer, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Rochester Cathedral on Saturday, Oct. 30th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Evensong at 4 p.m. Tea, at the City Cafe, at 5 p.m., only for those who notify the secretary. Business meeting afterwards for the election of district officers, etc., and members are particularly urged to attend.—Stanley J. T. Shellock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 162, Barnsole Road, Gillingham, Kent.

WENDRON, NEAR HELSTON, CORNWALL.—The dedication of the bells will take place on Sunday, October 31st, at 6 p.m., by the Archdeacon of Cornwall—five bells restored in new oak bell frame and augmented to a ring of six by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

SOUTH BRENT, DEVON.—The bells will be rededicated on Wednesday, November 3rd, at 3 p.m.—a ring of six, tuned and rehung in new bell frame by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

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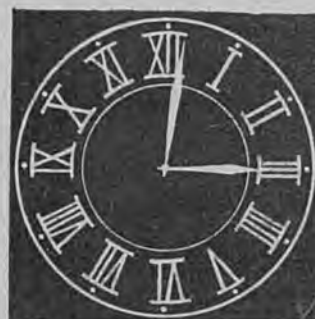
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