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FRIDAY, JULY 21st, 1939.

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OXFORD GUILD'S FESTIVAL.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild is one of the few ringing associations which now devotes a whole day to its annual festival. At one time a number of the larger associations used to make the occasion of their annual gathering a full day's holiday, but times have changed and with them the practice of the ringing organisations, which now mostly content themselves with a half day event, when they meet to transact their annual business. It is, therefore, all the more interesting to find the Oxford Guild maintaining its custom of devoting the day to its festival. The gathering last Saturday was by no means a record for the Guild and, indeed, out of a membership of over two thousand ringing and honorary members, could not be said to be a large one, but there is something about these festivals in Oxford which is seldom to be found elsewhere, and which the Oxford Guild itself would probably lose if it met at some other centre, more modern and industrial, in the widespread diocese. Every year an effort is made to induce the Guild to break its well-established custom, and to set a precedent by which each of the three counties included in the diocese might be visited in turn; but every time the motion is brought forward it is rejected by a substantial majority. In a big area such as this is—an area, too, in which the means of communication between one side and the other are not altogether good, there is a great deal to be said for the argument of those who claim that the festival should be moved. There is a feeling that a certain proportion of members are perpetually debarred by distance from taking part in the annual meeting and thus are unable to have any share in the ultimate government of the Guild, and, in this way, lose some of the interest in it which they might otherwise have. This handicap would be a substantial one under different circumstances, but in the Oxford Guild the real management of affairs is carried out through the Districts. That the Guild itself does not suffer seems to be borne out by the fact that it maintains its numerical strength at such a high level. At any rate, it has not suffered yet through meeting annually in its cathedral city, and if there were any really serious feeling on this point it would doubtless have shown itself in the District meetings or through the very representative General Committee of some sixty members which guides its affairs.

In the facilities which are offered to the members for their festival, the Guild is probably unique. Apart from the numerous peals of bells which are available for their use—and few cities have so many as Oxford in comparison with its size—the Guild's service is held in the Cathedral, and its luncheon in one of the finest and most fam-

(Continued on page 458.)

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ous dining halls in the country. These are no mean privileges and the most surprising thing to us is that the members do not take advantage of the festival in larger numbers. With the easy means of road transport which is now so readily obtainable the wonder is that the ringers of the diocese do not organise a great pilgrimage to the mother city every year for this occasion. There are probably hundreds of members who have never been to Oxford and those who come into this category have missed one of the experiences of a life time, an experience which thousands of visitors from other lands do not fail to include, whatever else they miss, when they come to this country. The fault, if fault there be, in keeping the Oxford Guild festival in Oxford is not that the Guild does not go to other centres, but that the members do not go to Oxford in larger numbers. It is they who are the losers.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

GEORGE R. PYE Treble	GEORGE H. SPARROW 7
LEONARD E. PITSTOW 2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 8
CHARLES T. COLES 3	WALTER AYRE 9
MRS. FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN 4	JOHN W. WARD 10
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ... 5	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 11
ERNEST W. PYE 6	WALTER T. PARISH Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.
Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Frederick J. Pitstow and Miss Marjorie Parker.

TEN BELL PEALS.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 12, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH Treble	JOHN H. B. HESSE 6
ALBERT WALKER 2	ERNEST J. AYLIFFE 7
ALBERT H. WARD 3	NELSON ELLIOTT 8
FRANK BENNETT 4	ALFRED H. POLLING 9
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 5	WILLIAM T. BESSON Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.
Rung in celebration of the birth of John Edward, the conductor's first grandson.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mark,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES L. WRIGHT Treble	STANLEY HARRISON 6
*ARTHUR JAMES 2	*FRED GRUNDY 7
*JOHN BENJAMIN BUDD ... 3	JAMES GROUNDS 8
CYRIL RADDON 4	*PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 9
*HUGH RYNNOLDS 5	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.
* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal. First peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal as conductor.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

CUDHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*MISS MARY I. RAWLINGS ... Treble	*JAMES E. BAILEY ... 6
†RICHARD WILSON ... 2	†DENNIS G. BROWN ... 7
†GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 3	HERBERT A. HOLDEN ... 8
*ROBERT COLLINS ... 4	JOHN O. WELLER ... 9
†DEREK M. SHARP ... 5	ERNEST H. OXENHAM ... Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON

Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal on ten bells. ‡ First peal of Caters in the method. First peal of Caters as conductor. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Richard Wilson.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Stephen,

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

Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER ... Treble	CHARLES T. COLES ... 5
GEORGE R. PYE ... 2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 6
J. E. LEWIS COCKEY ... 3	WILFRID G. WILSON ... 7
GEORGE M. KILBY ... 4	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... Tenor

Composed by S. H. WOOD. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

First peal in the method on the bells.

HIGHCLERE, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT's TEN-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt, 25 lb.

*NORMAN R. RANDALL ... Treble	REGINALD W. REX ... 5
GEOFFREY E. FOWLER ... 2	*JAMES HOLLOWAY ... 6
MISS FRED A. ARLOTT ... 3	†LESLIE A. TREMEER ... 7
*ALLAN D. TREMEER ... 4	WILLIAM L. BUCKLAND ... Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE A. TREMEER.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Grandsire Triples. First peal of Grandsire on the bells.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JESSE J. MOSS ... Treble	JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... 5
STANLEY SLANEY ... 2	WALTER ALLWOOD ... 6
REGINALD PAYNE ... 3	*JOSEPH SAXTON ... 7
A. BENJAMIN COOPER ... 4	JOHN J. L. GILBERT ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by J. J. L. GILBERT.

* First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of the Duke of Portland.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

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

Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES H. SHEPHERD ... Treble	FRANK E. PERVIN ... 5
PERCY N. G. RAINEY ... 2	WILLIAM C. DOWDING ... 6
DANIEL T. MATKIN ... 3	JOHN S. MASON ... 7
HENRY H. FEARN ... 4	FRANK E. HAYNES ... Tenor

Composed by W. WILLSON.

Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES.

An 81st birthday compliment to Mr. T. Miller.

MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.—At St. Dionysius' Church, on Sunday, July 9th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: Miss M. Barrow 1, R. March 2, W. Hector 3, F. Wallington 4, J. C. Chester 5, W. Wallington 6, G. Hollick (conductor) 7, W. Kilsby 8.

HAZELBEECH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt, 12 lb.

*ERNEST W. TIPLER ... Treble	WILLIAM A. WOOD ... 5
*ARTHUR WILLIAMS ... 2	FRANK K. MEASURES ... 6
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ... 3	ARTHUR DEBENHAM ... 7
ALFRED BALLARD ... 4	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to Mr. A. Ballard, sen., father of the ringer of the 4th.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANC.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Sunday, July 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt, 1 qr, 23 lb.

THOMAS BARKER ... Treble	ADAM BLOGG ... 5
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... 2	*LAWRENCE WALMSLEY ... 6
FRED BLACKLEDGE ... 3	FREDERICK G. BRADLEY ... 7
JOHN JACKSON ... 4	ALFRED BLOGG ... Tenor

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT. Conducted by ALFRED BLOGG.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. M. Garner, M.A., who was inducted to the living of the above church on July 5th.

OTTERY ST. MARY, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD

AND THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS, M.U.

On Monday, July 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Collegiate Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT's TEN-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt, in E flat.

CHARLES R. LILLEY, P.G.M., Hearts of Oak Lodge ... Treble	...
BRIAN PIDGEON, Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge ... 2	...
THOMAS J. BARTLETT, P.G.M., Rougemont Lodge ... 3	...
JOHN ANEBURY, P.G.M., Loyal St. Mary Lodge ... 4	...
JAMES E. LILLEY, Earl of Mount Edgcumbe Lodge ... 5	...
EDWARD MARKS, Loyal St. Mary Lodge ... 6	...
CHARLES J. TURNER, P.G.M., Loyal St. Mary Lodge ... 7	...
JOHN DEEM, Marpool Lodge ... Tenor	...

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY, P.G.M.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, July 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Euny,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR's SIX-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt.

EDWARD SANDERS ... Treble	WILLIAM H. SOUTHEARD ... 5
*W. JOHN REED ... 2	FREDERIC H. HARRIS ... 6
VIVIAN E. WILLIAMS ... 3	PETER CROOK, SEN. ... 7
STEPHEN WOOD ... 4	PERCY R. C. WILLIAMS ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERIC H. HARRIS.

* First peal 'inside' on eight bells.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, July 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt, 28 lb.

FRED LACEY ... Treble	HAROLD JUDD ... 5
FRED JEFFERY ... 2	*GEORGE HOBBS ... 6
*ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... 3	PHILIP BARNES ... 7
ERNEST BRITAIN ... 4	JACK BRAY ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by J. BRAY.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to G. Hobbs.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

WALTER CHARMAN Treble	KENNETH SNELLING 5
MISS F. WYMAN 2	FREDERICK ROBERTS 6
HAROLD WOOD 3	JOHN COOK 7
CECIL WOOD 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

HENRY HODGETTS Treble	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON 5
MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT 2	FREDERICK W. BRINELW 6
*MRS. F. W. HOODSEN 3	EDWIN JENNINGS 7
FREDERICK W. HOODSEN 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

* First peal in the method.

TRING, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TRING SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

LEONARD LUCK Treble	EDWIN JENNINGS 5
HENRY HODGETTS 2	FREDERICK W. BRINELW 6
FRANCIS KIRK 3	CECIL C. MAYNE 7
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The first peal in the method.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

PRITCHARD'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM HENLEY Treble	JAMES D. TAYLOR 5
GORDON W. LIMMER 2	BRYAN O'NEILL 6
WILLIAM WELLING 3	JOHN E. TAYLOR 7
CYRIL A. BURGESS 4	GEORGE GILBERT Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN O'NEILL.

Rung for St. Swithin's Day. First peal as conductor.

LODDON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

C. FREDERICK SAYER Treble	ERNEST E. LONG 5
*DENNIS A. BAYLES 2	RICHARD R. W. COATES 6
MISS D. CONSTANCE 3	STANLEY FENN 7
ROBERT WARMAN 4	GODFREY G. WALPOLE Tenor

Composed by W. GARRARD.

Conducted by C. F. SAYER.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Major.

BRIGHOUSE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F sharp.

*HARRY DAVISON Treble	KENNETH SIMPSON 5
ALFRED SMITH 2	GEORGE ROBINSON 6
MISS MARY WHITE 3	FRANK VARTY 7
JAMES F. HARVEY 4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

* First peal of Surprise. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

GOUDHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 5 lb. in D.

EDWIN BARNETT Treble	*ERNEST W. PYE 5
EDWIN A. BARNETT 2	*FREDERICK WHITE 6
*STAFFORD H. GREEN 3	HARRY PAREES 7
*HARRY HOSKINS 4	*JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

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

LISS, HAMPSHIRE.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. 44 lb. in F sharp.

JOHN H. B. HESSE Treble	MAURICE SMITHER 5
THOMAS DENVER 2	ARTHUR J. BARTLETT 6
ERNEST J. AYLIFFE 3	ALFRED H. POLLING 7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON 4	HARRY MULLARD Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING.

First peal on the bells.

SIX BELL PEALS.

LYTCHETT MATRAVERS, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, June 11, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being eight six-scores each of London, Reverse Canterbury, St. Dunstan's and Plain Bob and 10 of Grandsire. Tenor 7½ cwt.

*MISS GLADYS L. CORBIN Treble	HAROLD E. WHITE 4
MISS PEGGY V. MARSH 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE 5
†MISS VIOLET M. MARSH 3	*EDWIN J. GILES Tenor

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.

* First attempt for a peal. † First peal of Doubles.

COLATON RALEIGH, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Friday, July 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores (10 callings). Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

CHARLES R. LILLEY Treble	GEORGE WEST 4
THOMAS HOLLAND 2	BRIAN PIDGON 5
LEONARD G. BELT 3	SAMUEL ELLIOT Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

EXMINSTER, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 different callings. Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

CHARLES R. LILLEY Treble	JOSEPH BREALEY 4
*ALBERT COLLEY 2	ERNEST RETTER 5
REGINALD TRUMAN 3	EVAN MORGAN Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal away from treble.

DALLINGTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION
AND THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise, 720 of Oxford Bob, two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob, called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

LESLIE W. JARVIS Treble	†STANLEY T. A. RUSSELL 4
*GEORGE BENNY 2	FRANK H. HICKS 5
ALBERT RELFE 3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE Tenor

Conducted by W. A. KITCHENSIDE.

* First peal in five methods 'inside.' † First peal in five methods. First peal in five methods as conductor. Rung as a welcome back to the Rector (the Rev. P. A. Kingsford) after a long and serious illness.

NEW RADNOR, RADNORSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 7½ cwt.

ERNST WILLIAMS Treble	TREVOR JONES 4
JAMES P. HYETT 2	JOHN F. BUTLER 5
LESLIE EVANS 3	ERNEST F. SALMONS Tenor

Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells. A birthday compliment to Mr. E. F. Salmon.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, July 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of one extent of St. Clement's and two each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

FREDERICK J. SMITH Treble	GEORGE A. FLEMING 4
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 2	HARRY J. MILLATT 5
ALAN R. ANDREWS 3	RONALD W. STEWARD Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

SHOTWICK, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Monday, July 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt. in F sharp.

ROBERT SPERRING Treble	CHARLES DRYLAND 4
MRS. A. S. ROBERTS 2	REV. A. S. ROBERTS 5
GEORGE JONES 3	J. WILLIAM CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

A wedding compliment to the Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Roberts.

SCOTHORNE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, July 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Germain's,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six 240's of Morris' and five 240's of Pitman's arrangements and 20 six-scores (10 callings). Tenor 13½ cwt.

*FRANK METHAM Treble	*SIDNEY A. CHAMBERS 4
*NOEL E. CHAMBERS 2	†JACK L. MILLHOUSE 5
†HAROLD MARCON 3	*JACK H. CHAMBERS Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire Doubles. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. R. L. Rawlings to Miss M. E. Ward.

WOODLESFORD, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Killamars, Norbury, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure and College Exercise. Tenor 9 cwt.

JOSEPH THACKRAY Treble	THOMAS WM. STRANGWAY 4
ARTHUR G. WOOD 2	PERCY MESSAM 5
WILLIAM H. SENIOR 3	GEORGE WM. STEEL Tenor

Conducted by T. W. STRANGWAY.

EWYAS HAROLD, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 7½ cwt.

*W. HENRY YOUNG Treble	*FRED W. OAKLEY 4
TRACEY H. YOUNG 2	A. JAMES YOUNG 5
HARRY JOHNSON 3	HORACE D. WRIGHT Tenor

Conducted by TRACEY H. YOUNG.

* First peal.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

*F. A. STOVELL Treble	W. CLAYDON 4
W. R. HUMPHREY 2	†W. BATCHELOR 5
F. J. SANDERS 3	H. R. THORPE Tenor

Conducted by H. R. THORPE.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

WEEKLEY, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(KETTERING DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 8 cwt. 10 lb.

MATHIAS HOBBS Treble	*LEWIS W. KILBORN 4
*GEOFFREY E. WATSON 2	BERNARD J. SADDINGTON 5
†RAYMOND IDLE 3	BURLEY P. MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by B. J. SADDINGTON.

* First peal in three methods. † First peal of Minor.

ALBRIGHTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, with 10 callings. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

*J. NORMAN HADLEY Treble	BARNABAS G. KEY 4
†ERIC E. SPEAKE 2	†MAURICE G. TURNER 5
†WILLIAM A. PARTRIDGE 3	†ARTHUR V. PEARSON Tenor

Conducted by M. G. TURNER.

* First peal at first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire Doubles. ‡ First peal of Doubles. First peal of Doubles as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, July 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

At Glyn Garth,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 13 in E.

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

Composed and Conducted by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, July 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At 28, Field Road,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS 1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW 7-8

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

Umpire—Edwin Jennings.

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Containing full and complete instruction from the first handling of a bell to the ringing and conducting of peals of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob.

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PEAL NOTES.

THE FIFTH GENERATION.

A peal of some local interest was rung at Southover, Lewes, Sussex, on July 12th. It celebrated the birth (in Sheffield) of the first grandson of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, whose family has been connected with the parish for more than 200 years.

Some well-known ringers took part in this peal of Stedman Caters, which was called by the baby's grandfather, and it is interesting to note that in the same tower 70 years ago the child's great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather rang together in a peal of Grandsire Triples.

After the peal last week the ringers and a few friends were entertained by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith at the King's Head, scene of many happy ringers' gatherings, and the baby's health was duly 'toasted.' Mr. Goldsmith also thanked his friends for having helped in the celebration. They came from Birmingham, Derby, Brighton, Guildford, Haslemere and Crawley.

The composition of the peal, one by Mr. J. W. Parker, is an unusual one. It has the bells turned every four courses and no fixed 2nd's place bell.

Mr. Frank Bennett scored his 1,499th peal on this occasion—less than a week after his old friend, Mr. George Williams, had reached a similar total—and by a coincidence it was 20 years to the very day since Mr. W. J. Robinson rang his first and only previous peal in the tower.

The name of Pitstow has long been a familiar and honoured one in the Exercise, and on July 11th a mixed band, largely consisting of well-known ringers, rang a peal of Stedman Cinques at Saffron Walden in celebration of the wedding of Mr. Frederick J. Pitstow, who for 25 years has been the treasurer of the local society and was formerly hon. secretary of the Essex Association. The ceremony took place at New Southgate on July 8th, and the bride was Miss Marjorie Parker.

Mr. C. T. Coles, who called the peal, served with Mr. Pitstow at Salonica during the Great War.

The members of the new band at St. Giles' Church, Lincoln (which contains the ring which for so long hung in the tower of St. Peter-at-Arches in the city), rang at Scothorne, on July 12th, 5,040 of Grandsire Doubles to celebrate the wedding of Mr. R. L. Rawlings to Miss M. E. Ward. It was the first peal attempt by four of the band and the first peal of Grandsire Doubles by the other two, though incidentally one of them had taken part in the spiced peal of 102 methods—which probably was good practice for this peal. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. S. A. Chambers, who rang the fourth.

One of the new Militiamen, Mr. George Hobbins, took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Burton-on-Stather, Lincolnshire, on July 10th, before joining up at Birkenhead. It was rung to celebrate his 21st birthday.

The first Surprise peal at Brighouse, Yorkshire, rung on Saturday, brought great credit to Mr. Alfred Smith, who rang the second. His only previous peal had been one of Bob Major, to which he rang the treble, and the Superlative was rung at the first attempt. The peal was arranged for Mr. Frank Varty, of Wallasey, Cheshire.

The peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Whittle-le-Woods, Lancashire, on July 9th, was rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. M. Garner, who had been inducted to the living four days previously. On the conclusion of the peal Mr. Garner came up into the belfry and congratulated the band.

Nine men turned up for the attempt and the band appreciated the kindly action of Mr. E. Ramsbottom, one of the local company, who stood down to enable Mr. Walmsley, of Dayland, to ring his first peal on eight bells. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Clarkson, of Gosnargh.

The delightful spot of Hazelbeech in Northamptonshire was visited by members from Leicester and Hinckley districts of the Midland Counties Association on Sunday, July 9th.

Although no method had been decided upon, a really good bent was soon evident in the attempt for Double Norwich and which finally proved to be the commencement of a really good peal. Congratulations to Mr. Williams, who previously had not rung even a short touch of Double Norwich.

The two tenor men in the peal, one of which was 'our conductor,' had apparently over-exerted themselves in turning in their bells, and it was not until both had partaken of 'cups of tea' that their energy was restored. The peal was specially arranged to enable Mr. Frank E. Measures to score his 50th peal and was also a birthday compliment to Mr. A. Ballard, sen.

Some of the Herfordshire enthusiasts had a good end-of-the-week last week. Thursday, a peal of Bristol Surprise at Bushey; Friday, a peal of Bristol Surprise on handbells at Oxhey; Saturday, a peal of Tring Surprise, a new method, at Tring. And they take it all in their stride.

The peal of Bristol Surprise at Bushey on July 13th was the 300th peal by Maurice F. R. Hibbert. The peals have been rung in 77 different methods or extensions of methods, which is believed to be a greater number, rung as separate peals, than by any other ringer.

The peals have been rung in 66 towers, with 358 different ringers and on 215 dates of the year. No fewer than 125 of these peals have been rung at Bushey, and Mr. Hibbert has 'completed the circle' there at least nine times, including at least three times in different Surprise Major methods. The peals at Bushey have included 38 dif-

ferent methods of Triples and Major, and 65 peals have been on 7th or tenor.

The fourteen-year-olds seem to be coming to the fore. More peals are recorded this week in which youths of this age have taken part. On Saturday, at Albrighton, Salop, Norman Hadley rang his first peal at the first attempt, and at Weekley, Northants, Raymond Idle rang his first peal of Minor. He rang an 'inside' bell to a three-meal peal.

The young St. Peter's Society at Burnham, Bucks, are gradually maturing. Bryan O'Neill, who has only just passed his 18th birthday, is the second member of the society to conduct a peal of Major this year, when on Saturday he rang in a peal at Burnham. Except for Messrs. Henley and Welling, all the ringers are members of St. Peter's Society.

In connection with the dedication festival of St. Stephen's, Ealing, and the annual garden fete, the first peal of Double Norwich Major on the bells of St. Stephen's was rung on Saturday week.

What is believed to be the first Oddfellows' peal in the West of England was rung on July 10th at Ottery St. Mary by a band of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers. The method was Grandsire Triples and the conductor Past Grand Master Charles R. Lilley, who called Holt's Ten-part, which was once the most rung of any composition, but of late years has been largely superseded by J. J. Parker's Twelve-part.

Ronald Steward rang his 50th peal on July 9th, when he took part in four Minor methods at Sproughton, Suffolk. By a coincidence it was also his 25th peal with the conductor, Mr. A. R. Andrews.

FAREWELL TO 'KATE.'

A handbell peal of Bob Major was rung at Surfleet on July 9th as a farewell to 'Kate,' who about seven years ago set many a bachelor's heart aflutter. She had been rusticated at the Lincolnshire Ringers' Rest Home and was taking her departure on the following day. Was it more than a coincidence that one of the ringers of that leap year peal of 1932 happened also to be staying in the neighbourhood?

The first peal of Minor on the bells at New Radnor, Radnorshire, was rung on July 8th. The bells were augmented to six by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston at Easter, 1938.

Edwin A. Barnett, at 20 years of age, rang his 350th peal last Saturday, when he took part in a peal of St. Clement's Bob Major at Goudhurst, Kent.

At the same time Mr. Stafford H. Green, of Southborough, rang his 200th peal, 94 of them having been with Mr. Fred White, of Cranbrook. They have been rung in 93 towers in 20 counties, for 24 associations, and, of the total, Mr. Green has conducted 38. The 200 include a great variety of methods on from six to twelve bells, including no fewer than five methods of Maximus, but, curiously enough, not a single peal of Grandsire Triples. That is a pleasure still to come.

A birthday peal in five Doubles methods was rung on Sunday, June 11th, for Miss Peggy Marsh, who was 14 years of age two days previously. None of the band, except the conductor (Mr. W. C. Shute), had previously rung a peal in more than one method. The peal was rung at St. Mary's, Lytchett Matravers, Dorset.

Derek Sharp, of Crayford, called a peal of Grandsire Caters on the light ring of ten at Cudham, Kent, on Saturday, and thus completed peals of Grandsire from Doubles to Cinques on tower bells. The peal was a 21st birthday compliment to Richard Wilson, who rang his first peal on ten bells. It was Miss Mary Rawlings' first peal of Grandsire and Robert Collins' first peal in the method 'inside,' as well as the first peal of Caters by both of them.

Another peal as a birthday compliment to Tom Miller was rung at Edghaston on Saturday week.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT REVISIT ACTON.

An enjoyable district meeting was held at Acton on Saturday, at the invitation of the Rector, the Rev. Percival Gough. A short service was conducted by the Rector, who gave the members a hearty welcome. He referred to the remark of a speaker at an earlier meeting at Acton that 'ringing was a sport,' and said that, at first, this had rather surprised him. But, he said, he realised that this should be true of all work for the Church. There should be happiness, joy and enthusiasm for religious work, as well as for the ordinary forms of sport, and it was wrong to regard religion only as sad and serious. Ringing for God should be a thing of joy. He ended by expressing his gratitude to those who ring the bells of the Church and hoped that their service to God would long continue.

The weather remaining fine, tea was served in the Rectory garden to a company of 37. The assistant secretary (Mr. W. G. Wilson) apologised for the unavoidable absence of the vice-president (Mr. J. A. Trollope), the general secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) and the district secretary (Mr. J. E. L. Cockey).

Mr. W. H. Coles proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Rector for his invitation to Acton, for conducting the service, for providing an excellent tea and for the use of his lovely garden, to Mr. Eddowes who played the organ, to Mr. Fruin (verger) and to the ladies who served tea.—The Rector replied assuring the members of a welcome to Acton at any time.

Handbell ringing on the fine bells brought by Mr. C. W. Taylor, of Watford, clock golf and darts on the lawn proved such an attraction that many members did not get back to the tower for ringing, but those who did had good practice on the handy ring of eight.

A SUCCESSFUL VILLAGE MEETING.**GUILDFORD AND LADIES' GUILDS AT SHERE.**

Shere is reputed to be the prettiest village in England. No doubt this is a debatable point and will be disputed by many, but the sunny weather of a recent Saturday certainly gave the finishing touch to an ideal setting for the combined meeting of the Southern District of the Ladies' Guild and the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

An attendance of 50 included the Guildford Guild Master (Major J. H. B. Hesse), the general secretary of the Guildford Guild (Mr. G. L. Grover) and the Farnham District secretary (Mr. C. W. Denyer).

The Rev. Sir Paget Bowman, the Rector of Shere, was away on holiday, but had left messages of welcome, and regret that he was unable to be present.

The curate of Shere, the Rev. J. E. Penney, kindly conducted the fully choral service, and gave an exceptionally interesting address. It was, he said, remarkable that the troubled times through which we were passing had in one respect revived one of the most ancient uses of bells. Canon Elliott and the Rev. Pat McCormick had formed a League of Prayer, and wherever possible had arranged for a sanctus bell to be rung at a certain hour of the day, calling people to spare a few moments to pray for peace.

The Rev. Penney presided at the Guildford District meeting. Messrs. R. Badcock, E. Inwood, J. Lancaster, G. Morrey, J. Newman and M. Whitty, all of Shere, were, amid applause, elected ringing members of the Guild.

The district secretary (Mr. W. F. J. Cope) expressed thanks to the general secretary for the way in which he was assisting the local band.

Mr. C. M. Martin, of Bramley, had also been busy again, and as a result of his efforts the Misses G. and M. Hunt, Mrs. C. M. Martin and W. Spreckley were elected honorary members.

The meeting closed with an expression of thanks from the Master.

A variety of methods were rung during the afternoon and evening, but the local band were not neglected and touches of Grandsire Triples gave them opportunity for advancement.

Mrs. Cope presided at the annual business meeting of the Ladies' Guild, at which the vice-president (Mrs. Bruce) was re-elected, and the hon. secretary (Miss H. F. Mills) agreed to carry on for one more year. The committee was also re-elected.

Mrs. Oldroyd was welcomed from the Northern District.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Ewhurst on September 30th.

The members present were very sorry to hear of the recent death of Miss Fisher, of Dorking, one of the first members of the Southern District.

UNIQUE GATHERING AT SEMPRINGHAM ABBEY.**LINCOLNSHIRE RINGERS' MEETING.**

A quarterly meeting of the Southern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Sempringham Abbey. The church, which stands in the fields practically a mile from anywhere, dates back to 1128 A.D., when there was then a village of Sempringham. It is interesting to note that the first person to hold this living was 'Saint Gilbert' of Sempringham in the year 1129. It was he who established the first order in this country and also built the first Priory and school in an adjoining field to the Abbey. At the present time excavation work is proceeding in this vicinity and the remains of the foundations can be clearly seen of the ancient priory. The old Abbey Church of today is in wonderful preservation, the chief characteristics of its architecture being pure Norman, with some parts of the Perpendicular period. The fine tower, some 60ft. high, now has a musical peal of six bells. Originally there was a peal of three bells, the treble and 2nd bells being pre-Reformation. These have been preserved, and now form the 5th and tenor in the new peal. In 1931 Messrs. Bowell, of Ipswich, were entrusted with the work of restoration, which consisted of recasting the tenor and making the peal into four bells. These were rehung in a new iron frame and provision made for six bells at a future date. November of last year saw the crowning point by the addition of two more trebles, the tenor being 8 cwt. (approx.). This was made possible by the late Rector of Sempringham, who gave the 2nd bell, while the treble bell was provided by public subscriptions.

Despite inclement weather on Saturday, July 8th, quite a large gathering attended the meeting, and about 30 ringers were present from Lincoln, Peterborough, Southall, Bourne, Market Deeping, Gt. Gt. Gt., Morton, Billingborough, Folkingham, Hough, Edmonthorpe, Brantston and Pointon. The Rector, the Rev. G. L. Pilkington, kindly put the bells at the ringers' disposal during the afternoon and evening, and these were kept going to a variety of touches.

A short service was held, conducted by the Rector, who gave a brief outline of the history of the Abbey.

Tea was held at the school at Pointon, the adjoining village, and 22 sat down. At the business meeting which followed the Rev. G. L. Pilkington was elected an hon. member of the Southern Branch. Mr. J. T. Rolt, the tower captain, was elected a ringing member, as was also Mr. S. R. Wilson, of Billingborough.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Thurlby, and the business concluded with a hearty vote of thanks accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells and the service, and also for the excellent tea provided free. Thanks were also passed to Mr. E. Marriott for presiding at the organ and to Mr. J. T. Rolt.

The tower was then again visited and further ringing continued until 9 p.m.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Will ringers please note that the Jasper Whitfield Snowden annual commemoration dinner is fixed to take place at York on Saturday, October 14th. Full particulars in later issues of 'The Ringing World.'

The Rev. G. T. Perry, curate at St. Giles', Willenhall, who welcomed Mr. Frank Bennett's party while on their peal ringing tour last year, is to be inducted to the living of New Mills, Derbyshire, next Friday. Both the Rev. G. T. Perry and Mrs. Perry have taken up ringing since last August, but owing to many activities have so far not progressed beyond rounds. At New Mills, however, they should have further opportunities, as there are bells in this parish, with which the late Rev. A. T. Beeston was formerly associated.

One of the towers open at the Oxford meeting last Saturday was Ifley where the church is famous for its Norman architecture. In 1734 Benjamin Annable and his band of College Youths, after their unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Grandsire Caters at New College, dined 'at Weer's beyond Friar Bacon's Study and some (if not all) of them stepping over to Ifley they rang the six bells there (viz., 700 changes upon them).' On Saturday a band after ringing, more or less successfully, a course of Cambridge Royal at New College, went over to Ifley and rang upon the six bells there.

Mr. William Saunders, leader of the Coalbrookdale (Salop) band, is collecting cigarette cards for the benefit of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London. Cards from all brands of cigarettes are included and we understand that the hospital exchanges them at the rate of 2s. 6d. per thousand. Already Mr. Saunders has sent 21,000 cards to the hospital, which is asking for more. Ringers who wish to help the scheme should forward cards to Mr. Saunders at Institution House, Coalbrookdale.

A recommendation that evening school pupils should be taught campanology is to be brought before the London County Council.

THE ACTIVITIES OF 'MR. GREEN.'

To the Editor.

Sir,—It will be of interest to your readers that this gentleman still pursues his profitable course through the country and has recently been operating in Brighton.

There is now a slight variation in the story, for he has appeared as Thomas White, giving the address, 2, Church Road, Astlee, Hants. Evidently during the course of his travels he has collected some striking sales talk and uses, quite without authority, of course, the names of Mr. George Williams and Mr. A. D. Stone.

Presumably Astlee is a corruption of Eastleigh, to which place he is supposed to be going. Particulars as to appearance are as follows: Age 60-65, height 5ft. 4in., robust build, wearing a black overcoat. Only visible teeth are two prominent eye teeth. Fresh complexion.

I have obtained a specimen of White's writing, which he gave on receipt for a 'subscription' he obtained, and this would be available if proceedings are ever taken.

S. E. ARMSTRONG, Hon. Gen. Sec.
Sussex County Association.

'DOUBLE LITTLE BOB.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I read in the North Notts Association report of the Tuxford meeting of a new method, Double Little Bob, being rung.

Since there are at present only four Little and two Very Little methods, it would be interesting to know more of this.

I wonder if the method can be spliced with an Alliance or Special Alliance method to produce an extent. If not, then can it claim to be one?

Melton Mowbray.

[What is called Double Little Bob is, we believe, the same as Dartford Little Bob, which was rung some years ago in Kent. It is an unsymmetrical method and not a regular one according to the accepted standards. We doubt if it can be of any value for splicing.—Editor, 'Ringing World'.]

'THE ROUNDABOUT.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—One read with no little disgust of the 'dividend hunters' of Derbyshire, who caused so much trouble by saving themselves the expense of the poundage on a postal order and a three-halfpenny stamp. It is to be hoped that they will spend a most enjoyable summer holiday on the dividend received from the transaction.

Leicester.

H. BROUGHTON.

A ROYAL VISIT.

In honour of the visit of H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester to Beckenham to open the new hospital buildings on Tuesday, July 11th, the ringers of St. George's Parish Church rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major. Mr. Tom Groombridge (District Ringing Master) and friends assisted, and Mr. W. Martin, aged 80 years, successfully rang a 504 of Stedman. In the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by John Collins (first quarter-peal) 1, D. Brown 2, Mary Rawlings (first quarter-peal 'inside') 3, E. J. Barrett 4, G. E. Rawlings 5, G. Fogden 6, W. J. Rawlings (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, C. Austin 8. All are Sunday service ringers at Beckenham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

Free Membership for Infirm Ringers.

The festival of the Oxford Diocesan Guild drew ringers from the three counties of Oxford, Berks and Bucks to Oxford on Saturday, and, despite showery weather, an enjoyable day was spent, with a reunion of friends, a stirring service in the Cathedral, lunch in the glorious Dining Hall of Christ Church, and ringing in many of the towers for which Oxford is famous. Even the necessary business meeting was a pleasant incident in the day's proceedings, and the overwhelming defeat of the annual attempt to move the festival away from Oxford once more showed that the members look upon the city as the home of their Guild, to which they delight to return year by year.

The Master (Canon G. F. Coleridge) conducted the service, and the preacher was the Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, Rector of Sandhurst. There was evidence in the hearty singing that many of the ringers present are choristers at their own churches.

About a hundred members attended the business meeting, held in the Chapter House. The Master presided, supported by the Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, the Deputy Master (the Rev. C. E. Wigg), the hon. treasurer (Mr. A. D. Barker) and the general secretary (Mr. R. T. Hibbert). Letters of apology were received from Bishop Allen, Canon E. J. and Miss Norris, and Mr. J. W. Wilkins (High Wycombe). The last named wrote that he still shared the opinion that the other two counties (Berks and Bucks) should alternately be chosen for the annual festival. It would make the reunion more real, and probably give many more members the opportunity to attend who could not visit Oxford.

SATISFACTORY POSITION OF THE GUILD.

In the course of his report the Master said he had good reason to believe the Guild was holding its own in all ways. He could only wish that the services of qualified instructors were more generally sought, especially in the case of those bands who, having learnt a little, made little or no further effort to advance in the art.

The Deputy Master reported that steady and conscientious work was being maintained in most of the towers. One part of the Guild's activities which was usually overlooked in the officers' reports, he said, was the number of unsuccessful peal attempts. These often indicated more real progress than the peals which were completed and published, since they were commonly in new or difficult methods. For example, peals of Spliced Surprise Major by a resident band had been very few in the history of the Guild, but the fact that quite a number of attempts to ring such a peal had been made during the past year was an indication of the progress which was being made in advanced methods of ringing amongst the members. In conclusion, he offered a word of congratulation to all the members of the Guild, and they made up quite a large number, who had rung their first peal or their first in a new method during the year 1938.

The general secretary, in his report, referred to the keenness and good feeling which prevailed in all the branches, and said in most branches progress was being made. The membership of the Guild remained approximately the same. The number was 2,377 ringing members (including 454 non-resident) and 205 honorary members. There were 235 towers in union. Seventy-six peals were rung during the year, amongst them being several Surprise methods and two or three 'non-conducted.' Several young members scored their first peal, which, to him, was always very pleasing. He had given advice at Cholsey as to work necessary and had examined and passed finished work at Aston Tirrold, Stoke Poges, Kirtlington, Stanton Harcourt, Witney, Farnham Royal, Wroxton, Hanwell and Wantage. He expressed the thanks of the Guild to the branch secretaries for the excellent work put in. These officers had in many cases difficult districts to work, but kept on doing all that was possible for men to do to make a success of things.

The treasurer's statement of accounts showed that £94 17s. 3d. was received from the branches and new non-resident members, and £1 10s. 8d. from the sale of annual reports. The balance of £96 1s. 11d. increased during the year to £98 12s. 10d. In the reserve fund was £75 3s. 8d. The balance in the restoration fund, after expending £45 3s. in grants, was £90 11s. 5d.

The Hon. Treasurer, in his report, said that if assistance from the restoration fund was to be continued on the same large scale as last year some new form of income would have to be found. The annual report continued to be a heavy drain on the funds, and members should give their immediate consideration to this matter.

The reports, which had been printed, were received.

CANON COLERIDGE RE-ELECTED MASTER.

On the election of officers, Canon Coleridge said he thought they had better appoint someone else as Master. He was getting old, infirm and decrepit, and his parochial work made it nearly always impossible to attend meetings on Saturdays.

The Deputy Master said the question before them was, who did they want for Master of that Guild? Did they want Canon Coleridge?

The meeting said 'Yes' in unanimous chorus, and Mr. Wigg, amid applause, declared Canon Coleridge re-elected.

Canon Coleridge thanked the members for their renewed confidence. He had the work of the Guild at heart, he said, although he could not get to the branch meetings as he would like to. Another difficulty was that although he could get up into a tower, he was always afraid that, in attempting to come down, they might have to pick up a dead body (laughter).

The other officers were unanimously re-elected.

A trustee had to be appointed to fill the place of the late Dr. Joyce. The Master said he could not possibly express their feelings not only at the loss they had sustained as a Guild, but at what the people of Reading had lost. In addition to his medical services, Dr. Joyce was churchwarden at St. Mary's; he took the lead in the tower and paid for the whole of the restoration of the bells himself. His death brought a very great loss to the Guild.

The Rev. B. Girling, of Brightwell (chairman of the North Berkshire Branch) was appointed to the vacancy, and to fill the vacancy on the committee caused by the death of Mr. G. Hollifield, sen., Mr. R. A. Post was elected, the Secretary pointing out, in connection with this appointment, that Mr. Post ought to be on the committee, as he was one of the Guild's representatives on the Central Council. 'It is unfair,' said Mr. Hibbert, 'to send a man to the Central Council if he doesn't know what the committee would like to do or propose to do. If he is on the committee he will be able to go to the Council knowing how much we grumble about the Council' (laughter).

All the retiring members of the committee were re-elected.

The Executive Committee recommended that the festival should be held next year at Oxford, and this was proposed by Mr. W. Hibbert, jun., and seconded by Miss V. Robinson.

Mr. W. Birmingham (Slough) proposed and the hon. treasurer seconded that the meeting should be held at Reading. On being put to the vote, Oxford was chosen by 47 votes to 16.

The committee recommended that a grant of £5 5s. be given to the Coleshill bells restoration, the Vale of White Horse Branch having already voted £2 2s.—The Hon. Secretary said the bells were a fine little peal of six that had been restored. There was a young band of ringers making some progress, and he thought the grant would be a great help.

Mr. T. Trollope suggested that, as there were no other grants to be made this year, the sum should be increased to £6 6s., and this was agreed to.

An application from Cholsey, which had just been received, was deferred, with the intimation that the Guild would help as far as it could.

RETAINING OLD MEMBERS.

Mr. W. J. Paice moved a recommendation of the General Committee in the following terms: 'Any member, who because of advancing age or infirmity, has to discontinue his or her active ringing shall (on the recommendation of the tower foreman, and confirmation at the branch annual meeting) continue his or her membership of the Guild without being called upon to pay any further subscription.'

He said in the parish in which he rang they had two old members who had been connected with the church for over 50 years. They could not ring now, because they were old and more often ill than well. They had taught he did not know how many ringers to ring, and, when they could, they now sat in their gardens and listened to the bells and they told him how much they enjoyed it. In the Sonning Deanery Branch, of which he was secretary, he knew there were many similar cases. He received a letter only that week from an old ringer, who lived in an almshouse, saying, 'I enclose P.O. for 1s. 6d. to pay my annual subscription to the Guild, which was due last January. I want to carry on as long as I can, as I have been in it so long. My membership dates from 1881, but I am out of ringing now for good; my sciatica prevents me from getting up and down stairs.' That, said Mr. Paice, was an instance in his branch; there must be many cases in the Guild similar to that which were known to members. He only wished that many of the young ringers of to-day would show the same loyalty and devotion to their tower and bells that these old ringers had done in the past. They had kept the bells going for Sunday services and had taught large numbers to ring, but themselves were now unable to ring because they were infirm and many of them had a struggle to pay the subscriptions, which they could ill afford. Some of them ceased entirely to pay because they were unable to do so. The Guild would lose nothing by passing the resolution, which simply meant that instead of these old ringers ceasing to be members, they would keep them by printing their names in the annual report. If an old member had the means and preferred to continue to pay his subscription, there was nothing to prevent him from doing so.

Mr. H. Farmer, who seconded, said a man had little left out of an old age pension with which to pay such things as subscriptions. By passing the resolution the Guild would not only keep their names on the books, but would keep the ringers as members of their organisation, and he added, 'they will still be one of us.'

Mr. T. J. Fowler thought the resolution was too restricted. He thought it should extend to old members who were still able to do a little ringing as well as to those who were debilitated by old age and infirmity.

Mr. R. A. Post proposed that any member who reached the age of 65 should become a life member of the Guild. This was a course which they followed in the Oxford Society.

(Continued on next page.)

CHESTERFIELD PARISH CHURCH BELLS ARCHDEACON EXPLAINS POSITION.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I see that several speakers at the Central Council meeting (as reported in your issue of July 7th, which has just been sent to me) are misinformed as to the matter of the Chesterfield bells.

It has been my desire to have the bells reinstated for the last four years, but costly improvements continuously carried out in the interior restoration and furnishing of this great church have delayed matters, and it has been necessary, also, to break down the opposition to the idea of restoring the bells. The late architect, Mr. Leslie Temple Moore, expressed the view, after several tests, that it was unsafe for the bells to be rung, though it is true that he said that, when the work of the restoration of the spire had been completed, this judgment might be reconsidered. It is natural that, after the expenditure of several thousand pounds on a work that had so little to show for it, some influential people opposed the idea.

I never threatened that, 'if I could not get ringers,' I would institute gramophone records. What I did say to the Church Council and to the parochial meeting was that it was very wrong for there to be a peal of ten bells unused year after year at a central church like this (except for the feeble chiming apparatus), and that either the bells should be put in order, or, if the tower were proved to be unsuitable for ringing, that they should be given away to churches which *could* use them. I added that a 'synthetic' peal would be better than our present arrangement, but I have never seriously considered that.

There are no ropes to the bells: the frames are, after seven or eight years of complete disuse, probably in need of repair, the bells themselves are out of tune, and need either turning or recasting, and a set of ringers needs training. All these things I hope, if spared, to have attended to in the near future. We have very considerable obligations at the Parish Church, and I have been trying to work according to plan with regard to the continuous improvement of the interior. My predecessor accomplished the very costly work of external renovation. I have got so far as to obtain the goodwill of the Church Council to obtain the best opinion as to the stability of the tower, and have been in touch with different authorities about this. Your critics must kindly exercise a little patience, and realise that it is not a simple case of climbing the belfry stairs and ringing a peal of Bob Royal.

T. DILWORTH-HARRISON,
Archdeacon of Chesterfield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

(Continued from previous page.)

A lengthy discussion followed, in which the scheme put forward by Mr. Paice met with general approval, and eventually, after various alterations to enlarge its scope had been put forward, it was carried in its original form.

Messrs. H. A. Edwards and C. J. Gardiner were added to the list of qualified instructors in the Guild, and, on the recommendation of the committee, it was resolved that the travelling expenses of the Deputy Master and hon. treasurer, in attending meetings, be paid.

A DRAIN ON THE FUNDS.

The hon. treasurer called attention to the lack of sales of the annual report. It cost £28 8s. 8d. to print last year, he said, and they only got back £1 10s. 8d. from sales. It was thus a great drain on the funds. He had no definite proposition to put before the Guild at present, but he had been considering whether they should charge a small booking fee for peals. He did not know, however, if that would work. He hoped the members would try and help the Guild out of the difficulty.

The meeting confirmed the election last year of 149 new members.

Mr. T. Trollope asked what happened to all these members.

The Secretary replied that the new members got on with the job, while the old ones wasted their time thinking about getting buried (laughter).

The Master proposed a vote of thanks to the authorities of Christ Church for the use of the Cathedral, the Chapter House and the Dining Hall, and also to the preacher for his most acceptable sermon, and to the organist.—This was seconded by the hon. treasurer and carried with applause.

At the suggestion of Mr. W. J. Paice, it was agreed to send the good wishes of the Guild to the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, of Wokingham, on his appointment as Precentor of Norwich Cathedral.

The meeting having concluded, the members adjourned to the Dining Hall, where lunch was served. Afterwards a brief toast list was gone through. 'The King and Church' was proposed by the Master; Mr. J. S. Goldsmith submitted 'The Oxford Diocesan Guild,' and Mr. R. T. Hibbert gave 'The Master and Deputy Master,' to which Canon Coleridge responded, recalling that Bishop White, whose portrait occupied a place of honour in the hall, was once one of his ringing pupils. Canon Coleridge added a plea for more young men to take up ringing.

After lunch the various towers in the city were visited and a great deal of ringing was done until the early evening.

DEATH OF TRURO RINGER.

PASSING OF MR. W. H. SLEEMAN.

The death took place on July 6th at Truro, after a short illness, of Mr. William H. Sleeman, who was known to everybody as just 'Billy.' Mr. Sleeman was born at Advent in North Cornwall in 1874 and learned to ring one of the four bells there in his very early teens, so that his early career was begun in true Cornish style. He came to Truro more than 40 years ago and joined the band at Kenwyn. The ring of eight there was rung in 1905, about the time of the formation of the Truro Diocesan Guild, and the band, with a knowledge of Grandsire, went on to ring several peals, three of which are recorded on a board in the tower. 'Billy' took part in most of these.

When the bells at Truro Cathedral were opened in 1910 he was one of the official Cornish band to ring on June 21st of that year. He remained at Kenwyn, and taught many to ring there, until 1928 when he joined the Cathedral band, and, during the years following, was always willing to stand in a peal, and he took part in several of Grandsire Caters, Triples and Doubles, and Bob Major and Minor. He was Master of the Cathedral band for about two years.

Recently he had rejoined the Kenwyn band, and it was at Truro Cemetery that he was buried on Sunday, July 9th.

The Vicar of Kenwyn, Canon F. Thomas, officiated at the funeral, and the bearers were past and present members of the Kenwyn band. Ringers from Kenwyn and Kea attended the funeral. Wreaths were sent by the Kenwyn and Cathedral bands.

'Billy' will long be remembered in Truro and district and by many friends who have visited Truro.

A. S. R.

DEATH OF MR. J. W. ELKINS.

DEAN'S VERGER AT WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

One of the most respected and esteemed citizens of Winchester recently passed away in the person of Mr. James William Elkins, who had been for more than 50 years a verger at the Cathedral and was for long a member of the band of ringers. The deceased gentleman was born in 1854, and from his twelfth year had lived in the shadow of the Cathedral, which he served as verger and afterwards as Sub-Sacrist and Sub-Librarian, in the discharge of which duties he endeared himself to all who came in contact with him. To him the Cathedral was not so much a building of historic interest as a spiritual friend, which he had learned to love by long association and contact, and this was the impression which he was able to convey to many of those whom he conducted over the great church.

His life at the Cathedral brought him in contact with many famous and important persons, including the late King and Queen Mary and the present King and Queen. He was a member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild and at one time served as district secretary and treasurer.

The funeral service was held in the Cathedral and was attended by a large number of people, testifying to the extraordinary regard in which Mr. Elkins was held. The clergy taking part included the Bishop, the Dean, Canon Lloyd and the Precentor. All the Cathedral clergy were present, with four of the honorary canons and the full choir. The Dean preached an eloquent sermon, and immediately afterwards the whole pull and stand was rung with the bells half-muffled, followed by a touch of Grandsire Caters, conducted by Mr. Wilfrid Andrews, captain of the Cathedral band.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of Bristol Rural Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Stapleton on Saturday, June 24th. The weather was very wet, but 30 ringers attended from Henbury, Warmley, Mangotsfield, Coalpit Heath, Westerleigh, Bristol, Wickwar, Abson, St. Ambrose, Bitton, and the local tower. The bells are a very nice ring of six. Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. E. Staley), assisted by the curate, and the former gave a very interesting address. Tea was partaken of at the Memorial Hall, by kind invitation of the Rev. and Mrs. Staley, and the Vicar afterwards presided at the meeting.

Bitton was chosen for the next quarterly meeting on July 22nd.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for taking the service, to the curate and the organist, also to the Vicar and Mrs. Staley for providing the splendid tea.

After the meeting the tower was again visited, and some good practice obtained in various methods.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

ST. ALBANS.—At St. Peter's Church on Sunday, July 9th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1,280 changes): *H. G. Mason 1, E. G. Coward 2, G. W. Debenham 3, *J. L. Watson 4, F. Kirk 5, *F. J. Spicer 6, G. E. Debenham 7, *H. V. Frost (conductor) 8. *First quarter-peal in the method. This quarter-peal was arranged for the ringer of the 2nd, who hails from Mere, Wilts.

BRIGHTWELL, BERKS.—On Sunday, July 9th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1,320 changes), being 240 each of St. Simon's, April Day, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Grandsire, and 360 of Plain Bob: F. Brooker 1, C. J. Castell 2, J. R. Pease 3, F. C. Castell 4, O. G. Barnard (conductor) 5, G. Sadler 6. First quarter-peal in five methods by all.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It is not my usual practice to make use of the columns of 'The Ringing World' for correspondence purposes, but on this occasion I ask your indulgence in order that certain matters may be brought to the notice of members of the Essex Association.

On Saturday last I attended a meeting of the South-Western District of the association at Rayleigh and to my astonishment and disgust became the centre of what, to my mind, was a mean and most unfair attack on the management of the association.

It was stated that, after the last annual meeting held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, complaints were voiced by a large number of those attending as to the manner in which the meeting was conducted by the chairman and that a considerable amount of time was wasted in carrying out the election of officers. It was also said that the conduct of the meeting was disgusting.

Another speaker alleged that the Annual Report was a disgrace and the information contained therein quite out of date, although subsequently admitting that it ranked about fourth in order of merit out of ten different association reports which he had in his possession.

It appears to me that, not having been successful in getting two proposals emanating from this district carried by the annual meeting, certain members took advantage of my presence to work off steam in a manner which was far from friendly, although taking care to say that no offence was intended.

To make such statements in the absence of the Master of the association was most disgraceful, particularly in the presence of the Vicar of Rayleigh, who appeared to be assounded, and, had it been done in any other part of the county or at a general meeting, I have not the slightest doubt that considerable protest would have been made.

With regard to complaints being made after the annual meeting, the only one which I heard, apart from the bad acoustics of the hall, was that Mr. Chalk had taken up far too much time with his Benevolent Fund proposal, and I would assure him that in unduly labouring the subject with his verbose meanderings, not only on Whit Monday, but at various district meetings at which he had been allowed to speak upon the subject, he had reduced the great majority of his hearers to a state of boredom and had done far more harm than good to his cause. This is not merely my personal opinion, but has been expressed in my hearing on numerous occasions.

As to the election of the Master, a most ridiculous statement reached my ears, that things were not done fairly down this way (apparently meaning at Chelmsford). Any reasonably minded person present at the meeting knows that such a statement is utter nonsense.

If our Annual Report is not up to date in its information, a point upon which I, as general secretary, entirely disagree, it is the fault of those members who appear to have far greater knowledge as to this than myself for not passing on information. However, it appears that nothing short of an 'Encyclopædia Britannica' devoted entirely to ringing matters in Essex would be entirely satisfactory.

There are many other matters I could mention, but have no wish to take up more space than I can avoid, and in closing would point out that if those who have for the past two years talked so much of benevolent funds, and from whom we should expect benevolence to exude in profusion, would bear in mind that true benevolence is not the mere giving of grants from a fund, but the desire to do good and to show a charitable feeling in word and deed towards their fellows, which can do far more good than the giving of an occasional copper to a collection, in the carrying on of the work of our association and, indeed, in whatever walk of life we may be.

L. J. CLARK.

Chelmsford. July 14th.

COMMITTEE TO BE ASKED TO DISCUSS VITAL POINTS.

The criticism of the management of the association referred to in the letter from the hon. secretary was raised under the item of 'any other business.'

HOBART RINGERS ENTERTAIN LORD MAYOR.

NOTABLE VISITORS TO TASMANIAN BELFRY.

To celebrate the patronal festival and 106th anniversary of the parish, the bellringers of Holy Trinity, Hobart, were 'at home' on Tuesday evening, June 6th.

The staircase leading to the tower was decorated with flowers. The belfry also was adorned with pot plants. Being winter time, the belfry was heated by electric fires. The guests were the Lord Mayor (Mr. J. T. Soundy, Member House of Assembly) and the Lady Mayoress, the Hon. H. S. Baker (leader of the Opposition of the Tasmanian Parliament) and Mrs. Baker, Mr. F. W. Medhurst (who since the visit of the English ringers has presented the belfry with a telephone), Mr. R. J. Wallace (senior churchwarden), Mr. A. Hiddlestone, a past bellringer, and many others. Apologies were received from the Deputy Lord Mayor (Mr. S. Crisp), Mr. E. J. Rogers, Mr. F. Usher (Editor of the 'Mercury') and Mrs. Usher.

After the guests had been received by the president (the Ven. Archdeacon Blackwood), the ringers rang a 'peal' of Doubles: L. Lucas 1, S. Smith 2, J. Williams 3, B. McElwee 4, J. Quarby 5, A. R.

Wilson 6. Afterwards call changes were rung on the eight bells. The handbells were also used.

Supper was served, consisting of coffee, sandwiches and cakes. The Ven. Archdeacon Blackwood said how pleased he was to welcome the guests. It was the first visit of the Lord Mayor; although he (Mr. Soundy) was not a ringer, he congratulated the ringers on ringing true Sunday by Sunday.

The Lord Mayor thanked the ringers for their hospitality. He was delighted to be amongst them. He trusted that it would not be long before they had another visit from the English bellringers, as he wanted to give them a civic welcome during his term of office.

Afterwards the Lord Mayor and the Hon. H. S. Baker went up the tower, and, returning, thanked all present for the enjoyable evening which went all too quickly.

The hon. secretary (Mr. A. R. Wilson) desires to place on record the names of Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Pedder (who were present) for their many donations towards the association's funds. It will be remembered that Mr. George Martin, of Maidenhead, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Pedder in 1934.

The English albums of cathedrals and churches, presented by the ringers of the British Isles, were on view and much admired.

PRESENTATION TO LATE DISTRICT SECRETARY.

MR. E. J. BUTLER'S LONG SERVICE.

At a meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association held at Rayleigh on Saturday, July 8th, and attended by 50 members, almost every tower in the division being represented, a presentation was made to Mr. E. J. Butler, who recently relinquished the office of district secretary after a quarter of a century of service.

A short service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. C. Sowter), who gave a very warm welcome to all. Tea, arranged by Mr. C. Steward, was enjoyed in the Church Hall, followed by the business meeting presided over by the Rev. A. C. Sowter. Six new members were elected, including five from Stanford-le-Hope and Langdon Hills, both these towers joining the association.

Orsett was selected as place for the next meeting, to be held on September 21st.

The presentation took the form of a silver tea set suitably engraved. Several members paid tribute to Mr. Butler's loyalty and service to the district during his 25 years in office.

Mr. Chalk, District Master, remarked that the keynote of Mr. Butler's work had always been efficiency, and he spoke of the very valuable advice he was ever ready to give to incumbents whenever their bells needed attention.

In making the presentation, Mr. Prior said that he had known Mr. Butler since before the war, when they were all trying to help one another in the art of change ringing, and from that time he had seen the South-Western Division grow from a few scattered towers to the united body it was to-day, due in no small measure to Mr. Butler's enthusiasm in his work. Mr. Prior also paid a warm tribute to Mrs. Butler for the part she had played behind the scenes in the success of the district.

Mr. Butler, in reply, said that no words could express his appreciation for the kindness shown to Mrs. Butler and himself in presenting them with such a beautiful gift. All that he had done, he added, for the district had been a labour of love, and although he did not now hold any official capacity, they could always rely on his support. He spoke of the help he had received from the tower secretaries in the district and also paid tribute to the clergy of Essex for the kindness they had always shown to him wherever he went. He wished the district continued success and hoped they would all rally round their new secretary and support him in every way.

The Master referred to the fact that the Rev. Canon Brown, of Leytonstone, had just completed 50 years in the ministry of the Church, and proposed that a letter of congratulation be sent to him from the district.—This was unanimously agreed to.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for allowing use of tower and bells, for conducting the service and taking the chair, to Mrs. Sowter for so kindly deputising as organist, and to Mr. C. Steward for making all the arrangements.—This was carried with applause and responded to by the Rector.

The tower was then revisited and touches in methods ranging from Grandsire to London Surprise were brought round.

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Supper was served, consisting of coffee, sandwiches and cakes.

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The English albums of cathedrals and churches, presented by the ringers of the British Isles, were on view and much admired.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**WESTERN BRANCH ELECTS ELEVEN SCHOOL PUPILS.**

The summer meeting of the Western Branch of the Worcestershire Association was held at Shelsley Beauchamp on Saturday, July 1st. The church possesses a ring of six bells (tenor 11 cwt.), and the meeting was attended by 40 members, wives and friends, including visitors from the Northern Branch. A short service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. H. Davies), who, in his address, said he was much impressed by the good fellowship among ringers, and remarked that if there was more of this spirit in the world to-day it would cure most of the ills that existed.

An excellent tea was served in the Schoolroom by lady helpers, and was generously supplied by the Rector.

After tea a course of Grandsire Triples and several tunes were rung on the handbells.

At the business meeting, the Rev. W. H. Davies, who presided, extended a hearty welcome to all present.

It was decided that the arrangements for the next quarterly peal should be left in the hands of Mr. A. Morgan, of Grimley.

The Rector was elected an hon. member, Mr. F. Varty, of Wallasey, Cheshire, was elected as a life member, and the following 11 pupils from the Abbey School, Malvern, were accepted as unattached members: The Misses M. Richardson, D. Richardson, H. Weall, J. Weall, M. Eastwood, Jill Budden, Joan Budden, Anne Harper, R. Taylor, P. Peel and J. Tarry.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Kempsey.

Mr. S. Holt reminded members that the association library containing books on bells and bellringing is open to anyone. He also reported that the general secretary rarely had any application for association certificates.

Mr. W. Short suggested that the branch secretaries should carry one with them to show members, and Mr. R. Matthews said they should be given to new members.

Mr. S. Holt replied that the latter suggestion would have to be introduced at the committee meeting in January or at the next annual meeting.

Hearty votes of thanks to the Rector, the organist and the ladies concluded the meeting.

PORTSHEAD LADY RINGER MARRIED.

The marriage took place very quietly at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, July 16th, in St. Peter's Church, Portishead, of Miss Blanche L. Staddeu and Mr. John Kelly. The ceremony was performed by Preb. H. W. Jukes.

The bride, who is a member of the Ladies' Guild and the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, has given valued help in Portishead belfry for the past 14 years. Despite every effort for secrecy, four ringers turned up very early for Sunday morning ringing, and with the help of Mrs. Simmons (sister), Miss Brown (aunt) and two brothers, the bells were raised in peal, and a touch of Grandsire Triples voiced the good wishes of the band as the bride and bridegroom left the church.

For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung: R. G. Williams 1, Mrs. W. Edwards 2, Mrs. L. Simmons 3, Miss V. Hyman 4, A. Lane (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, Ronald Gale (first quarter-peal) 6, E. J. Goldstone 7, J. Thomas 8.

VISIT TO ST. ALBANS.

The members of S. Nicolas' Society, Guildford, with wives and friends, had their annual outing on June 24th and visited St. Albans. The coach ride, which took them through Windsor Great Park, was much enjoyed, but unavoidable delays caused them to arrive late at the Abbey, where they were welcomed by Mr. H. E. Goodenough and had the opportunity of ringing on the Abbey twelve. The visitors will not soon forget the long climb to the tower nor the views they obtained as the result of their labours. One or two of the party rang on twelve for the first time in rounds, but the other ringing was confined to Grandsire and Stedman Caters. Then they went on to St. Peter's Church, and, in this commodious and well-equipped belfry, rang Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Treble Ten and Double Norwich. They were received here by Mr. G. E. Debenham, Mr. F. Kirke and others, and the welcome in both towers was much appreciated. After tea some of the places of interest in the ancient city were visited. Some found the oldest licensed premises in England and decided that it was well worth while to inspect the interior. Others, under the guidance of Mr. J. R. Mackman, paid a hasty visit to the Roman remains of Verulamium. Mr. E. G. Heath, the hon. secretary, was heartily thanked for the successful arrangements he had made, and thanks were also accorded for the facilities given for ringing at the Abbey and St. Peter's.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**STOCKPORT BRANCH CONGRATULATIONS TO LINCOLNSHIRE RINGERS.**

A meeting of Stockport Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Northenden on Saturday, July 1st, when some 28 members and friends journeyed to this old church, situated about half an hour's bus ride from the centre of Manchester and yet still retaining a sense of the peace and quiet of the countryside. The bells, a peal of six by Rudhall, were set going early in the afternoon, and, in spite of the fact that they proved a little difficult to handle, several good touches were brought round before service in church at 4.30. The usual Guild form of service was used and was, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. Ronald Allen, who also gave a very inspiring address. He told the ringers that there had been a church at Northenden from the 12th century onwards and quite possibly even earlier. In the early days it was served from the Abbey of Chester, and this would suggest the origin of the name, it being the northern church of the diocese. The family of the present leader of the belfry had been ringers at Northenden for about 200 years, and he thought that it was good to remember the past in these days when they lived so much in the present with its crises from day to day. As he looked on the tower of the church during the crisis last autumn he was led to think of all the changes that this old church has seen and the wars through which it has passed, and went on to say that just as that old tower has survived, so must the Church as a whole survive all the changes. Wars may come and go, but still the Church will go on, and, although at times its light may appear to burn very dimly and even though the bells be silenced, he was certain that the will to serve and worship God would always be retained. He believed that in spite of all the criticisms and complaints, the Church was to-day stronger than ever before. He had recently had a young Chinese staying with him, and, on asking him what struck him most about this country, received the reply, 'The friendliness and freedom of the people,' and these were the natural fruits of Christianity. The preacher went on to point out how ringers could serve to illustrate the fundamental Christian truths and made special mention of the team spirit required in the belfry. He said that if men would only learn that it was just as essential to have this team spirit in national and international affairs, the individual striving for the good of the whole, then the troubles of the world would be greatly lessened. He also pointed out that ringing might be considered a very public job, as all the mistakes were heard by all the surrounding neighbourhood, and he made the point that just as in ringing all their actions were broadcast, so in their daily lives they must exercise care that their actions were always in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ. The Rector concluded his address by reading the fine poem by Tennyson, 'Ring out, wild bells.'

After the service tea was partaken of in a nearby cafe and all enjoyed an excellent repast. The usual business meeting was held under the chairmanship of the branch chairman, the Rev. F. Bonner, who voiced the members' delight at being present at Northenden.

The business was of a routine nature.

The secretary (Mr. C. K. Lewis) presented a report on the proceedings at the annual festival, for the benefit of those unable to attend, and it was resolved to send a letter of congratulation to the Lincolnshire spliced Minor band on their recent fine performance.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his services, the wardens, the local ringers, the organist and to all who had contributed to the success of the meeting. Further ringing then took place until a late hour, the methods ranging from rounds to Cambridge Minor.

A LANCASHIRE FESTIVAL.

A numerous company of ringers gathered at St. Michael's, Flixton, Lancashire, on Sunday, July 9th, on the occasion of the church anniversary, and some very fine ringing took place. Before the service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, those taking part being Lewis Taylor 1, Harry Shuker 2, Ethel Collier 3, Samuel Rickard 4, Donald Brown 5, Herbert Collier 6, Albert Ford (conductor) 7, Robert Thomas 8.

After the service the company was joined by Messrs. Robert Davies, H. Edwards, David Vincent and H. McKinnel, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung and some call changes for other members of the company.

Mr. Herbert Collier expressed his delight at the wonderful way the neighbouring ringers had responded to the occasion, and Mr. Harry Shuker sprang a surprise when he said that in the touch of Stedman rung, the counties represented were Suffolk, Surrey, Middlesex, Montgomeryshire, Staffordshire, Shropshire and Lancashire, and each representative had served his county well.

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NOTICES.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Aspenden on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at the Fox public-house after. — A. Lawrence, Dis. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Meeting at Seale, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) from 3.30. Service 5. Tea and business 5.15 in Jubilee Room. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at Duffield on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Tea arranged for all who notify Mr. Fred Stone, Derby Road, Duffield. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (North and East District) **AND HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (St. Albans District).—A joint meeting will be held at St. John the Baptist's, Barnet, on Saturday, July 22nd. Ringing also at St. Mary the Virgin's, Monken Hadley. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow, for which please notify Mr. H. J. Eldred, 98, Fitzjohn Avenue, Barnet, Herts.—T. J. Lock and H. V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Secs.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Whitechurch Canonicom on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Everybody welcome.—C. H. Lathey, Hon. Sec., Malmaison, Bradpoie, Bridport.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A meeting will be held at Littlebourne on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, by kind invitation of Rev. C. A. Manley (Vicar).—B. J. Lark, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Sherfield English on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells from 2.30. Tea at 5.15.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—A meeting will be held at Littlebury and Elmdon on July 22nd. Bells (two rings of six Littlebury from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tea at Elmdon, followed by business meeting and further ringing.—W. Wheeler, Hon. Dis. Sec., Mill Street, Harlow Common, Harlow, Essex.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bathford on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15.—Theo Grant, Swainswick, Bath.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Burnham-on-Sea on July 22nd. Bells (8) open at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—H. Minife, Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Penn (6 bells) on Saturday, July 22nd, at 3.30 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leyland Parish Church on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (10) available from 2.30 to 7.45 p.m. The committee of the Lancashire Association will meet the same date. — A. Blogg and W. H. Shuker, Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A combined meeting of the Suffolk Guild and the Essex Association will be held at Wormingford and Bures on July 22nd. Service will be at Wormingford Church, and tea in Village Hall.—J. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe, Essex.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual summer festival at St. Neots, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Falcon Hotel at 5 o'clock. Ringing at Eynesbury (6).—Kitty Willers, Gen. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A mid-quarterly meeting will be held at Great Glenn (6 bells) on July 22nd. Ringing will commence at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the local cafe.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bradfield Deanery Branch.—Summer meeting will be held at South Stoke, Oxon, on Saturday, July 22nd. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea (9d.) at 5 p.m. Goring bells available after tea.—T. W. Palmer, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Cranbourne, Cranbourne Avenue, Calcot.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Shepshed on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Winwick, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. After tea a call will be made at St. Peter's, Newton-le-Willows.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Practices for July: Southwark Cathedral, 25th; St. Clement Danes, 27th; all at 7.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A mid-week meeting will be held at Buxted (St. Margaret's, in Buxted Park) on Wednesday, July 26th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All welcome. Names for tea by Monday next, please, Miss K. M. Shepherd, 34, Cantelupe Road, East Grinstead, Sussex.—B. Saunders, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting is at Tutbury on Saturday, July 29th, and the district extends a hearty invitation to North Staffs friends. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.20. Tea at 4.45. All ringers welcome, and a card re tea by the 26th will oblige.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Dis. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sutton St. Nicholas' on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) available from 3 to 8.30. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., Dodmarsh, Withington, Hereford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—I. Kay, Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Singleton Parish Church (6 bells) on Saturday, July 29th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 5.30. Bus leaves Talbot Mews at 2.20. All visiting ringers welcome.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—East Norfolk Branch will hold a meeting at Somerleyton on Saturday, July 29th. Bells recently rehung (6) at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5.15. It is very particular for the names or numbers for tea to be sent to me not later than Wednesday, July 26th. All ringers welcome.—J. Harwood, Hon. Sec., 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Quarterly meeting at Brading on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5, business meeting after. All requiring tea please notify H. P. James, Dis. Sec., 11, Portland Street, Newport, Isle of Wight.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The next quarterly meeting of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society will be held at St. George's Church, Hyde, on July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Carus Wilson, Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Leatherhead District) **AND SURREY ASSOCIATION** (North-West District).—The joint meeting will be held at Ranmore on Saturday, July 29th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, followed by tea at the old Post Office. Please send numbers for tea to A. H. Smith, Drakelow, Howard Road, Great Bookham, as early as possible.—A. H. Smith and F. G. Woodiss, Dis. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.45, followed by tea in the Memorial Hall (which will be provided by the Rector and churchwardens) and meeting. Members intending to be present please advise the undersigned not later than Wednesday, July 26th.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Brockdish on Saturday, July 29th (not 22nd as arranged). Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 'neath' the fir tree (if fine), Rectory Hut if wet. Meeting follows. Special methods, 'Westminster Surprise' and 'Bala Bob.' I have diagrams. Names for tea by 25th, please. Suffolk ringers specially invited; we are on the border.—A. G. Harrison, Branch Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Old Bladwell (bells 6), on Saturday, July 29th, when it is hoped for a good attendance. All visitors will be welcome. Bells from 5 p.m.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Sidcup, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea, by kind invitation of the local ringers, will be reserved only for those notifying me not later than Monday, July 24th. Half fares (up to 2s.) will be paid to members attending this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Babcary on Saturday, July 29th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting following. Barton St. David also available. Please advise for tea.—W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at North Curry on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—R. W. Hayward, 24, Fairwater Cottages, Taunton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Whittlesea, on Saturday, July 29th. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, July 25th?—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON BRANCH OF HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Joint meeting at Church Stretton on July 29th. Eight nice bells in beautiful surroundings. Good attendance is requested. Names for tea to either W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury, or W. J. Benjams, Ben All, Henley Road, Ludlow.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Bexhill, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) available 3.30. Tea at 5. Everybody welcome, but a card re tea will oblige.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. Business: Nominations of officers.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Drighlington on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged for those who notify Mr. S. Barron, 40, West Street, Drighlington, by Thursday, July 27th. Business meeting in the tower 7 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Great Gransden on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, July 29th, at Snaith, near Goole. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained at the Crown and Bell Hotel. There are several hundreds of six-bell methods. Just look a few up and come along and practice them.—E. Cooper, Hon. Sec., 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Whitley Bay, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Tea will be served to those who notify me by Wednesday, 26th. All are welcome.—Jack Roach, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Nuns Moor Road, Newcastle.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Mapledurham on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) available from 3-9 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea at Mapledurham Lock 5.45 p.m. (1s. each). Bicycles can use the Warren Road. Motorcycles and cars must take the Woodcote Road. Please let me know by July 26th how many for tea.—E. G. Foster, 401, London Road, Reading.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Huntspill on Saturday, July 29th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.

—G. Evans, 17, Wellington Road, Bridgwater.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bridgnorth Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Claverley on Saturday, July 29th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, followed by meeting. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than July 27th.—H. G. Thomas, Hildon, Victoria Road, Bridgnorth.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—You are invited to attend the meeting at Abbots Langley on Saturday, July 29th. Bells open from 3.30. Tea at 5.30, Village Hall. Nearest station Kings Langley (1 mile). Buses from all parts to church. As arrangements have to be made for tea please let me know by 26th.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Dinder on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—W. H. Marsh, 4, Dove Cots, Street, Somerset.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Whittin (6), Saturday, July 29th. Kindly notify me for tea by Wednesday, July 26th.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—The ring of eight bells, restored by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated on Sunday, July 30th, at the 11 o'clock service. Preacher, the Archdeacon of Bedford. Ringing during the afternoon 3 to 4.30.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Clitheroe Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—August Bank Holiday.—Ringers' rally and convivial gathering, OPEN TO ALL RINGERS and their friends. Ideal spot for a Bank Holiday meeting. Frequent trains and buses; good going ring of 10 bells; park and gardens adjoining church. Bells available from 3 o'clock to 9 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea will be provided at The Duke's Head at 5.30 p.m. (ts. per head) for all those who notify Mr. Arthur Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, by Friday, Aug. 4th.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., Surrey Association, 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

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