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DEBENHAM TOWER

BY A ONE TIME RESIDENT

MANY ringers have praised the tone and 'go' of the ring of eight bells at Debenham, Suffolk, famous for long peals and gallant attempts. Few, however, know anything of the history of the ancient tower in which the bells are housed. Claude Morley, in his pamphlet, 'Debenham: its halls and antiquities,' bids his readers to take more than a glance at the church tower, which is the oldest thing standing above ground for miles around. According to archaeologists, three churches once stood in Debenham; now St. Mary's alone remains, standing on a small eminence set in the middle of a large depression in the surrounding countryside, so that all roads out of the village run uphill for a mile or two. Thus, according to Morley, the name Debenham is derived from an old Saxon word meaning 'in the deep hollow.'

The tower is built of local flint stones with no buttresses, but with long and short quoins at the corners, and it will be observed that those at the bottom are much longer, and older, than those farther up the corners; these older stones extend to about 30ft. from the ground. A small round-headed Saxon window in the south wall expands to a much larger opening inside the ringing room, which is on the ground floor. A similar window is directly above the first in the clock room stage of the tower, and a third in the east wall looking into the nave from the clock room. Between the ringing room and the nave is a large Saxon arch about 18ft. high, filled in with a wooden screen and doors giving access to the church. This screen is of special interest to ringers, being covered with peal boards. Morley states that this arch, the windows and the long and short stones before referred to can be dated not earlier than 860 A.D. and certainly not later than 980.

What happened to church and tower some seven centuries ago is not certain, but considerable rebuilding took place, as the chancel has 13th century work mixed with modern restoration. The nave is largely of the 14th century, and the Galilee porch and priest chamber above are different again and appear to be later still.

The upper part of the tower has also been rebuilt with the nave, for the belfry louvred windows are similar to the clerestory. In the 17th century lightning cracked two walls from the top and long iron rods were run through the walls across the interior to hold them together. Visitors

to Debenham soon notice the large iron S-shaped plates that disfigure the south and west walls near the top.

To ringers the bells and frame are of special interest. This frame was originally for five bells and was supported on long legs of oak that started from a heavy sill at ground level. In 1761 an eight-bell frame was substituted for the first one, but still resting upon the old 'stool' that had supported the old frame. The 'stool' was a very ancient structure and its timbers of large section had evidently come from some other large building, or, as the present writer conjectures, were remains from the original church roof, left over when the nave was rebuilt. Confirming this view are the various timbers pierced here and there with mortices and pin holes that had nothing to do with the purpose of serving as a bell frame support. Much of this is visible in the ringing room portion, which supports the clock chamber floor, as of yore.

In 1761 eight bells were installed, the metal for the extra three being obtained, it is said, from a church in Ashfield, a nearby village. Dr. Dove, a one time resident, conjectured in his history of Debenham, a manuscript still in the village, that these bells may have come from the old ruined tower that is still standing in the grounds of Thorpe Hall, a hamlet of Ashfield in bygone days. These eight bells did yeoman service, the 5th being recast in 1794 and, if legend has it right, was filled with ale before being hoisted into the tower, and presumably emptied too! The treble was recast in 1891.

The frame stood up to its task through many peals, including the 16,608 and at least two 10,000's, with countless touches. The old tenor, a beautiful bell, had a canon wrenched off by an unskilful hanger in the 1860's which caused the late Fred Day or his father, George Day, to rehang her with bolts through the crown, retaining the remaining canons. This probably saved the bell until the restoration of 1932, when cracks in the crown of the tenor and three other bells caused them to be recast, and with a general retuning produced the present glorious ring, surely one of the best blending of old and new that has ever been accomplished.

There is a legend that the old tenor was once rung to a peal by a murderer, but that is another story. In any case, some might say, in another sense, that many tenors have been rung by 'murderers.'

In the 1932 restoration, it was soon discovered that the old 'stool' was feeling the weight of its years, being badly

decayed in its upper members, so a clean sweep was made, the 'stool' being dismantled to the clock chamber floor, leaving the lower and now unimportant part, from the bell hanger's point of view, to remain for all to see what it had been above. A concrete roof had been put on the tower reinforced with rods to hold the top together, and it seems a pity that the ugly iron rods and plates were not removed from the walls at this time; instead another was added. The new steel frame was placed 14ft. lower than the old timber frame and made a great improvement, both to stability and sound.

A tale of woe had yet to come to the old tower. During the last war a land mine which fell in the vicinity shook everything in the district, and among the buildings which felt the shock was the church standing on its little hill 'in the deep hollow.' The fact that the peal boards fell off the tower screen shows the force of the concussion. For a time, however, nothing visible showed itself until a few years ago, when a distinct bulge appeared in the tower wall above the old Saxon arch, which also developed a crack in the drum of the arch. This was visible inside the church.

Early in the present year it was decided to investigate, largely at the instigation of the writer. Working on the bulge, builders soon found a mass of loose flints had fallen from the wall and the only remedy was to take down and rebuild the upper part of the ancient arch. The arch rings were found to be, not solid stone bonded through the wall, but separated by the wall thickness, about 4ft. This is probably due to the fact that no building stone exists in Suffolk, and in ancient times builders were obliged to use it sparingly. The majority of old Suffolk churches are thus built with local flint rubble, with the barest amount of block stone for angles, pillars, window and door jambs. Beautiful as the flint towers are, there is no doubt that the unbonded rubble necessitated very thick walls, and, even so, they are easily cracked, as can be seen in many of these towers.

Quite recently the writer had the pleasure of viewing the completed repairs, which entailed the use of much new stone in the ancient arch and girders in the wall above it to carry more effectively the great weight above. Fortunately the damage did not reach up to the bell frame height. Except for one or two occasions, Debenham's bells have been silent all this summer, but it should soon be possible, without damage to the new work, to ring them as before. The cost of these renovations is £1,000, and the writer hopes that any ringer having had the pleasure of ringing at Debenham will not leave without making a small contribution towards the fabric fund, and remember that the Vicar, the Rev. T. Musgrave Brown, never refuses the use of his bells, housed in a tower that had really done its duty centuries before they were cast.

QUARTER PEALS

ARRETON, I.O.W.—On July 19th. 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Yates 1, L. Bailey 2, R. Cheek 3, C. Champion (cond.) 4, J. Cheek 5, S. Moody 6. First quarter for 1, 3 and 5.

CLIFTON-UPON-TEME, WORCS.—On Aug. 4th. 1,260 Grandsire and Bob Doubles: Miss E. Yardley 1, Mrs. E. G. Lewis 2, P. Arrow-smith 3, J. Gilbert 4, E. G. Lewis (cond.) 5, A. Fuller 6. First quarter for all in two methods.

HOLLOWAY, LONDON.—On Aug. 3rd. at St. Mary Magdalene's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. A. Deverell 1, A. E. Hoare 2, E. F. Pryor 3, E. E. Pratchett 4, E. J. Rowe 5, D. H. Harman 6, R. H. Begrie (cond.) 7, H. W. Barnard 8. For the church's 138th anniversary.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

CANTERBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., August 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 47 Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITAN CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF 5280 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 32 cwt. 6 lb. in C.

MRS. P. J. STANFORTH Treble	† ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. 7
PETER J. STANFORTH .. 2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 8
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. 3	JOHN S. MASON .. 9
HAROLD J. POOLE .. 4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS .. 10
FRANK E. DARBY .. 5	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 11
* RICHARD E. PRICE .. 6	PHILIP A. CORBY .. Tenor

Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

* First peal of Surprise Maximus. † First peal of Maximus. First peal of Yorkshire Maximus in the county and for the Association.

TEN BELL PEAL

BECCLES, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb.

HENRY TOOKE Treble	ERNEST WHITING .. 6
MRS. EDITH K. FLETCHER .. 2	* GEORGE SAYER .. 7
MRS. OLIVE L. ROGERS .. 3	GEORGE W. FLETCHER .. 8
EDWIN R. GOATE .. 4	* CHARLES W. LOOME .. 9
NOLAN GOLDEN .. 5	HAROLD W. ROGERS .. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES SEDGLEY. Conducted by HAROLD W. ROGERS.

* First peal of Surprise Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 28, 1952, in 3 Hours,

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

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 5 lb. in A flat.

JOHN ANDERSON Treble	* ERIC N. HARRISON .. 5
MARGARET FIDELL .. 2	† KENNETH ARTHUR .. 6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. 3	HAROLD WALKER .. 7
JOHN WALDEN .. 4	DENIS A. BAYLES .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by DENIS A. BAYLES.

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

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Western Division).

On Tues., July 29, 1952, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. in F sharp.

BARRY SULLIVAN Treble	MARY SHEARSMITH .. 5
NORMA BICKERDIKE .. 2	GORDON BENFIELD .. 6
PATRICIA E. M. BARTON .. 3	JOHN W. GIBSON .. 7
MRS. MOLLY MARSH .. 4	JOHN AMBLER .. Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by PATRICIA E. M. BARTON.

Rung in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. William Barton.

HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Sheffield and District Society.)

On Wed., July 30, 1952, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. L. GILBERT Treble	JACK G. BROTHWELL .. 5
* ELISABETH BATE .. 2	FRANK REED .. 6
HERBERT E. TAYLOR .. 3	NORMAN CHADDOCK .. 7
JOHN H. BROTHWELL .. 4	JOHN E. TURLEY .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by JOHN E. TURLEY.

* First peal of Major 'inside.' A farewell peal to the ringer of the 6th. A birthday compliment to the Rector of Handsworth.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 30, 1952, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

CHARLES H. MOORE .. Treble	ARTHUR G. BASON .. 5
H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 2	BERT GOGLE .. 6
F. CHARLES GOODMAN .. 3	NOLAN GOLDEN .. 7
GEORGE SAYER .. 4	*FRANK V. GANT .. Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method.

WESTHOUGHTON, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 30, 1952, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Five-part.	Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.
ALBERT GREENHALGH .. Treble	FRED BROWNLOW .. 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. 2	JAMES GROUNDS .. 6
MURIEL REAY .. 3	JOHN ASHCROFT .. 7
ALAN PENDLEBURY .. 4	JOHN F. WOOD .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

HAWKLEY, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., August 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Pitstow's Variation of Thurstans' Four-part.	Tenor 10 cwt.
*RICHARD M. CURRIE .. Treble	*E. JOHN WELLS .. 5
CHARLES W. DENYER .. 2	*ROY COLLINS .. 6
RICHARD SMITH .. 3	WILLIAM J. PAICE .. 7
†JACK A. C. KING .. 4	†ROBERT W. POUND .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. PAICE.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal on eight bells. ‡ First peal. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

MARSHFIELD, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*RONALD C. LUCAS .. Treble	FREDERICK J. BAILEY .. 5
†JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. 2	ROBERT E. COLES .. 6
†YVONNE PORTER .. 3	†DAVID J. KING .. 7
†THOMAS YEOMAN .. 4	JACK R. WORRALL .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Kent Major. Specially arranged and rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Jack Hann and Miss Mary Richards, both very active church workers.

NORTHFLEET, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Sat., August 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Washbrook's Variation.	Tenor 16½ cwt.
*HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. Treble	STANLEY B. DOBBIE .. 5
GEORGE A. NAYLOR .. 2	GEORGE KENWARD .. 6
FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. 3	*GEORGE J. BUTCHER .. 7
ALBERT E. BEANEY .. 4	THOMAS E. TAYLOR .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.

* 100th peal together. 200th peal and 50th as conductor. Rung as a compliment to the Rev. D. G. Glanfield on his appointment as Vicar of Northfleet.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JAMES A. MILNER .. Treble	BARRY CORBISHLEY .. 5
JAMES FERNLEY .. 2	DEREK OGDEN .. 6
*MARJORIE LEGG .. 3	JAMES S. WEBB .. 7
BASIL JONES .. 4	JOHN WORTH .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Major.

TRURO, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., August 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUBY, KENWYN,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb.

*HENRY TAYSON .. Treble	JAMES P. BLOND .. 5
*MARION L. LIDGEY .. 2	A. HUBERT EPLETT .. 6
HARRY MILES .. 3	*ALAN CARVETH .. 7
GEOFFREY W. TAYSON .. 4	WALTER AYRE .. Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Major.

WHITTLESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt.

*THOMAS PALMER .. Treble	TREVOR A. BEVIS .. 5
WILLIAM SMITH .. 2	FRANK W. LACK .. 6
FRANK WARRINGTON .. 3	HERBERT GOAKES .. 7
JOHN BARRETT .. 4	FRANK H. NEWMAN .. Tenor

Composed and conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

* First peal, aged 66. Rung to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. James Oldfield. Mr. Oldfield and Mr. T. Palmer are churchwardens at this church.

BROMHAM, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., August 4, 1952, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OWEN,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt.

SYDNEY FOSKETT .. Treble	*C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. 5
FRANK WARRINGTON .. 2	LEONARD H. BOWLER .. 6
ROBERT M. BROOKER .. 3	BRYAN F. SIMS .. 7
G. HENRY DUNNINGTON .. 4	LEWIS H. BYWATERS .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

* 200th peal and 100th as conductor.

HEDON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1952, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Pitstow's Transposition. Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb.

CLEMENT GLENN .. Treble	LEONARD RODMELL .. 5
*PAT DUFFIELD .. 2	PHILIP H. SPECK .. 6
†C. THOMAS BARKER .. 3	CHARLES BARKER .. 7
†JOHN M. HARROP .. 4	RONALD DUCKER .. Tenor

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

HOWDEN, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1952, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5000 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

LEONARD RODMELL .. Treble	*†JOHN A. BROUGHTON .. 5
*C. THOMAS BARKER .. 2	PHILIP H. SPECK .. 6
CLEMENT GLENN .. 3	*RONALD DUCKER .. 7
*JOHN M. HARROP .. 4	CHARLES BARKER .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS.

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

* First peal in the method. † First on eight.

WALMER, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1952, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's 12 part. Tenor 18½ cwt.

*FREDERICK W. LAWRENCE Treble	†JOHN F. PENFOLD .. 5
*MYLES R. HAWKINS .. 2	GEORGE E. RUCK .. 6
FREDERICK A. RYE .. 3	FRANK B. LUFKIN .. 7
†ANN VINE .. 4	EDWARD A. DIXON .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Triples. Rung as a birthday compliment to H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, and a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Dixon on their 7th wedding anniversary.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., August 5, 1952, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 lb.

CHARLES A. BASSETT ..Treble	ROBERT COLLINS .. . 5
BERNARD V. COLLISON .. 2	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE 6
DORIS E. COLGATE .. 3	FRANK H. HICKS .. . 7
ARTHUR F. LEWRY .. 4	ERNEST J. LADD .. . Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by ERNEST J. LADD.

Charles A. Bassett has now completed the 'circle' at this tower.
 Rung on the birthday of the 7th and tenor ringers. Also a birthday compliment to Mrs. W. A. Kitchenside, and Miss Kitchenside on attaining her majority.

SIX BELL PEALS

WEOBLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., July 28, 1952, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Consisting of 4 Pitman's 240's, 4 Morris's 240's, 2 Price's 240's and 22 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

*DESMOND NEWMAN ..Treble	HARRY PRICE .. . 4
VICTOR RAWLINGS .. 2	THOMAS BOUND .. . 5
CHARLES WILLIAMS .. 3	REGINALD FARMER .. . Tenor

Conducted by HARRY PRICE.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss F. Greenwood and John Griffiths.

WHETSTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., July 29, 1952, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 1,440 Plain Bob (4 callings) and 3,600 Grandsire (10 callings). Tenor 8½ cwt. in A.

GEORGE H. WILKINS ..Treble	FREDERICK WATSON .. . 4
PETER J. THOMAS .. 2	KENNETH H. ROWLAND .. 5
GEORGE PICKERING .. 3	JOHN H. BURBAGE .. . Tenor

Conducted by PETER J. THOMAS.

HUNTINGDON.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 30, 1952, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different callings. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

FRANK WARRINGTON ..Treble	JOAN R. G. SPICER .. . 4
*MICHAEL DYER .. 2	FRANK W. LACK .. . 5
WALTER WHITEHEAD .. 3	HAROLD S. PEACOCK .. . Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

* First peal 'inside.' Rung with half-muffled clappers as a tribute of respect to Mr. Herbert Fields, for 14 years Hunts Branch ringing master.

SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

On Wed., July 30, 1952, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENIS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents each called differently.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in A.

DONALD H. METTAM ..Treble	HENRY P. COLLIN .. . 4
HARRY BARNES .. 2	BRYAN D. HILL .. . 5
WILLIAM H. DALE .. 3	JAMES H. MUSSON .. . Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

Rung with the best wishes of the company to Mr. Denis A. Frith, a ringer at the above church, and Miss Gillian Howard, whose wedding was solemnised in the afternoon. Also a 39th wedding anniversary peal for Mr. and Mrs. H. Baines, who hail from Stainton, Rotherham.

COALPIT HEATH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 31, 1952, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Consisting of seven different extents.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*CYRIL BATTEN ..Treble	P.C. WM. F. SCUDAMORE .. 4
RALPH E. SCUDAMORE .. 2	*RAYMOND WILLIAMS .. 5
HERBERT T. FERRIS .. 3	HARRY W. HOWARD .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

* First peal.

Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the 2nd on his recent installation as Master of St. David's Diocesan Guild.

WICKWAR, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., August 1, 1952, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Consisting of seven different extents.

Tenor 12 cwt.

DORIS SHEPPARD ..Treble	A. DOREEN EDWARDS .. 4
FREDERICK ROBERTS .. 2	LESLIE BARRY .. . 5
HORACE V. ROBINSON .. 3	HARRY W. HOWARD .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

CHURCH LAWFORD, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., August 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being five 120's each of Stedman, St. Nicholas', Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Old Bob, St. Simon's, April Day and Plain Bob, and seven 120's of Grandsire. Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb.

MALCOLM J. V. CHOWN ..Treble	†CLAUDE UNDERWOOD .. 4
*JOHN G. UNDERWOOD .. 2	ERNEST G. ORLAND .. 5
RONALD W. GIBBONS .. 3	ALBERT W. GIBBONS .. Tenor

Conducted by RONALD W. GIBBONS.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. First peal as conductor.

SHARESHILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 six scores, 11 different callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

*ERNEST STITCH ..Treble	*†J. NORMAN HADLEY .. 4
†JOHN H. GILBERT .. 2	HOWARD HOWELL .. 5
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 3	†MAURICE G. TURNER .. Tenor

Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* First peal of Stedman Doubles and completes Doubles to Cinques in the method. † First peal of Doubles and in the method. ‡ 100th peal together.

STOULTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND, KING AND MARTYR,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six scores, 10 callings.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

CHARLES CAMM ..Treble	DOREEN JOPP .. . 4
JOHN MOULE .. 2	ERNEST CUBBERLEY .. 5
ARTHUR JOPP .. 3	GEORGE MOORE .. . Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST CUBBERLEY.

Ad Gloriam Deo.

THURMASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat. Aug. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb.

*C. SHEILA M. PEARN ..Treble	†HATTY MOTTON .. . 4
MARY C. PAYNE .. 2	ERNEST F. PAYNE .. 5
GEOFFREY J. LOWE .. 3	B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. Tenor

Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. Rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Leader, married at this church.



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TRULL, SOMERSET
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.
GEORGE PERRY Treble | CYRIL J. STEPHENS 4
*GERALD A. UGLOW 2 | GORDON WALFORD 5
†ROBERT W. SHIRE 3 | WILLIAM G. GIGG Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM G. GIGG.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor 'inside.' The peal was arranged and rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. H. Churchill.

BATHFORD, BATH.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1952, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 10 cwt. 7 lb. in A flat.
WALTER STARR Treble | *SEALY S. WOODBURN 4
HAROLD L. PARFREY 2 | *TREVOR J. HAYWARD 5
PHILIP W. WEEKS 3 | ROGER O. FRY Tenor

Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

* First peal of Minor.

CHIPPING SODBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., August 4, 1952, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

MARY DREW Treble | CHARLES WATTS 4
A. DOREEN EDWARDS 2 | J. WALTER SMITH 5
CHARLES ROUSE 3 | HARRY W. HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

CHURCH EATON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1952, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITHA,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

In four methods, being one extent of London Surprise and two extents each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt.
CLIVE M. SMITH Treble | PETER BERESFORD 4
NEVILLE R. HOLLAND 2 | WALTER J. COPE 5
JOAN BERESFORD 3 | DENNIS BERESFORD Tenor

Conducted by DENNIS BERESFORD.

First peal of Treble Bob Minor in four methods as conductor. First peal of Treble Bob Minor in four methods on the bells. Rung in honour of the birthday of the Queen Mother.

DEVYNOCK, BRECONSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1952, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CYNOG.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being five 240's and 32 six scores. Tenor 14½ cwt.
DAVID J. LEWIS Treble | J. ARTHUR HOARE 4
JOHN T. WILLIAMS 2 | GWYN I. LEWIS 5
ALFRED HANNINGTON 3 | EDMUND MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

Believed to be the first peal on the bells.

GNOSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1952, in 3 Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In five methods, being one extent each of Double Court, Oxford Bob and Kent Treble Bob, with two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt.

CLIVE M. SMITH Treble | *NEVILLE R. HOLLAND 4
JOAN BERESFORD 2 | WALTER J. COPE 5
PETER BERESFORD 3 | DENNIS BERESFORD Tenor

Conducted by DENNIS BERESFORD.

* First peal of Minor in five methods. First peal of Minor in five methods as conductor. First peal in five methods on the bells. Rung in honour of the birthday of the Queen Mother.



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CROYDON



FOR BEGINNERS—AND A WORD TO THE OLDER HANDS

VII.—TRY TREBLE BOB

There are always a number of six-bell ringers who, either by lack of opportunity or want of initiative, seem to stick at Bob Minor. They seldom go to other towers, and if they do are not prepared to try anything beyond what they already know; indeed, it is often because their knowledge is so restricted that they will not go to other towers for fear of showing up their limitations.

Well, this inferiority complex is all wrong. It discourages effort to make progress. There are lots of things that Bob Minor ringers could ring, with very little difficulty, if they would put their minds to it, but steps in ringing seem to be standardised to some extent, and the next step to Bob Minor, in six-bell ringing, is usually Treble Bob.

The man who can ring an inside bell to Plain Minor should be able with very little study to ring Treble Bob. When ringing the plain method he knows how to dodge in 3-4 or 5-6 when he comes to the proper positions; he knows, also, how to lead and make 2nds place.

If he wants to ring Treble Bob—and no one should stagnate on Bob Minor—this knowledge can be usefully applied, and can form the basis of the new work.

In Plain Bob the dodging comes once in every lead; in Treble Bob there is a continuous succession of dodges. In a sense, therefore, the dodging is easier, because instead of having to find the right position once every lead, in Treble Bob you just dodge in every dodging place, as you come to it—what you really have to learn is when NOT to dodge.

A dodge in Treble Bob is exactly the same as a dodge in Plain Bob, that is you go back one step, when you reach 4ths or 6ths going up, and 5ths and 3rds coming down. In certain circumstances also, you dodge in 1-2, or 'on the front' as it is sometimes called.

If you are practising Treble Bob as a band of beginners it is not a bad thing to grasp the general idea by ringing a 'dodging lead.' You may, perhaps, have got your first ideas of Plain Bob by ringing a 'plain hunting course'; apply this to the Treble Bob principle. All the bells (treble included) dodge in every dodging place as they come to it. The treble, for example, begins by dodging in 1-2 up, then in 3-4 up then in 5-6 up, before lying a whole pull behind; then in 6-5 down, 4-3 down and 2-1 down before leading a whole pull. The other bells do the same from their respective positions, the 'odd' bells (3 and 5) going up and 'even' bells (2, 4 and 6) down. This 'dodging' lead will give a repetition of changes, but for the purpose of practice it will not matter; it will teach you how to find your way from one dodge to the next.

The easiest of the Treble Bob methods to ring is Kent. It is produced by two deviations from the continuous dodging which you had in the 'dodging lead': one is that a bell stays 'on the front,' alternately leading a whole pull and lying a whole pull in 2nd's place, from the time the treble goes away from its dodge in 1-2 until it returns to dodge in 2-1. The other deviation is that, while the treble is 'on the front' (dodging down in 2-1 and then, after leading, up in 1-2), the two pairs of bells which come together in 3-4 make places instead of dodging; the bells going up making 3rds and 4ths, and the bells going down making corresponding places in 4ths and 3rds.

To begin with it may be as well to remember that the places down are made after dodging 5-6 up with the treble, or passing the treble in 4-5. The places up are made after passing the treble in 2-3 or dodging with the treble in 1-2 up—this latter you do after you come out

of the 'slow work,' as the alternate leading and 2nd's place-making is called.

And one other thing. The slow work prevents any dodging on the front except with the treble, so that after dodging in 4-3 each bell goes straight to lead and straight out to 3-4.

All this may seem rather a lot to remember, but we have gone into some detail with the explanation because we want you to understand how the method is made up. Try and write out a lead or two to see how it goes. Here is half a lead to give you a start:—

1	2	3	4	5	6
2	1	3	4	5	6
1	2	4	3	5	6
2	1	4	3	5	6
2	4	1	6	3	5
4	2	6	1	5	3
4	2	6	1	5	3
2	4	6	1	5	3
2	6	4	5	1	3
6	2	5	4	3	1
6	2	5	4	3	1

Briefly put, the rules for ringing the method are: When you dodge in 2-1 with the treble, stay in the 'slow' until the treble returns to you. Then, having dodged with the treble in 1-2, make 3rds and 4ths going out.

In the next lead, pass the treble in 2-3, and again make 3rds and 4ths. Except for this always dodge in 3-4 and 5-6 both up and down until you pass the treble in 4-5, then make 4ths and 3rds coming in; and again in the next lead, having dodged in 5-6 up with the treble, make 4ths and 3rds, which brings you to dodge on the front with the treble and so into the 'slow.'

There is NO dodging in 1-2 except with the treble. The places in 3-4 are made the 'wrong way,' that is backstroke and handstroke.

5,184 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

By D. W. BEARD

I.

M	W	H	23456	
3	1	1	45236	L B B Y L
2	1	2	64352	L B X R B
1	2	2	52436	L X B R B
1	2	2	36245	L X B R B
1	2	1	56423	R X B L
1	1	1	32465	R Y L

Five times repeated, omitting H in 5th course in alternate parts.

II. (Reversed)

M	W	H	23456	
2	1	2	62534	L B X R B
2	1	2	46325	R B X L B
2	1	2	54263	R B X L B
1	2	1	34625	R X B L
1	3	1	56423	L Y B B L
1	1	1	32465	L Y R

Five times repeated, omitting H in 6th course in alternate parts.

First rung at Harlow Common, Essex, on May 10th, 1952. Conducted by the composer.

PRESTBURY BELLS SILENT

There will be no more ringing at Prestbury, Glos., until the bells have been rehung. It is hoped that the work will be ordered to be done by the Church Council soon. The ringers have already raised nearly £130 towards the cost by their own efforts.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World,'
August 16th, 1912

CAMBRIDGE

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD
On Wednesday, August 7, 1912, in 2 hours and 55 minutes.

In the President's Rooms, Trinity College.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS

5,057 changes

Rev. A. H. F. Boughey	1-2
Rev. E. Banks James	3-4
Rev. H. S. T. Richardson	5-6
Rev. H. Law James	7-8
Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake	9-10

Composed by J. Carter. Conducted by Rev. H. S. T. Richardson
The first clerical peal on handbells.

CAMBRIDGE

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD
On Thursday, August 8, 1912, in 2 hours and 25 minutes.

In the President's Rooms, Trinity College.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT
BOB MAJOR, 5,024 changes

Rev. A. H. F. Boughey	1-2
Rev. H. S. T. Richardson	3-4
Rev. E. Banks James	5-6
Rev. H. Law James	7-8

Composed and conducted by Rev. H. Law James,
The first clerical peal of Major on handbells.

[A leading article congratulated the participants and referred to the increasing amount of handbell peal-ringing then being performed.]

BELL FEVER

(A Beginner's Soliloquy)

I must go down to the lead again,
When I've had my two blows behind,
And all I ask is that when I hunt up,
I shan't lose my presence of mind,
And a slower beat, and a firmer pull,
While I pass the treble two-three,
And a four-five dodge up with the third at the back,
And then only plain hunting for me.

I must go down to the lead again,
(Or at least, have a jolly good try!)
But 'Bob' comes the cry of the captain,
I tremble, and heave a sigh,
I sweat and make thirds and lead again,
And hurrah—I've done the deed!
Then a slow hunt up to the back again,
When the treble turns me from lead.

I must go down to the lead again,
(But by this time I cannot tell why)
Four Bobs and a Single!—I'm hopelessly lost.

And it's practically useless to try.
I've lead and made thirds, hunted up, hunted down.

Passed the treble four-five and two-three.
And I've tried to dodge, Lord knows how many times;

Only nobody dodges with me.

No more will I go down to the lead again,
(Blow, that blister has burst on my hand!)
Just a dodge with the fifth when the Single's called.

And then comes that blessed word 'Stand!'
Then all I ask is some peace and quiet,
And a prayer that I may recover,
And dreams unhaunted by dodges and bobs.
When this course of Grandsire's over.

ROSEMARY LURCOCK.
(From 'The Belfry')

As our peal columns show, Mr. H. Howard, of Davenham, Northwich, had a peal-ringing holiday in Gloucestershire. Through the 'Ringing World' he desires to thank all those who made his holiday such a pleasant one.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On July 29th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Valerie Mephram (first of Minor) 1, Mary W. Brown 2, Wendy E. Turnbull (first of Minor 'inside') 3, B. K. Turnbull 4, H. W. Brown 5, S. W. Brown (cond.) 6. First of Plain Bob Minor by all. Rung by the local band as a farewell to the Turnbull family.

BURES, SUFFOLK.—On Aug. 1st, 1,256 Little Bob Major: S. T. Hume 1, D. L. Mills 2, Mrs. L. D. Mills 3, A. W. Cansdale 4, C. Bower 5, J. Pell 6, L. D. Mills 7, E. C. Hynard (cond.) 8. All local ringers. First in method 1, 2, 5, 6, 8. A wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Mills.

CHERITON, KENT.—On July 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss R. P. Longhurst 1, M. J. Martin 2, G. F. Gray 3, C. A. Wratten (cond.) 4, J. Chittenden 5, E. J. Walker 6.

COPPULL, LANCS.—On Aug. 2nd, 1,440 Cambridge Minor: Roger Leigh 1, Ian Jones 2, James Blackburn 3, Thomas Barker (cond.) 4, John Charnock 5, Arthur Hatch 6. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Joyce Constance Howcroft to Graham Carpenter, a former ringer at this tower.

CRANFORD, MIDD.—On July 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Marian A. Edwards (first quarter) 1, M. V. Chilcott 2, J. Chilcott (cond.) 3, D. Fowles (first of Grandsire) 4, W. H. Coles 5, Barbara Thrush 6. Rung for the consecration of the Rev. Humphrey Beevor, M.A., as Bishop of Lebombo.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.—On Aug. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: N. J. Fleetwood 1, J. Armstrong (cond.) 2, Miss R. L. Hopkins 3, Miss D. J. Fleetwood 4, A. C. Chaplin 5, R. J. Funnell 6, J. R. Fleetwood 7, L. J. Woods 8. First in method for 1 and 8. Rung as a token of respect to the Vicar, the Rev. H. Siviter, who was interred earlier in the day.

DAYBROOK, NOTTS.—On Aug. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original): H. Cawthorne 1, Joan Hoodless (first quarter 'inside') 2, B. M. Buswell (cond.) 3, A. Simpson (first quarter) 4, J. Troughton 5, E. Clemence 6, P. A. Preston 7, W. Perkins 8.

FAIRFORD, GLOS.—On July 27th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: G. Freebrey 1, Miss J. Morse 2, Miss E. Morse 3, R. Wenban 4, W. Godwin (cond.) 5, G. Burge 6. First quarter of Stedman Doubles for 2 and 4.

HALIFAX, YORKS.—On July 31st, at All Souls', Haley Hill, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: K. Palmer (first quarter) 1, J. F. Bryant (first quarter 'inside') 2, H. Brown 3, C. Sweeney 4, R. Beaumont 5, J. H. Fielden 6, G. F. Bryant 7, R. E. Mould (first quarter as cond.) 8.

KINGTON MAGNA, DORSET.—On June 28th, 1,260 Doubles (being 600 Plain Bob and 660 Grandsire): Miss G. I. Edwards 1, Mrs. M. M. Godley 2, W. A. Damen 3, H. J. Ralph 4, W. C. Shute (cond.) 5. Rung in honour of the 50th anniversary of the ordination of the Rector (the Rev. F. L. Edwards).

LAMBETH, LONDON.—At St. Mary's on August 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. J. Rowe 1, T. H. Taffender 2, Miss M. J. Freer 3, C. A. Hughes 4, N. G. Hollingworth (cond.) 5, G. W. Frayne 6, C. W. Ottley 7, F. R. L. Blewer 8.

NEWINGTON (FOLKESTONE), KENT.—On July 26th, 1,260 Doubles (720 Plain Bob, 540 Grandsire): Miss R. P. Longhurst 1, G. F. Gray 2, C. A. Wratten (cond.) 3, J. Chittenden (first in two methods) 4, E. J. Walker 5, M. J. Martin 6.—Also, on July 28th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: M. J. Martin 1, W. C. Chandler 2, F. W. Garner 3, C. A. Wratten 4, F. C. W. Knight 5, P. N. Bond (cond.) 6.

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.—On July 27th, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: H. Wymark 1, V. Ambrose 2, F. Hunt 3, F. Day (cond.) 4, W. Shorter 5, V. Chambers 6.

ROADE, NORTHANTS.—On July 31st, 1,260 Doubles (300 St. Simon's and 240 each of Reverse St. Bartholomew, Old Bob, April Day and Plain Bob): H. Myatt 1, K. Perkins 2, T. Baker 3, A. Cozens 4, I. Dickin (cond.) 5. Rung to mark the completion of the installation of the new treble.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—At St. Peter's on July 27th, 1,287 Stedman Caters: D. G. Clift 1, C. F. Sayer 2, T. J. Southam 3, M. Horsman (first on ten) 4, H. G. Mason 5, D. Yoe 6, W. J. Southam 7, L. Derrick 8, G. W. Debenham (cond.) 9, M. Webb 10.

ST. IVES, HUNTS.—On July 28th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: F. Warrington (cond.) 1, H. S. Peacock 2, A. Clements 3, C. H. Harding 4, W. Ransom 5, F. W. Lack 6, S. Gilbert 7, G. H. Dunnington 8. Rung half-muffled. Mr. H. Fields, R.I.P.

STOKE GOLDINGTON, BUCKS.—On Aug. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Whiting 1, E. Shouler 2, R. Croot 3, F. Stanton 4, O. G. Warren (cond.) 5, E. Carrol 6. Rung to celebrate the 85th birthday of Mr. W. Pallet, 56 years a ringer at this tower.

UPWEY, DORSET.—On Aug. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: I. J. Cordier 1, H. J. Gladwyn 2, B. J. Dyke 3, J. Coombes 4, H. J. Ford (cond.) 5, C. G. J. Ford 6.

WALTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY.—On July 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Cave 1, R. Lathbury (cond.) 2, Miss J. Smith 3, Mrs. V. Lathbury 4, L. Houghton 5, G. Curtis 6, G. Barnett 7, W. Alderton 8. For the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Oatlands Park, and a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Joyce Curtiss, daughter of the ringer of the sixth.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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HOLIDAY COPIES

Will postal subscribers going on holiday please
send their temporary address to the Editor of
'The Ringing World' if they require their
copies forwarded to them. They should be
received on the Monday previous to the date
of issue.

It was a great day for
ringing at Marshfield on
August 2nd when Miss
Mary Richards, a ringer and deputy organist,
was married to Mr. Jack Hann, a fellow-mem-
ber of the choir. Practically all who took
part in the service were ringers, including the
Vicar (the Rev. R. E. L. Jones), the organist,
the bride's brother, who gave her away, and
the bride's sister, who was one of the brides-
maids.

Ringing took place before and after the ser-
vice and the band was invited to the reception.
Before leaving the convivial gathering with re-
luctance, to attempt a peal, a course of Grand-
sire Triples was rung on handbells, which was
greatly appreciated by the guests.

Despite the conductor (Mr. Jack R. Worrall)
having snatched but three hours' sleep between
returning from a 24-hour shift at a local steel
works where he is temporarily employed and
going to the church, a very good peal of Kent
Treble Bob Major was rung. After the peal
the band were kindly entertained to tea by the
bride's parents.

Will the reader who has the manuscript of
'Carol Tunes on Eight Handbells' please re-
turn the same to the Editor without delay?
We have still a long list of readers anxious to
copy the same.

Northfleet, Kent, has now a ringing Vicar.
He is the Rev. D. C. Glanfield, who was
curate at Northfleet prior to the war and there
learnt to handle a bell. During the war years
he saw service as a war chaplain. Mr. Glan-
field is now picking up the threads of ringing.

One never knows who may be listening. At
St. Ives, Hunts, within three minutes of finish-
ing a quarter peal of Cambridge on July 28th,
Mr. E. C. Jeffries, of Bedford, walked into the
church and handed the conductor the correct
lead-ends of the ringing.

BELFRY GOSSIP

By kind permission of the
Dean and Chapter and
through the courtesy of the
local ringers, twelve visitors were privileged to
ring a peal of Yorkshire Maximus at Canter-
bury Cathedral on August 2nd. The peal is
the first on the bells since they were rehung and
the tenor recast by Messrs. Mears and Stain-
bank. None of the band had previously rung
a peal in the tower. The ringers were hos-
pitably received by Mr. J. W. Unwin, who es-
corted them to the tower, locked them in and
kept watch and ward against would-be intruders
throughout the peal. It was the first peal of
Yorkshire Maximus in the county and for the
Kent County Association.

Miss Patricia M. Clarke, of the Suffolk
Guild, has rung peals of Minor in one to seven
methods.

Mr. W. H. Male, of Warwick, has again
tapped 'Holt's Original' on his chime of bells.
This was on July 28th, in 3 hours. On
October 13th he tapped 'Holt's Ten Part' in 2
hours and 59 minutes. These peals were ac-
complished without manuscript or figures as a
guide, and witnessed by T. Male.

Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, hon. librarian to the
Central Council, writes asking to be spared,
during his holidays, from orders for Central
Council publications between August 10th and
September 10th. He will, however, have with
him a supply of the Major methods (Plain) and
will be pleased to execute orders for these.

The peal at Trull, Somerset, on August 2nd,
was arranged and rung as a silver wedding
compliment to Mr. and Mrs. H. Churchill.
Mr. Churchill serves the church in a dual
capacity at Trull as churchwarden and captain
of the ringers. After the peal the ringers were
entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Churchill,
a gesture which was much appreciated after a
very warm afternoon's ringing.

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AN EAST ANGLIAN TOUR

Memories of Tall Towers and Kind-Hearted Ringers

THE morning of Saturday, July 19th, saw three Ford cars and one motor-cycle heading towards Norwich carrying seven members of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild and three members of the Coventry Diocesan Guild to begin a week's tour of East Anglia.

The first tower was Swaffham (8, 15½ cwt.) where, despite the go of the tenor we rang Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major. From Swaffham to East Dereham (8, 23½ cwt.) with the detached bell tower and a good octave hung anti-clockwise. Here the Davenry people felt quite at home and some good striking in the standard methods resulted.

Having 'broken ourselves in,' we went on to Norwich, arriving at the week's 'head-quarters,' St. Lucia Hotel, at Thorpe, at 5 p.m. The evening was spent in discovering the 'inns and outs' of the neighbourhood!!

On Sunday morning Mr. Goodman was waiting to receive some of us at St. John-de-Sepulchre (8, 10 cwt.) whilst others joined the band at St. Giles-on-the-Hill. Afterwards we all attended the Cathedral for the privilege of hearing the Precentor and the choir sing the Eucharist.

By kind invitation of the Vicar, we rang at St. George's Collegiate for evensong. It was here that we first met David Heighton, who, being on holiday, was promptly enrolled as the eleventh member of the party. Ringing at St. George's consisted of Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise.

'IN BROADLAND'

The first tower on Monday was Blofield (6, 17½ cwt.) where the fifth requires a 'bit of ringing.' Then to Ranworth (6, 12½ cwt.) with the Church of St. Helen standing on a small hill overlooking the neighbouring broad. From the top of the tall tower a fine view was obtained of yachts and cruisers along several miles of the rivers Bure and Aat. The church itself contains a well-preserved chancel screen, reputed to be one of the best examples in the country; also, in the priest's room, can be seen a priceless antiphonal—a book written and illuminated in colours which are as brilliant to-day as when painted centuries ago by the monks of nearby St. Benet's Abbey. We were met by the Vicar and Mr. Ford, and our only regret was that our stay in this charming village was so short, but ringing made time-tables decree that we must be on time and a move was made to Wroxham (6, 9½ cwt.), 'The Capital of Broadland.' Here we rang Double Oxford, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. A break was made for lunch at the King's Head.

TWO DISAPPOINTMENTS

The first tower after lunch should have been Coltishall, but owing to the state of the tower the bells were not available. After an unsuccessful attempt to obtain Ludham bells, we journeyed to Scottow (6, 10½ cwt.). On this fine six we rang, amongst other methods, Double Court and St. Clement's. After ringing at Buxton (6, 12½ cwt.), where the tenor needed 'ringing,' and Stratton Strawless (6, 12 cwt.), we were kindly entertained to tea by Col. Shaw at Scottow Hall.

Having had a day of 'sixes' on Monday, three eights were scheduled for Tuesday, and at the first, Hethersett, we made the biggest mistake of the tour by arriving late, and thus curtailing the ringing on what surely is one of the finest of the light eights anywhere. We arrived at Wymondham (8, 25½ cwt.) on time, and crawled up those 92 steps to the ringing chamber to find an octave which refused to be hurried. Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung and duly entered in the tower records.

THE 'FALL' AT ATTLEBOROUGH

The last tower of the morning was Attleborough (6, 16 cwt.). The tower here is at the east end of the church and access to the ringing chamber is by a steep and narrow stairway. After some good ringing, Eric Nobles led the 'fall'—further than intended, ending on the floor with the treble rope on top of him. This was very amusing for those watching but very painful for the victim. After lunch a trip was made to Caston (6, 8½ cwt.) where, through the good offices of David Heighton, we obtained permission to ring. These handy little bells were rung to Plain Bob, Little Bob and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. A hurried call was made at Hingham, but the Vicar, who was out visiting, could not be found, so we drew a blank. A journey across country brought us to Bunwell (6, 10 cwt.), the special methods here being Childwall, which was accomplished, and Reverse Stedman Doubles, which was not. On the way back to headquarters a visit was paid to the famous eight at St. Michael-at-Coslany, Norwich (14 cwt.), with its many peal boards recording great deeds of former days, and if our efforts did not deserve such commemoration, they were quite up to standard.

On our ringing tours we arrange that Wednesday is the day 'off,' only one tower being arranged, in this case Acle (6, 9½ cwt.). This church possesses a round tower obviously not strong enough to support a ring of bells, so the bell frame is built up from the ground inside the tower. All this, however, does not effect the 'go' which is very good indeed. Here the 'new methods' man (V. Perry) excelled himself and the band obliged by ringing Double Bob, College Single Reverse and Crayford Little Court, but 'fell down' on Brentford Bob.

The 'Call of the Sea' grew stronger, and a course was set for the coast and we soon found ourselves at Winterton, where the sight of the fine tower, 134 feet high, was too much for some members of the party and after consulting Mr. Dove's book, a visit was made to the Vicarage, with the result that the ring of six (7½ cwt.) was soon going to Plain Bob and Kent, and to end a short ring, a touch of Double Grandsire Doubles. The remainder of the day was spent on the beach, and in the evening a trip was made to Yarmouth.

RAVENINGHAM SLOW COURSE

Making a fresh start on Thursday we travelled south to Loddon (8, 11 cwt.) a ring which really needs striking: here the four standard methods were rung with varying success. The next tower was Norton Subcourse (6, 10 cwt.) where Cambridge just would not go, which was our fault and not the bells. The last tower of the morning was the only five in the programme, Raveningham (8 cwt.), another round tower, which is a little out of the vertical. What method could we ring here but Nolan Golden's 'Raveningham Slow Course' 120 being brought round in good style.

Lunch was taken in Beccles, and afterwards the ring of ten at the Parish Church (25½ cwt.) in their detached bell tower were rung to Grandsire and Stedman Caters and three leads of Treble Bob Major. We were not however, allowed to leave before giving all the facts to the local newspaper reporter. Imagine the writer's surprise when arriving home on Saturday to find his conversation with this gentleman faithfully reported in a Northampton paper: such is the power of the Press!

The next tower on the list was Bungay (8, 16½ cwt.). Here we were greeted by the Vicar with the news that his first grandchild had been born that day; we celebrated the occasion with the appropriate touch of Grandsire Triples. This ringing chamber has a good selection of peal boards recording the great deeds of Samuel Thurston in no uncertain terms, the boards themselves being presented by—Samuel Thurston.

ST. PETER MANCROFT

A call was made at the pleasant village of Ditchingham (6, 12½ cwt.) and on this fine six methods rung for the first time were Wavertree College Bob and Double Stedman Minor. Ringing in the evening was at the Church of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich (37½ cwt.), our only regret being that owing to insufficient ringers we were unable to hear the twelve, but rounds on ten, Bob Major on the back eight and Grandsire on the 'Gabriel eight' sufficed to show us what a magnificent twelve they are, set in a tower with long associations with the art, containing, as it does, the peal board recording the first peal ever rung.

On Friday morning we set out for Pulham, and at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene a good eight (13½ cwt.) was soon going to Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major, and afterwards a course each of Oxford Bob and St. Clement's Triples.

At Pulham St. Mary-the-Virgin (8, 14 cwt.) there is a ringing chamber approached by a long wooden staircase inside the church; Bob Major, Stedman and Duffield went well here. After lunch we rang an two magnificent eights—Redenhall (24 cwt.) and Diss (23½ cwt.); at both we rang the four standard methods. The last tower was Mulbarton (6, 8½ cwt.), where we were met by the Vicar. The Rev. A. St. J. Heard, who is the president of the Norwich Diocesan Association. Here a touch of Oxford Bob brought our total of Minor methods rung to 15.

Dinner that evening was graced by the presence of the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow and David Heighton. The worthy cleric arrived with a good supply of literature, several copies of which changed hands during the evening, and it is reported that the reverend gentleman travelled to London the following day on the proceeds!

Our way back on Saturday morning was via Newmarket where the six at St. Mary's (21 cwt.) provided good ringing for an hour.

Our memories of Norfolk are of tall towers and kind-hearted ringers who everywhere gave us a warm welcome to their towers, and, above all, the excellent arrangements made for us by Mr. Nolan Golden, for which we are very grateful.

E. G. ORLAND.

BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY

The August meeting at Sandal near Wakefield, was well attended, ringers coming from towers covering a large area. The following towers were represented: Brighouse, Cawthorne, Crofton, Darfield, Earlsheaton, Elland, Falkirk, Handsworth, Liversedge, Pudsey, Rothwell, Shelley, Thorner, Leeds Parish, St. Michael's, Headingley, Leeds, Sherburn-in-Elmet and the local company. There were also welcome visitors from North Notts, Leicestershire and Devon.

Ringling commenced about 2.30 p.m. and tea was served at a nearby cafe at 5 p.m. The business meeting was held in the Parochial Hall, the Vicar, the Rev. F. H. Outram, presiding, supported by the president. Two new members were elected—Mr. H. Denman, of North Notts, as a life member, and Mr. P. Fawcett of Darfield, as a ringing member.

Arrangements were made for the cup contest to be held at Barnsley on September 13th and the annual dinner also to be held at Barnsley on October 11th. Both these functions will take the place of the usual monthly meetings. The usual votes of thanks to all concerned brought the meeting to a close.

Further ringing followed until 8.30 p.m., good use being made of the bells during the afternoon and evening. A good variety of methods was rung ranging from Stedman Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Minor. Time to depart came too soon, thus bringing to a close a very happy and successful meeting.

BELLS IN ENGLISH LIFE

By ERNEST MORRIS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 476)

ANOTHER secular use for church bells must be mentioned—and that is their employment to rouse the citizens in case of danger, especially to give warning of fire. The accepted way of ringing at such times was to ring backwards. Thus were they rung at Barrow-on-Soar, Leics., and at Peterborough.

'When backwards rung we tell of fire,
Think how the world shall thus expire.'

This is inscribed on the seventh bell at St. Ives, Hunts. In pre-telephone days this was undoubtedly an excellent method of notifying the inhabitants of the impending danger to life and property. Ordinarily, 'when bells ring round, and in their order be' (as an old rhyme has it), they strike in strict rotation from the smallest (highest note) to the largest (lowest note), and we can well imagine the bustle and stir created when the villagers heard the bells ring out in the reversed order. Allusion to this custom is made in an old play, 'The City March':—

'Then, sir, in time you may be remembered
at the quenching of fir'd houses, when the
bells ring backwards, by your name upon the
buckets.'

It may not be amiss to give an explanation from Sir Walter Scott describing in Chapter XVIII. of 'The Fair Maid of Perth,' the excitement due to the supposed misadventure of Hal of the Wynd. He thus writes:—'One or two neighbouring steeples of which the enraged citizens possessed themselves, either by consent of the priests or in spite of their opposition, began to ring out ominous alarm notes, in which, as the ordinary succession of chimes were reversed, the bells were said to be rung backwards.' Sir W. Scott has other references—thus

'Dundee he is mounted, he rides up the
street,
The bells are rung backwards; the drums
they are beat.

But the Provost, douce man, said "Just
e'en let him be,

The gude town is weal quit of that Deil
of Dundee."

('The Doom of Devorgoil.' Act II., Sc. 2).

'The Castle Bell, with backward clang,
Let forth the 'larum peal.'

('Lay of the Last Minstrel.' Canto 3, xxx).

On Luke 21-26, John Trapp has this comment:—

'What marvel though wicked men be dis-
pirited and even ring their bells backward when
they shall see all on a light fire.'

NOT A MUFFLED PEAL

Brewster's 'Dictionary of Phrase and Fable' points out that 'bells were rung backwards—a muffled peal—to indicate sorrow—the opposite of joy, or in olden times as a notice of danger, as in the mention in Scott's novel, 'The Betrothed' (chap. III.).' This is surely a mistake to call it a 'muffled' peal, for whatever meaning may attach to the phrase in a modern belfry, does it seem probable that originally it implied ringing the bells in reverse order to the usual one, i.e., from tenor up to the treble. Such a peal would have a singular startling effect, which is just what a fire alarm aims at.

In Thomas Fuller's 'Profane State' which follows his 'Holy State' is the following:—

'Thus the Barretour posts to the houses
of his neighbours lest the sparks of their
small discords should go out before he
brings them fuel, and so he be broken by
their making up. Surely he loves not to have
the bells rung in a peal, but likes it rather
when they are jangled backwards, himself

having knowled the fire of dissension
amongst his neighbours.'

In some cases a single bell was rung as an alarm in case of fire. At Barkston, Hale Magna and Thornton-le-Moor, Lincs, they rang the treble; at Walton, Northants, it was the 3rd bell; at Finedon the 5th; at Culworth the tenor. Sometimes two bells were rung as at Caythorpe, Lincs (1st and 2nd), at Caistor, Market Rasen, Swineshead and Louth they rang the treble and tenor. At the Guild Chapel, Stratford-on-Avon, the Great and Small bells, and at Sutton, Lincs, the Priest's bell and the tenor.

One of the original ten at Coventry bore the inscription:—

'I am, and have been called the common
bell

To ring when fire breaks out to tell.'

Other instances occur, the most notable at Sherborne Abbey, Dorset:—

'Lord, quench this furious flame,
Arise, run, help, put out the same.

J. W. I.C. 1652.'

ROLAND OF GHENT

The famous alarm bell in the belfry tower of the once powerful city of Ghent has this:—

'My name is Roland: When I toll there
is fire.

And when I ring there is victory in the
land.'

At St. Peter at Arches, Lincoln, the priest's bell is called the fire bell; so, too, is the now disused priest's bell at Higham Ferrers, Northants. At Horncastle and St. John-the-Baptist's, Peterborough, a similar bell was rung in case of fire. At Sleaford they rang a small bell which now hangs in a canopied niche on the west front of the south aisle, and which may possibly have belonged to a chapel of a local Guild.

'JANGLED THE BELLS'

At Swaton, Lincs, and formerly at Stamford, they jangled the bells in case of fire. Bishop Hall, 'Occasional Meditations,' LXXX., refers to this custom when he says: 'So when we would signify that the town is on fire we ring confusedly.' As St. Mary's, Warwick, there is a small disused bell dated 1670 which is called the Fire Bell: at St. Albans and at Hoddesdon, Herts, the town clock bell was used in case of fire: while at Great Missenden, Bucks, the fire bell did not hang in the church tower but on the wall of the Red Lion Inn, where its clanging noise used to summon forth the local brigade to their fire-fighting duties.

LOYAL PEALS

We shall soon be thinking of the Coronation peals, and in this connection it is interesting to note that these are twice noted by Shakespeare, thus:—

'And bid the merry bells to ring in thine ear
That thou art crowned.'

(Henry IV., Part II., Act IV., Sc. 4.)

'Bull-calf . . . A cough Sir, what I caught
with ringing in the King's affairs upon his
Coronation day, Sir.'

(Ibid, Act III., Sc. 2.)

Such peals are often referred to in churchwardens' accounts. At St. Mary-at-Hill, London, was:—

'1509 Paid to sevn men that rong the
bellis when the Kingis grace went to
Westmyster to be crownyd, 1s.'

The accounts of Wakefield allude to the Coronation of King Charles I.:—

'1624 Item at the first ringinge for the Kinge,
and other things at that tyme — 0. 2. 2.'

It is not a little remarkable that the bells of Newbury, Berks (as proved by the parish accounts), rang for the anniversary of that ill-fated King's accession throughout the time of the Civil War, the last entry being only the year before his death, and despite the fact that Cromwellian forces occupied the town, and Presbyterian ministers the pulpit of the church. The execution of the King was also commemorated in the loyal town of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and at Colne, in 1710, they expended 1s. for 'ringing on ye martyrdom of King Charles.' At St. Giles', Northampton, we find in the 1630 accounts:—

'Spent of ye ringers when ye prince was
borne. 2s. 6d.'

(Prince Charles, afterwards Charles II., born May 29th, 1630.)

'1634 Given to the ringers on the 27th of
March being the day of his majesties
initiation to ye crowne . . . 2s. 6d.'

(Anniversary of Accession.)

LOYAL INSCRIPTIONS

Many bell inscriptions are of a loyal character, as at East Farndon, Northants:—

'God bless our Queene Elizabeth 1587.'

'At Bugbrook, Northants:—

'God save our Queen and her preaserve
1599.'

The 4th bell at Banbury (now recast) used to bear:—

'Diu et feliciter vivat Carolus Secundus Rex
sie precor et opto 1664.' (Long and happily
live King Charles II., so I pray and hope.)

Queen Anne is mentioned by name at Bottesford, Leics. Bromham, Melksham, Wilts, and other places, and referred to by title only at Magdalen College, Oxford. Others throughout succeeding reigns might be mentioned right down to our own times. Queen Victoria's sexagenary is shown at Upottery, Devon, in these lines:—

'To-day for sixty years we've been
The subjects of our gracious Queen:
So as those days are ended now
With thanks to God this bell we vow.

June 22nd, 1897.'

One of the very few (if not the only) bell bearing the name of King Edward VIII. is at Anstey, Leics, the tenor quoting:—

'Recast in the year of the accession of King
Edward VIII.'

Leicester Cathedral formerly bore Edward VIII.'s name but this was carefully filed off, and it is now inscribed:—

'The Coronation bell of King George VI.'

(To be continued)

DEDICATION

ROADE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

On July 26th a new bell cast by Messrs. J. Taylor, of Loughborough, was consecrated at Roade Parish Church, Northamptonshire. The bell a treble to a ring of four pre-Reformation bells (one recast), was given by Mr. C. T. Cripps, the people's warden of the church, and is inscribed:—'Roade Parish Church, Restored 1950.—Cyril Thomas Cripps, Esq., M.B.E.'

The service was held in the nave of the church, the Bishop of Peterborough was represented by the Rt. Rev. G. R. Vernon (Vicar of Finedon) and assisted by the Rev. N. Husbands, Rector of Roade. The bell was cleansed with holy water, anointed with holy oils and blessed with incense, inside and out, and dedicated to St. Cecilia.

The Northampton Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild was represented by Mr. B. O. Soden (president), Mr. E. Nobles (secretary) and Mr. B. E. Frost (Branch Ringing Master).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE NEW TWELVE AT LIVERPOOL

Dear Sir,—The rehanging of the bells in the Parish Church of Our Lady and St. Nicholas, Liverpool, is now in progress, and will be completed in plenty of time for the Consecration day. Preliminary notice has already been given of the open ringing day on October 25th, and a detailed announcement will be made in September. Meanwhile, it may be of interest to indicate the scope of the arrangements.

The new church is to be consecrated on Saturday, October 18th, and this will be the beginning of the Consecration Festival, which will last for a fortnight. During the first part of the Consecration service, the font, organ, bells etc., will be dedicated, but neither bells nor organ will sound until the Bishop of Liverpool pronounces the main formula of Consecration of the whole church from the steps of the High Altar. This will be greeted with a fanfare of trumpets, with the full organ, and with a few rounds on the new bells. The bells will also be rung for some time after the service, but there will be no general ringing on this day.

On most weekdays during the Consecration Festival there will be special services at 7.30 p.m., before which there will be ringing. We hope that individual ringers, and, if possible, complete bands, will come from the surrounding districts of Lancashire and Cheshire and help us on these occasions.

Saturday, October 25th, has been set apart as 'Ringers' Day,' when we hope to welcome a record number of ringers from all parts of the country. The bells will be available for most of the day, and during the afternoon there will be a service, followed by a high tea. Arrangements are also being made for luncheon. At the service the preacher will be the Rev. David Railton, a former Rector of Liverpool, during whose incumbency the bells were removed to Loughborough.

We are issuing no specific invitations, but we hope that several complete twelve-bell bands will be present. Given due notice, we shall allot definite periods to such bands.

J. E. SPICE,

Hon. Sec., Our Lady and St. Nicholas' Society of Ringers.

30, Glenmore Avenue,
Liverpool, 18.

'PEGGY' OF FRIEZLAND

Dear Sir,—For many years I have had a small black dog named 'Peggy' and whenever I went ringing I took her with me. She was part and parcel of the Halifax Association and Barnsley Association and had been to numerous meetings in both Lancashire and Cheshire and climbed dozens of towers.

She was given affection by every one of my fellow ringers, for which I thank them, and never did I get a letter from any of our fraternity but mention was made of 'Peggy.'

It is with regret that I announce the death of 'Peggy' on August 4th, a faithful friend of all ringers who met her.—Yours sincerely,

JOSEPH BURGESS.

Friezland.

LONGEST PEAL BY A LADY

Dear Sir,—On Saturday, May 9th, 1925, at the Church of All Saints, Longstanton, Cambs, a peal of Bob Major, 8,112 changes, was rung in 4 hours and 35 minutes. The second bell was rung by Miss C. Fields (now Mrs. Ibbett). This is the longest peal rung by a lady.—Yours sincerely,

E. G. HIBBINS.

Cambridge.

SUNDAY PEALS

Dear Sir,—Mr. Cole's letter in last week's edition is a welcome one, albeit one which deals favourably with Sunday peal ringing from an uncommon viewpoint, but it seems to me that there is the increasing necessity to consider also the views of potential trouble fomenters, who also must be considered and are perhaps definitely hostile, but have rights.

To an increasing extent, unfortunately, there are those in most towns and villages to whom Sunday is a day for the exercise of strenuous and masterly inertia up to 'opening time' and following what is technically described as a good 'lay in.' In many cases this is well and truly earned by a week of hard work well and faithfully done and very often a prelude to attendance at an evening religious service—to many others merely an interregnum, between five day periods of 'boss-watching' and game-watching, etc. All these types have their points of view, and, whether one agrees or not with their outlook, are entitled to consideration.

There are also invalids and hospital patients to be thought of.

Three to four hours of continuous bell-ringing, even if good, react differently upon unwilling and uninterested hearers, even on what may be termed legitimate occasions, and, unfortunately, few towers now are to be found away from the most populous parts of our towns and villages.

It seems to the writer, therefore, that at least the one day in the week should be carefully respected by those of us who do not indulge in peals as a prelude to church attendance but from less worthy motives.—Yours faithfully,

STAFFORD H. GREEN.

Sampford Peverell, Devon.

PROBLEMS OF AN EDITOR

Dear Sir,—May I, through your columns, thank the writer, J. T. D., of the leading article in last week's 'Ringing World'?

It is, in my opinion, one of the best on the subject ever written and should be read by every ringer who has the true interest of our only weekly journal, 'The Ringing World,' at heart.

Each sentence is worded correctly and to the point and it is to be hoped that every effort will be made, by those capable, to send to the Editor articles of interest and so provide a constant supply of good copy and, furthermore, to encourage more ringers to take a greater interest in the paper by purchasing a weekly copy.—Yours faithfully,

ALBERT WALKER.

Birmingham.

TENOR BELLS

Dear Sir,—It is both amusing and confusing the way tenor bells increase in weight and deepness of tone, for according to the notes of the London County outing, Maidstone tenor is now in the key of B natural.

At Lincoln during Whitsun a well-known ringer was quite sure that Southwark Cathedral tenor is in the key of B flat while Cornhill was B, and in order to settle the argument, a bell-founder was asked, who agreed that such was definitely the case. I am, however, still of the opinion that Southwark tenor is B, and Cornhill C.

There are, of course, many exceptional bells with a deep note for a light weight such as Ewerby (15 cwt.), Leatherhead (19 cwt.) and Coalbrookdale (19½ cwt.) all in D. Purton (20 cwt.) and Lavenham (23 cwt.) in D flat and even bells such as Shrewsbury and Sheffield tenors in B and Sherborne in B flat are more the exception than the rule.

I am sure there are many ringers who would like to hear more of these unusual bells.—Yours faithfully,

CECIL W. PIPE.

ONE-HAND CLOCKS

Dear Sir,—In reply to the Rev. A. J. Nix-seaman's inquiry about one-handed clocks, there is a good example of one some ten miles from Northill at Guilden Morden, Cambs.

Whilst cycling through Witney three weeks ago I noticed such a clock in the pediment of a secular building, but I cannot state for what purpose the building is used.

I seem to remember reading an interesting article on one-handed clocks in 'Country Life' about two years ago in which numerous examples were quoted and several photographs were reproduced. Without doubt the inquirer is aware of this article, about which I am afraid I am rather vague.—Yours sincerely,

ERIC EDMONDSON.

Bootle, Liverpool 20.

Dear Sir,—There is a one-handed clock in the bell tower of St. Michael and All Angels', Coningsby, the village next to where I live. This clock is a blacksmith-made clock. Recently it was overhauled and an expert from London came to do the work. I gather from the history of this clock that it is the most famous one-handed clock in the country.

DORIS FLINTHAM.

Tattershall, Lincs.

KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB

Dear Sir,—I have several compositions of combined Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major. Some of these have bobs and others are composed without bobs. I understand that various names are given to the variations of Treble Bob so rung and I should be grateful if one of your readers could give me some help in this matter.

I also believe that Kent and Oxford so rung is not a 'splice' since the change of method takes place when the treble is dodging 3-4 down. I have heard the words 'combined' and 'allied' used in this respect. Which, if either, of these is correct?—Yours faithfully,

JACK R. WORRALL.

St. Mellons, Cardiff.

7,168 TREBLE BOB

By A. WILSON, of Dronfield, near Sheffield.

23456	M	B	W	H
36452	2	—	1	2
23564	2	—	1	2
65324		2		2
56423	2			2
24653	1	—		2
63542	1		1	2
52436	1		1	2
54326			1	2
36245	1		1	2
32465			1	2

32465	M	B	W	H
25463	1			2
32654		—	2	2
56234	1			2
65432		—	1	2
34562			2	2
52643	2	—	2	2
63425	2	—	2	2
64235	1	—	2	2
25346	2	—	2	2
23456	1	—	2	2

The above peal was sent to me in the early twenties. It contains the 60 course ends in 20 courses in two parts of 10 course each. Alternate calling is used for each course in the 2nd part: if not eight courses in each part are false in the interior. The peal has not been rung to my knowledge.

Ilkeston.

E. C. GOBEY.

'METROPOLITAN'—ROYAL & MAXIMUS

(THIS IS LONDON'—B.B.C.)

Dear Sir—All fair-minded ringers, (and there must be very few that are not.) will surely sympathise with one aspect of Mr. Worth's plaint as to the recent non-recognition for record of a peal rung as 'London Royal No. 3 version,' namely the regrettable lack of consistency of attitude. This is, of course, quite apart from the point as to whether 'No. 3' is or is not a version of the London method on 10 bells, which point is slowly but surely settling itself!

The occasion, however, seems to call for the closing of a chapter, as it were, in the three-decade controversy about extension of this method. Ernest Morris, in his classic work, 'The History and Art of Change Ringing,' refers on page 415 to the controversy initiated in 1921 (in the pages of 'The Ringing World') by Geo. Baker, Wm. Taylor, Rev. E. B. James and the writer, with examples of extensions. There have been published, in fact, some 15 versions (perhaps more) of the method on 10 bells: the latest, called 'U.A.,' being claimed as the 'proximate' or nearest to given requirements, and of which a 'peal'—unfortunately false in execution—was rung at Rickmansworth in 1949.

The residual fact, however, is that none of these versions can be claimed as the true and correct form of the London method on 10 bells. Continued work on method structure has enabled us, within the past year or so, to see why: we have, in fact, been looking at the method 'through the wrong end of the telescope.'—And other methods, too!

Briefly, it is now established that many (not all) methods run in 'families' of stages. For example, the Plain Bob family, in its natural form, runs on five stages—from Minimum to Maximus. (The odd-bell stages may be considered as 'adapted' or even 'distorted'.) What the Methods Committee calls the 'parent form' of a method, that is to say, the stage in which it is first published, is now seen to be not necessarily that method's basic stage. In other words the parent form might be the basic, or it might be either an extension or a contraction of it.

The vital importance of the distinction cannot be under-estimated. Its non-discernment is responsible for much wasted argument and misunderstanding. In short, the basic stage is the lowest exhibiting all the characteristic attributes or features of the method-pattern. If the method is stage-variable, (i.e. if it can be extended and/or contracted, or in other words if it 'runs in a family') then its stages above the basic will exhibit the same basic pattern with expansion to accommodate the additional rows and columns; while its stages below the basic may exhibit contraction of the pattern, i.e. some feature may be omitted. In such case the contraction may be considered as theoretic rather than practical. But the point that emerges is that two basic methods may thus, have a common contraction. Whereas two different extensions, correctly developed, cannot arise from a common basic. Put another way, there is one form and one only, of any given stage in a method family.

Once this fact of method structure (scientifically considered) had been realised, investigation showed that in several methods, stages hitherto considered as basic are, in fact, not so, being either extensions or contractions: and in some cases only 'versions' (i.e. not to be included in the family) at that! Mr. Worth's list, indeed, includes such.

Such investigation became practicable through a process of test which applies the commonly accepted principles of method structure, in conjunction with factors inseparable

from the placing of a method in its appropriate 'Development Group.'

In the case of the London method, the 'parent form'—the Minor, first published in 1734—emerges from the test as a contraction. So also does the Major, published in 1788. The basic stage now appears as the Royal, with a natural extension to Maximus. These two forms are given in the Memorandum on Method Structure—lodged in the Central Council's Library. The four stages are seen to be in 'family' relationship. A ringer who knows and rings London Major, for example, will find himself traversing the same path, or blue line, in the Royal (with extra dodges and with the two extra 'leads'). And a ringer who knows and rings the Royal will find himself traversing the same path in the Maximus (with extra dodges and with the two extra 'leads'). Conductors, likewise, will find familiar signposts.

These facts are self-evident. These method-forms cannot be ostracised by arguments as to family name and the like, because, for the time being, these stages of Royal and Maximus are being known as 'Metropolitan.' (No doubt posterity will recognise their claim to another title!) In being rung they will be found both delightfully difficult and difficultly delightful.

And good luck to Mr. Worth and to others who may first attempt to ring either or both of Metropolitan Royal and Maximus.—Yours faithfully,

A. YORK-BRAMBLE.

Netley Abbey.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AT BUCKLEY

On July 23rd, 1902, the Bishop of St. Asaph dedicated the new ring of bells at St. Matthew's Church, Buckley, Flintshire. The bells were the gift of Mary Drew, wife of the Vicar, Canon H. Drew, and were cast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. of Loughborough.

On July 23rd, 1952, a Sunday service band met to ring a peal of Stedman Triples but had to give up after six parts because the tenor began to go so badly that good ringing was impossible. A second attempt, a week later, also failed for the same reason.

On Sunday, July 27th, all available ringers attended a corporate Communion at 8 a.m. when special prayers were said and those present re-dedicated themselves to the work of the Church, particularly to ringing.

A more comprehensive celebration was held on August 2nd. It was decided that it would be most fitting if all the old ringers and their wives, or widows in some cases, were invited to a service which followed ringing from 2 to 4 p.m. Tea was provided by a local caterer and a social gathering followed. Although it was regretted that all the old ringers were unable to be present, the gathering was pleased to have with them Mr. W. Lloyd, of Doncaster.

About 60 sat down to tea and in that number were five of the original band which was formed in 1903, with Mr. Henry Dew as instructor. Unfortunately, to the regret of everyone, Mr. Dew was unable to be present. After tea, speeches recalled much of local interest and particularly stressed the goodwill and real Christian fellowship that existed between ringers throughout the land.

The social evening was a great success and was brought to a close by all gathering round the piano to sing 'Goodnight, Ladies' and the National Anthem.

D. H. B. M.

A PEN PICTURE

The Bellringers, by an Observant Layman

The following pen picture of 'The Bellringers' appeared in 'The Times' of July 30th from Mr. Kirkland Bridge in a series of articles entitled 'Pillars of the Parish Church':—

The rugged tower, bleached and scoured by the sun, wind and rain of centuries, keeps watch over the sleepers in the churchyard below: a haunt of ancient peace gently drowsing time away as the old clock chimes the passing hours.

And in the belfry, mute, motionless, waiting, hang the bells.

Old Granfer Higgs, eighty last birthday, trudges up the churchyard path with the great iron key of the tower door; and in ones and twos the bellringers gather in the cool, dim tower, and after 'ringing up' stand by their ropes for the words, 'Treble's going—Gone,' when one by one the great bells 'speak.'

Their tumultuous, tumbling, overture echoes across our fair and green England, making Sunday into Sabbath: inviting the faithful to worship; entering homes, hospitals and even prisons, and perchance, rebuking some who no longer pray.

There is something in bellringing that gets a man or woman; a quiet enthusiasm they catch for life, and the Master of the tower will tell you there is more to it than just pulling a rope; all the 24 changes on four bells can be rung in just one minute, yet the 40,320 changes on eight bells take 28 hours; and, believe it or not, if all the 479,001,600 possible changes on twelve bells could be rung it would take 37 years and 355 days—without a 'tea interval' at that.

Bellringers have a language, a literature, and a newspaper—'The Ringing World'—of their own. Such terms as 'hunting,' 'dodging,' 'make a clean dodge,' 'go out at the back,' 'keep over me,' are only a little less confusing to the layman than, say, peals of Grandsire Triples, or Stedman, Kent, Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, London Surprise. And, if you want start an argument in the tower, just talk about 'plain bearings' versus 'ball bearings' and then listen.

Twice on Sundays; at weekly practice: at weddings: when a king dies, a queen is crowned, or a prince is born; the bellringers stand at their ropes, and 60 feet up in the tower the bells ring loud and clear.

Through the long history of Church and State, in our literature, poetry and drama, the Church Bells of England have played their part; calling the good wife to put out her fires at curfew: waiting to warn of invasion: summoning the soldiery; greeting a Royal progress: welcoming home the fighting men; ringing out the old year, ringing in the new.

And in the minor and major towers of our cities, towns and countryside, the bellringers have been faithful—from 'Ringing Up' to 'Stand'—'Stand' is, I suppose, the bellringers' word for 'Amen.'

RINGERS CLASSIFIED

High Ringers.—These hold that ringing is worship. It is to be observed that one may speak also of High Cricketers or High Fruit Pickers or High Tea.

Low Ringers.—These ring with much more heart than head.

Modernist Ringers.—These ring with much more head than heart.

Liberal Ringers.—These hold that all ways of ringing are much the same, and refuse to be tied to dogma in the matter.

Free Ringers.—These hold that ringing secretly, in spirit, is just as acceptable to God and far less prejudicial to the muscles.

C. F. B. (In 'The Belfry')

THE BANK HOLIDAY AT LEATHERHEAD

With Varying Degrees of Syncopation

Grave old plodders and gay young friskers from a dozen fair counties were attracted to Leatherhead on August Bank Holiday by the joint meeting of the North Western District of the Surrey Association and the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

This joint meeting has now become an annual event and annually Mr. George Marriner, of the Leatherhead band and organiser-in-chief of the event, spends an anxious week wondering if the weather is going to be fine because, of course, on that glorious uncertainty depends whether or not the bellringing part of the suburban population of South London will decide at the last moment to descend on Leatherhead bells without having previously notified for tea.

On this occasion 38 sent in their names and, the weather being good, more than double that number turned up, at the church during the afternoon and evening. Most of the company were supplied at the Leatherhead Institute with a bountiful tea but some, who had not given warning of their intentions, found sustenance at other places.

The Rev. F. A. Page, Vicar of Leatherhead, conducted a short service at which the Guildford Guild's new form was followed, and in his address the Vicar took for his theme the manner in which Sunday by Sunday the bells of this land bear witness to the faith.

The spacious ringing room was crowded before and after the service by ringers of both sexes, all ages and in all stages of advancement. Under the direction of Mr. A. Harman, Master of the Guildford Guild, the ring of ten was kept busy sounding out, in the words of the Charge to Ringers contained in the Guild's new service form, their 'Rounds and changes unto the Glory of the Lord,' until the shadows lengthened and the evening fell.

In addition to rounds for ten-bell tyros various methods were rung or attempted with more or less success and with varying degrees of syncopation including Yorkshire Surprise Royal—a method which is, or should be, well-known to the bells, the local band ringing it with that seemingly casual indifference that many of us lesser fry are scarcely able to apply to the production of Grandsire Doubles.

Reluctantly at last the assembled host (for that is what they looked like packed two-deep around the walls of the ringing room) took leave of each other and the bells, and wended away each to his or her home. At least those words round off the stilted style of the paragraph, but it is rumoured that a Guild official, searching for matches, discovered some members of the local band and (print it very small, Mr. Editor) visitors, too, who had not wended with expedition but were tarrying on the way or rather out of their way.

Bells Silent for 30 Years

The beautifully-toned six bells at Devynock, Breconshire, have been silent since 1922 and few in the village remember them being rung. Many expressed delight after the peal on August 4th. Before the peal could be started Mr. J. T. Williams spent some hours cleaning the ringing chamber and overhauling the bells. There were muffles on the clappers for half-muffled ringing, the tenor was minus a stay and there were no ropes, which were supplied by the band. Nevertheless, the bells, wheels and frame were in excellent condition. Mr. D. J. Lewis, who rang the treble in the peal, rang on the bells over 50 years ago. They were recast in 1897. After the peal the band were entertained to lunch by the Vicar.

OBITUARY

MR. HARRY DOICK

Another link with the past has gone with the passing of Mr. Harry Doick, of Pulborough, Sussex, who died on July 30th, aged 71 years.

His father, uncle and brothers had been ringers here for nearly a century and the bells had been in charge of Percy and Harry for 50 years with such care that they have had no outside attention since they were rehung in 1897 and still go like tops.

Harry was an excellent tenor man and rang a number of peals, and the sound of the bells gave him much pleasure during his last long illness.

L. S.

MR. JOSCELIN M. TURNER

The Christchurch Priory ringers have lost a much respected member of their band by the death on July 4th at his residence, 55, Harland Road, Bournemouth, of Mr. Joscelin Maitland Turner.

Mr. Turner commenced his ringing career at Ashleworth, Gloucestershire, in 1902, and later rang many peals in various towers of England. He was elected a College Youth in 1936. Although his love of the art remained steadfast throughout his life, the opportunity for practice was interrupted first by a sojourn in South Africa, and later when he was attached to H.M. Legations in Stockholm and Copenhagen for almost 25 years.

Ill-health compelled Mr. Turner to retire prematurely when he returned to England and joined the Christchurch Priory ringers in 1939. For a time he acted as their chairman and later was made secretary to the Christchurch Branch of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild.

Mr. Turner's funeral service took place at the Priory on July 8th and among the floral tributes was one from the Christchurch Branch of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild. The bells were rung half-muffled before the service and as the cortege left for Bournemouth Crematorium.

A kindly, generous, unassuming gentleman, a devout churchman, a friend of all ringers, we who were privileged to know him deeply mourn his loss.

MR. EDWARD VICTOR HINTON

The band of Christchurch Priory, Hants, has recently lost by death two of its members—Edward Victor Hinton and Joscelin Maitland Turner.

Mr. Hinton had been a regular service ringer at the Priory for over 60 years, and was taught by the present captain of the band, George Preston.

Mr. Turner, on retiring from diplomatic service in many parts of the world, attached himself to the Christchurch band.

Both had been ill for some time and will be missed by many friends.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations to meet the cost of 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—J. Burgess 10s., Anon. 5s.
Peals.—Great Bentley 2s. 6d., Stockbury 2s. 6d., Peterborough 2s. 6d., Handsworth 2s., Huntingdon 2s., Whittlesey 2s., Bathford 3s., Hedon 4s., Howden 4s., Stoulton 3s.
Quarter peals.—Old Wolverton 2s., Hembury 3s., Halifax 3s., Kingston Magna 7s., Bures 2s., Cranford 2s., Walton 2s. 6d., St. Ives 2s., Upwey 2s., St. Peter's, St. Albans 3s., Margate 1s. 6d., Stoke Goldington 1s. 6d.

QUARTER PEALS

DAMERHAM, HANTS.—On Aug. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Sheppard (first quarter) 1. Miss M. T. Mackenzie 2. Miss E. Brown 3. Miss J. M. Gray 4. P. K. Waterman (cond.) 5. J. Baverstock 6. Rung for the 30th anniversary of the Rev. H. W. Maule becoming Vicar of the parish.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On July 27th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss J. Peacock 1. A. H. Worboys 2. A. J. Salisbury 3. D. M. Salisbury 4. S. Penfold 5. T. East 6. C. E. Wright (cond.) 7. G. Proctor 8.

IFFLEY, OXON.—On Aug. 3rd, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 360 April Day, 420 Grandsire): B. Baker 1. Miss Christine Hall 2. L. Busby 3. C. Bennett 4. T. Bowles (cond.) 5. M. Harding 6.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Aug. 3rd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: M. T. Symonds (cond.) 1. V. Ambrose 2. S. Smith 3. L. Poulson 4. S. H. Symonds 5. F. Boreham 6. D. A. Symonds 7. L. Pryke 8. Specially rung to celebrate the silver weddings of the ringers of 3 and 4.

LEAMINGTON, WARWICKS.—At All Saints' on July 28th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. Collett 1. E. H. Adams 2. J. R. Ball 3. A. J. Price 4. R. J. Edden 5. C. H. Grindley (first quarter Stedman) 6. H. C. Burt (cond.) 7. E. H. Bosworth 8.

MARGATE, KENT.—On July 29th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. Page 1. Mrs. N. Bridges 2. L. L. Wyman 3. A. J. Smith 4. L. Everest 5. B. W. Aldridge 6. F. J. Gadsden (cond.) 7. O. Davis 8.

NYNEHEAD, SOMERSET.—On July 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. Pike (first of Minor) 1. D. North 2. D. Slocombe 3. W. G. Gigg 4. D. Bellamy 5. A. P. Cannon (cond.) 6. The first quarter peal of Minor on the bells.

ROTHERSTHORPE, NORTHANTS.—On July 29th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of Reverse St. Bartholomew, Old Doubles, April Day and 540 Plain Bob): J. Harrold 1. K. Perkins 2. T. Baker 3. A. Cozens 4. I. Dickinson 5. Rung as a farewell to Miss Wilson after 22 years' service as headmistress at Rothersthorpe School.

SALTWOOD, KENT.—On July 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss R. P. Longhurst (first in method) 1. M. J. Martin (first in method 'inside') 2. J. Chittenden 3. C. A. Wratton (cond.) 4. E. J. Walker 5. G. F. Gray 6.

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.—On July 20th, 1,260 Doubles (120 Reverse St. Bartholomew, 120 April Day, 480 Grandsire, 540 Plain Bob): O. Cripps 1. Miss S. Kilbourn 2. W. E. Simpson 3. D. J. Marshall 4. W. R. Harrison (cond.) 5. R. G. Newsum 6.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On July 29th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal: Mrs. C. C. Mayne 1. T. W. Sheppard 2. W. Wenban 3. G. W. Seaman 4. D. K. Adkins (first of Cambridge Royal) 5. S. H. Hoare 6. R. G. Bell 7. C. C. Mayne 8. H. G. Cashmore 9. J. R. Mayne (cond.) 10.

WEOBLEY, HEREFORDS.—On Aug. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: V. Rawlings 1. Harry Price (cond.) 2. C. Williams 3. A. Webb 4. T. Bound 5. R. Farmer 6. Rung for the baptism of the daughter of the ringer of the third, who is captain of the local band. Also for evening service.

A Loss to Aldrington, Sussex

Owing to the Turnbull family moving to Devonshire the Aldrington band in Sussex lose three good ringers and a learner. Bryan and Wendy have made great progress and having rung a quarter of Cambridge Minor are now ringing plain courses of London. Their enthusiasm has brought Father to ring and also 'Little John,' who although only 11 years old, handles his bell in manly style. Aldrington appreciates their loyalty and wishes them good ringing in their new surroundings. A quarter of Plain Bob Minor was rung as a farewell on July 29th by the local band.

THE HOW AND WHY OF FLIGHT

Mr. York-Bramble's Contribution to Modern Aviation

READERS of 'The Ringing World' are familiar with Mr. A. York-Bramble, of Netley Abbey, as the inventor of a new system of method extension, but he is equally well known in the R.A.F. and his publication of 'Airplane Flight' (Pitmans 35s.) has gained for him widespread recognition. His book has been described as an encyclopædia of flight.

Member of a well-known Cotswold family, Mr. York-Bramble was at Bristol University when the first world war broke out and was soon commissioned in the R.F.C. His inventive genius contributed much to the perfection of observation balloons and the designing of packing parachutes for use in aircraft.

Invalided from the R.A.F., he took up schoolmastering and found time to be an active pioneer in the inter-war gliding movement, becoming a member of the Council of the British Gliding Association. Mr. York-Bramble was a flying member of the Civil Air Guard in 1939, and did much lecturing to pilots in training in the R.A.F.V.R. at that time.

Early in the second world war he became a staff officer (Technical Branch) in the R.A.F., and was the Officer Commanding the original Research and Technical Publications Unit of the R.A.F. His war-time inventions included the non-topping gyroscope and the volarium (a flying training machine, in which the pupil could even perform an inverted spin).

Since the war, Mr. York-Bramble has devoted much of his time to technical research and authorship but, as our readers know, he still finds opportunity to take a keen interest not only in aviation, but also in change ringing.

LORD BRABAZON'S PRAISE

In a foreword to 'Airplane Flight,' Lord Brabazon of Tara writes: 'Mr. York-Bramble is very much to be congratulated on doing for aviation what Dr. Johnson, in his dictionary, did for our language. He has also—at any rate relative to aerodynamic flight—fulfilled the promise that one day all things should be made clear.'

Apart from its purely technical value, the book represents a considerable literary achievement, writes another authority on the subject. Author and reader find themselves hand-in-hand, as it were, and the confidence which comes from that relationship is not the least notable result of the new methods which Mr. York-Bramble has brought to his task. Here is a remarkable lesson in visual interpretation. The letter-press is clear enough, for the author is a most precise writer, but where the book gains immeasurably is in the simplicity and clarity of the explanatory sketches and diagrams which appear on every page. Here are new ideas which bring the practice of visual teaching on to an entirely new plane. In this respect, the book is surely one of the most remarkable technical productions published since the war.

This is not only the work of an expert. It is that of an author who has a special genius for so symbolising difficult problems that they become reasonably easy to understand. The book was obviously written not only with purpose but also with determination and it is clear that there must have been the most rigorous revision on the part of the author to achieve the perfect consistency of pattern which persists from first page to last.

This is probably the first time that the full technique of the subject has been compressed into one book, which has been designed to be equally helpful to the aviation cadet and to the pilot in training. It should be welcomed by both these types of pupils, as well as by all classes of air training organisations, both service and civil. In fact, this looks like the text book for which they have been waiting.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Lewisham District

St. Martin-of-Tours' (Chelsfield) Church, prettily embowered in its little copse of trees on the exact fringe of Suburbia, was visited by 60 members and friends of the Lewisham District, together with very welcome visitors from Twyford for the purpose of the quarterly meeting on July 26th.

The handy ring of six was kept busy throughout the afternoon under the direction of Mr. H. E. Audsley, deputising for Mr. L. Hoverd (Ringing Master) who, unhappily, was unavoidably absent.

The service was held in the church, conducted by the curate who, during his address, which gave cogent reasons for attending Divine Service, extended a warm welcome to the congregation. Mr. J. Wade, a member of the local band, led the singing at the organ.

Tea followed, generously provided by the Chelsfield ringers and tastefully served on the Rectory lawn by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. N. J. Woodhall, and Mrs. Woodhall, who were present to welcome individually their many visitors.

The business meeting followed, the Rector presiding. A warm welcome by the chairman, endorsed by Mr. P. M. Sharp (churchwarden) prefaced the meeting proper.

Cordial congratulations accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Hurrell, of Eltham, on the recent celebration of their golden wedding, were charmingly acknowledged by the recipients.

Fourteen ringers were elected members of the Association and the elections of two others were ratified.

St. John's, Erith, was chosen as the place of the annual District meeting to be held on Saturday, October 25th.

Mr. E. A. Barnett was congratulated on his recent election to the office of secretary of the Central Council, and gave much pleasure with his witty response.

Mr. E. Barnett informed the meeting that an obituary notice had recently appeared in 'The Church Times' referring to the late Rev. Canon Teignmouth-Shaw, who was the first secretary of the Lewisham District and invited the members to pay tribute to his memory. This was unanimously agreed to.

The District secretary was instructed to write to Mr. H. Hoyerd, conveying the members' sympathy to him and Mrs. Hoyerd in their great trial and anxiety; also to Mr. J. Bennett, late of Beckenham and Lewisham, wishing him a long and prosperous retirement.

Mr. I. Emery was commended, as the representative of the band of octogenarians, on their splendid performance at St. John's, Deptford, on April 26th.

Votes of thanks to the Rector, curate, organist the local ringers and their captain were carried enthusiastically, with added reference to the successful efforts by the local band to attain, almost unaided, proficiency in change ringing.

A reminder that the joint meeting with the Surrey Association (N.W. District) was to be held at Eynesford on Saturday, October 11th, concluded the business.

Further use of the bells followed before the representatives of 14 towers dispersed, qualified to report to their fellows a very happy, successful meeting and to recall agreeable memories of a Kentish scene and the kindness of its people.

Our Objective—2,000 Postal Subscribers

LAST WEEK OUR POSTAL SUBSCRIBERS
NUMBERED 1,614

A YEAR AGO THEY NUMBERED 1,335

THIS IS PROGRESS, BUT IT IS NOT FAST ENOUGH!

A SPECIAL OFFER—Send 8/- to-day to Mr. J. E. Jeater, 11, Frankswood Avenue, Petts Wood, Kent, and become a postal subscriber from August 22nd until the end of the year.

To the Editorial Committee, 'The Ringing World'

Please post 'The Ringing World' to me until the end of 1952.

I enclose 8/.

Name

Address

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 2s. 6d. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

DEATH

FARR.—ON Aug. 4th, 1952, at Burton-on-Trent, Rachel, wife of A. J. Farr, of Greenways, Halmer Gate, Spalding; sister of the late Rupert Richardson. Aged 68 years. 1153

PUBLICATIONS

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author St. Clement's Rectory 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

CHURCH BELLS AND OTHERS OF STIRLINGSHIRE AND KINROSS-SHIRE by Randal Clouston. 46 pages. 7 photographs. Reprinted from the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. 3s. post free from the author at Cookley Farm, Eye, Suffolk. 1081

COLLECTION OF PLAIN MAJOR METHODS (second edition), with Table of First Performances. Price 3s. From Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, Osmington School, Tring, Herts.

MISCELLANEOUS

EXTRA COPIES. — It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals is submitted.

PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittance must be sent with peal report

MEETINGS

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION—Hunts District.—Saturday, Aug. 16th, meeting at Somersham (6). Bells 3 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m.—H. S. Peacock. 1136

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Linton (8), Aug. 16th. 3 p.m. 1132

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Ashford District.—By-meeting Newington, near Folkestone, August 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. 1119

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Rochester District.—Meeting at Tunstall (8) on Saturday, August 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea in the Parish Room. 1116

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Aug. 16th, Cranford (6) 11 a.m.–2.30 p.m., Harlington (8) 3–5.15, tea and business. Harmondsworth (6) 7–8.30.—F. W. Goodfellow. 1142

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Meeting, Hoar Cross, Saturday, Aug. 16th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. 1138

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland and Melton Branches.—Joint meeting at Oakham on Saturday, Aug. 16th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. 1143

1952 FOUR GUILDS FESTIVAL

Ladies' Guild (Southern District), Guildford Guild, Winchester and Portsmouth Guild (Basingstoke District), Oxford Guild (Sonning Deanery Branch)

Saturday, Aug. 23rd. Service at Aldershot 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.

The following towers are available:—Bagshot (8). Hawley (8). Pirbright (6) and Worplesdon (8), 2–3.30 p.m.; Yorktown (8), 3–4 p.m.; Ash (6). Farnborough (6) and Farnham (8), 2–4 p.m. and 6.30–9 p.m.; Aldershot, 2–4.30 p.m. and 6.30–9 p.m.; Bentley (6), Frensham (6) and Seale (6), 6.30–9 p.m.

All names for tea to R. H. Mills, 35, Fowler Road, West Farnborough, Hants, by Monday, August 18th.

1107

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Aldrington (6), Saturday, Aug. 16th, 3 p.m. 1141

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Joint meeting with Selby and District Society at Selby, Saturday, Aug. 16th. Bells (10) available from 1 o'clock. Service in Abbey 4.30. Tea, moderate charge, 5 o'clock.—H. S. Morley. 1133

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Ringing Festival at Westhoughton on Sunday, August 17th. Tower open at 1.30 p.m. Service at 3 p.m.; preacher Rev. F. F. Rigby, M.A.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec. 1150

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Abridge Deanery.—Practice meeting, Bleadon, Aug. 23rd, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.—E. J. Avery, Hon. Local Sec. 1157

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Barley, Saturday, Aug. 23rd, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Special method, Single Court.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 1169

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak and Chesterfield Districts.—Joint meeting at Ashover, Saturday, Aug. 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea, not later than Aug. 20th, to Mr. E. Hopkinson, Rectory View, Ashover, near Chesterfield. 1156

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Hexham Abbey, Saturday, August 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Names for tea, by August 18th, to C. T. Lamb, 26, St. Mary's Crescent, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 1151

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD—Hinckley District.—Fenny Drayton, Aug. 23rd. Bells (5) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify, by Aug. 20th. Rev. H. Baylis, The Rectory, Fenny Drayton, Nuneaton. Sheepy Magna bells (6) available after tea. 1168

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Hallaton, Aug. 23rd. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Outing, Aug. 30th. Fare, including tea, etc., 11s. 6d. each, to be paid by Aug. 23rd.—L. W. Allen. 1167

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD—Syston District.—Birstall, Aug. 23rd. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting in Reading Room 5 p.m.—B. Stedman Payne. 1163

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD—Newbury Branch.—Meeting at Peasmore, Aug. 23rd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, before Aug. 20th, to M. Rosier, Peasmore, Newbury. 1164

SALISBURY GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—Meeting, Abbotsbury, Aug. 23rd. Usual arrangements. Names, by Aug. 19th, please, to J. H. Payne, 'Vert Street, Abbotsbury. 1155

SALISBURY GUILD.—Calne Branch.—Meeting, Bremhill (6), Aug. 23rd. Usual arrangements. Names for tea G. Freegard, 30, Bremhill, Calne, Wilts.—W. Hacker, Hon. Sec. 1171

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Meeting at Old Coudson, Aug. 23rd. Bells (5) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea by Aug. 20th to Miss A. Read, 6, Marlpit Lane, Coudson. 1135

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Bury St. Edmunds District.—Meeting at West Stow, Saturday, Aug. 23rd. Bells (6) 3. Tea, etc.—W. Stannard, Dis. Sec. 1152

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Quarterly meeting, All Saints', Hastings, Saturday, Aug. 23rd. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea only for those who notify by the 20th.—P. H. Rolleston, Hon. Div. Sec., 313, Victoria Drive, Eastbourne. 1158

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Meeting, Sculthorpe (6) Aug. 30th. Service 4.30; preacher Rt. Rev. Bishop of Thetford. Tea after, at which top priority for those who notify R. Lingwood, Creake Road, Sculthorpe, Fakenham. 1160

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Summer meeting, Enville, Aug. 30th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 4.45. Service 6 o'clock. Important committee meeting to discuss the Society's finances 3.30. All committee members are asked to make a special effort to attend. Names for tea not later than Aug. 26th.—Fred Bennett, Pool House Road, Wombourne. 1162

SWANSEA AND BRECON.—Southern Section.—Quarterly meeting, Cadoston (Neath), Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea, by August 23rd, to J. A. Hoare, 6, Gendros Crescent, Fforestfach, Swansea. 1159

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Ropley, Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Village Hall. Look up York Minor. Names, by previous Wednesday, to Mr. J. A. C. King, 29, Fox Lane, Stanmore, Winchester. 1166

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.—Half-yearly meeting at The Marble Church, Bodelwyddan, on Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells (8) available 3 o'clock. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Sept. 2nd, please.—W. Cathrall, 19, Cunliffe Walk, Garden Village, Wrexham. 1154

Kington Ringers' Outing

On August 2nd the ringers of St. Mary's Church, Kington, Herefordshire, held their annual tour. The towers visited were Ledbury (8), Pershore Abbey (8), Holy Trinity, Stratford-on-Avon (10), Church Lench (6), Bishampton (6) and Upton Snodsbury (6). The methods ring included Grandsire Caters, Triples and Doubles, with Stedman Triples and Doubles and Bob Minor. Everything went according to plan, thanks to the excellent organisation by Mr. L. Miles. D. J. R.

Universities Association at Nottingham

To-day (Friday) the Universities Association summer week open at Nottingham with headquarters at Wortley Hall. Taking part will be 35 members representing twelve universities, and during the week visits will be made to Leicester, Derby, Loughborough, Southwell, Newark and Chesterfield, altogether ringing at about 40 towers. This is the eighth such week since the Association was founded.

CLAPHAM COMMON, LONDON.—At the Redemptorist Church of Our Immaculate Lady of Victorines, on Aug. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: T. J. Farmer (first away from tenor) 1. Miss M. Powell 2. B. C. Snipe (first 'inside') 3. C. S. Rew 4. P. J. Hutchings (cond.) 5. A. J. Clifford 6. Rung to commemorate the feast of St. Alphonsus, the founder of the Redemptorist Order.

5,008 DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR

By F. WARRINGTON

23456	1	4	5	6
53426	S			3
43256	1			2
35246	1			3
42536	1			1
24635		1		1
64325	1			2
42365	1			3
26345	1			3
65423	1	1		2
52463	1			3
42653	1			2
62543	1			2
43265	S	1		2
36245	1			3
76435	1			2
63425	1			3
35426	1	1	1	
45236	1			2
53246	1			3
23456	1			2

5,024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

By WILLIAM THORNLEY, JUN.

23456	1	5	6
42635	—		
46235		3 (— S —)	
63245	—	6 (— — S — — S)	
23465	—	5 (S — — S —)	
42536	—		
54236		2	
43256	—	3	
23546	—	2	

Repeat.

Rung on Tuesday, June 10th, 1952, at the
Bellfoundry Campanile, Loughborough. Con-
ducted by the composer.

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