



'The Ringing World' was founded in the year 1911 by John Sparkes Goldsmith, who remained its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942.

No. 2257 Vol. L.

FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1954

Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper

4d.

LEANING TOWERS

THE average layman with a remote knowledge of bells and bell hanging, which quite often includes diocesan architects (as was instanced at the Central Council meeting at Newcastle), generally shudders at the thought of bells hung other than stationary in leaning towers.

Yet up and down the countryside quite a few examples of leaning towers and steeples with bells hung for ringing can be pin-pointed—the best known possibly being Surfleet, Lincolnshire, whose steeple leans no less than 6ft. 4in. from the perpendicular, under which is quicksilt 4ft. below its foundations; that alone would send some architects and church dignitaries screaming 'suicide' to hang ringable bells in such a steeple, especially a ring of 12 bells. Admittedly these are light, but very often one can come across perfectly upright structures, whose walls are thick, of good solid stone, with perhaps no more than three bells—lighter than the last three of Surfleet—where any suggestion of restoration and augmentation raises the 'cry' from the local priest or church council, 'The tower won't stand bells!' What size of bells are they thinking of?—possibly all like 'Big Ben'—is a question to ask them.

I came across such an instance in North Bedfordshire a few weeks ago—a fine broach steeple, perfectly upright, thick well-buttressed walls with hardly a decayed stone. Inside there were but three bells, tenor approximately 9 cwt., but there was space enough to hang eight like the back eight of Surfleet, tenor around 12 cwt. An old oak frame, full of woodworm and death-watch beetle, bore the strain of these three bells. 'The steeple won't stand any more bells' I was told by the local priest, who soon convinced me that his knowledge of the subject was extremely limited.

The instance of Surfleet makes good 'ammunition' for use to such priests, architects and others of like mind. Surfleet's neighbour, Pinchbeck, is another leaning tower which, like Surfleet, has undergone restoration and augmentation of its bells in recent years. Here there is a ring of eight, tenor 18 cwt.

Several leaning towers with rings of bells will be found in Northants. The steeple at Corby has leaned since 1801 when it had four bells, which remained as such until 1931. In that year two more were added. Brafield tower also has leaned for several centuries; five bells here were recently augmented to a ring of six. On the same road some

four miles further towards Bedford, the leaning tower of Yardley Hastings cannot help but catch the eye. It tips towards the south-west and looks on the skew. Six bells, tenor 13 cwt., have been ringing in this tower since 1723.

In the vicinity of Daventry is Stowe-IX-Churches, a village which gets its name by reason of standing on high ground within view of nine churches. Four bells, rehung 1924, have been ringing in this leaning tower for many years, but this is another instance of a few 'wet blankets' being allowed to hamper any attempt to add a treble, of which the tower is quite capable of standing.

Slides or film strips showing these and similar towers, including the wooden structure at Yateley, Hants, with eight bells, or the turret at Foots Cray, Kent, with a light ring of five, may serve to broaden the outlook of some of these, be they priests, church councillors or architects with a very limited knowledge of bells. I believe it was the late Mr. J. S. Goldsmith who once said, 'It by no means follows that because a man can design a jerry-built structure of a modern church he can hang a ring of bells—bell hanging is not an architect's job, it is an engineer's, and specialised at that!' And the Central Council's Towers and Belfries Committee can provide the specialist knowledge for any church council in doubt.

P. A.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World,' July 10th, 1914

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE

The Worcestershire and Districts Association

On Thursday, June 25th, 1914, in 2 hours and 52 minutes

At the Parish Church

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5,040 CHANGES

Edwin Knight	...	...	Treble
Lewis Sparrow	...	...	2
Augustus Dore	...	...	3
William Sparrow	...	...	4
James Addis	...	...	5
Charles Knight	...	...	6
Frank Cook	...	...	7
William Keen	...	...	Tenor

Conducted by Frank Cook

All of the band are market gardeners.

[Probably the only peal of which this could be said.]

TWELVE BELL PEAL

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 19, 1954, in 3 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY REDCLIFFE,

A PEAL OF 5081 GRANDSIRE CINQUES

Tenor 50 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb.

FREDK. G. LEAKER Treble	GILBERT H. HARDING .. 7
ALBERT M. TYLER 2	SIDNEY G. RICHES 8
REGINALD G. HOOPER .. 3	ALAN A. HILLIAR 9
ALFRED E. REEVES 4	NORMAN H. COOMBS .. 10
*MRS. D. G. MAYELL .. 5	*ROGER O. FRY 11
*DESMOND G. MAYELL .. 6	EMLYN F. HANCOCK .. Tenor

Composed by ALBERT M. TYLER. Conducted by REGINALD G. HOOPER.

* First peal of Grandsire Cinques. First peal on twelve as conductor.

TEN BELL PEALSBEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(St. Mary's Society.)

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb.

ALFRED J. CLAYTON .. Treble	† STEWART F. W. KIMBER .. 6
* EDWARD L. REECE .. 2	FRANK E. DARBY 7
† JEANETTE M. WINCHESTER 3	DAVID E. PARSONS 8
† KATHLEEN E. WELLER .. 4	FRANK D. JENNINGS .. 9
JOYCE A. ENGLAND .. 5	LEONARD A. REECE .. Tenor

Composed by EDGAR BENNETT. Conducted by DAVID E. PARSONS.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Caters.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 25½ cwt. in D flat.

RAYMOND OVERY Treble	BASIL W. WHITE 6
EDGAR R. RAPLEY 2	HENRY C. WEAVER 7
ALBERT W. BOND 3	* W. LESLIE WELLER .. 8
* GEORGE FRANCIS 4	FRANK B. LUFKIN 9
LEONARD STILWELL .. 5	WILLIAM ROGERS Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by WILLIAM ROGERS.

* First peal of Royal. First peal of Bob Royal as conductor.
Rung for the Patronal Festival.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5000 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 29 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb. in C.

GILLIAN A. SMITH .. Treble	* CHARLES TOVELL 6
TOM GREENACRE 2	NORMAN V. HARDING .. 7
WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. 3	C. M. P. JOHNSON 8
* EDWARD GREENACRE .. 4	PETER BORDER 9
CECIL V. EBBERSON .. 5	WILLIAM ROSE Tenor

Composed by J. S. GOLDSMITH. Conducted by NORMAN V. HARDING.

* First peal on ten bells.

Specially arranged and rung in connection with a pageant celebrating the 750th anniversary of the King's Lynn Charter.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

MARDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 15, 1954, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT T. LAMBERT .. Treble	PETER CARTER 5
REGINALD E. LAMBERT .. 2	PETER C. WRIGHT 6
BETTY M. VIDLER 3	MALCOLM S. CLOKE .. 7
* BETTY TESTER 4	S. GEOFFREY WATERS .. Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by MALCOLM S. CLOKE.

* First peal 'inside.'

Rung for the return of H.M. the Queen.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 6, 1954, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt.

* PETER G. DAVIES .. Treble	ROBERT T. LAMBERT .. 5
† M. ANGELA CARTER .. 2	KILBY R. HOLTOM 6
AUDREY M. BAILEY .. 3	MALCOLM S. CLOKE 7
REGINALD E. LAMBERT .. 4	S. GEOFFREY WATERS .. Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by MALCOLM S. CLOKE.

* First peal of Major and first peal in the method. † 25th peal.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., June 11, 1954, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 4½ cwt.

BRIAN BLADON Treble	GEOFFREY HARPER 5
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS .. 2	PHILIP WALKER 6
WALTER HOLLOWAY 3	CYRIL H. KINCH 7
DOUGLAS O. WILKS 4	MALCOLM S. CLOKE .. Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by MALCOLM S. CLOKE.

Rung half-muffled in memory of Dr. Kirk. Bishop of Oxford, and of Mrs. Wood, wife of the Vicar of St. Ebbe's.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Mon., June 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ABBEY OF SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND,

A PEAL OF 5152 ERDINGTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

PETER J. MORTON .. Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN 5
ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 2	MICHAEL G. MORTON .. 6
JOHN PINFOLD 3	ANTHONY AGER 7
CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER. Conducted by PETER BORDER.

The first peal in the method (Tipler's E65/3).

LOUGHBOROUGH

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., June 18, 1954, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5152 BUSHEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6½ cwt.

RALPH ELKINGTON .. Treble	S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE 2	JOHN A. ACRES 6
ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 3	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 7
J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 4	HAROLD J. POOLE .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

First peal in the method by all the band, and for the Guild.

ELTHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 19, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

* GEOFFREY J. HURRELL .. Treble	WILLIAM J. RAWLINGS .. 5
† MARION E. HUNT 2	FREDERICK J. HURRELL .. 6
BERTIE ALDRIDGE 3	ERNEST B. CROWDER .. 7
GEORGE H. DAYNES 4	JIM HURRELL Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST B. CROWDER.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire.

Rung as a farewell to Miss M. E. Hunt, of Melksham, Wiltshire, on leaving Avery Hill College to take a teaching post at Weston-super-Mare, Somerset. Also a 76th birthday compliment to Mr. J. Hurrell.

HUGGLESCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., June 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation No. 1.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

MRS. H. J. POOLE .. Treble	JOHN M. JELLEY 5
JOHN A. ACRES 2	ERNEST J. JELLEY 6
HAROLD J. POOLE 3	HQACE O. OVER 7
SAMUEL H. CHAPMAN .. 4	BRIAN A. WILDE Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

Rung on the eve of the Patronal Festival.

WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., June 24, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

HAROLD J. POOLE Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE 2	*ARTHUR E. ROWLEY .. 6
JOHN A. ACRES 3	*JOSEPH W. COTTON .. 7
ROLAND BENISTON 4	S. ANTHONY JESSON .. Tenor

Composed by FREDK. H. DEXTER. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal in the method.

Rung on the Patronal Festival. A birthday compliment to Margaret E. L. Beamish.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., June 24, 1954, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5120 TWICKENHAM SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

C. EDWARD LANKESTER .. Treble	THOMAS H. FRANCIS .. 5
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. 2	BRIAN D. THRELFALL .. 6
*THOMAS J. LOCK .. 3	ALFRED J. HOUSE .. 7
ALICK CUTLER .. 4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

* 350th peal.

The first peal in the method.

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., June 25, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5152 BUSHEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

CHRISTINE J. STRATFORD .. Treble	ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 5
HAROLD J. POOLE .. 2	*MICHAEL E. BROWN .. 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. 3	*JOHN A. L. THOMPSON .. 7
JOHN A. ACRES .. 4	*ALFRED BALLARD .. Tenor

Composed by ALBERT J. PITMAN. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal in the method.

A compliment to Mrs. H. J. Poole on her birthday.

BUCKLEY, FLINTSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Cave's Variation of Washbrook's.	Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.
DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD .. Treble	ROBERT W. HINDE .. 5
JOHN W. BEST .. 2	PERCY SWINDLEY .. 6
FREDERICK R. EVANS .. 3	JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. 7
*ARTHUR G. WATKIN .. 4	FREDERICK H. BIRKS .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. GRIFFITHS.

* First peal of Stedman on a working bell. Mr. D. H. B. Millward has now rung each bell in this tower to a peal.

COTTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*ALFRED LOCKWOOD .. Treble	LESLIE FORSTER .. 5
BERTIE CHILVERS .. 2	†FRANK STERRY .. 6
ROBERT E. LESTER .. 3	ARTHUR E. COOK .. 7
OLIVER G. BARNARD .. 4	WILLIAM J. BUTTON .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by FRANK STERRY.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method. First peal as conductor.

FARNDON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

DOUGLAS KIRKPATRICK .. Treble	WILLIAM ALLMAN .. 5
HENRY O. BAKER .. 2	HAROLD WORRALL .. 6
JOHN SCOTT .. 3	HENRY PARKER .. 7
VICTOR NEAL .. 4	HARRY W. HOWARD .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS. Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5184 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

J. EDWARD CAWSE .. Treble	FRANK E. HAYNES .. 5
*CLIVE M. SMITH .. 2	ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 6
MURIEL REAY .. 3	*JEFFREY B. WEBB .. 7
BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

* First peal of Yorkshire. A birthday compliment to Frank E. Haynes.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Pitstow's Transposition.	Tenor 16 cwt.
CLEMENT GLENN .. Treble	JOHN E. TURLEY .. 5
JOAN HOODLESS .. 2	ALLAN SIMPSON .. 6
SAMUEL PINDER .. 3	BRIAN BUSWELL .. 7
PERCY E. BALL .. 4	*ARTHUR E. HOODLESS .. Tenor

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

First peal on the bells by the Guild.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., June 28, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5056 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Comprising 1,472 of Lincolnshire, 2,176 of Yorkshire and 1,408 of Cambridge, with 134 changes of method. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*SAM LONGBOTTOM .. Treble	*RALPH BEAUMONT .. 5
*GEOFFREY F. BRYANT .. 2	*ROBERT E. MOULDS .. 6
*GEOFFREY INGHAM .. 3	*J. HENRY FIELDEN .. 7
*JOHN F. BRYANT .. 4	†VERNON BOTTOMLEY .. Tenor

Arranged by E. A. BARNETT. Conducted by VERNON BOTTOMLEY.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise. † First peal of Spliced Surprise away from treble, and first peal of Spliced as conductor. The first peal of Spliced Surprise on the bells.

TENBY, PEMBROKESHIRE.

THE ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., June 29, 1954, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's No. 2 Variation.	Tenor 13 cwt.
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. Treble	TREVOR M. RODERICK .. 5
ERNEST STITCH .. 2	*BENJAMIN J. WILLIAMS .. 6
HAROLD J. POOLE .. 3	GWYN I. LEWIS .. 7
ALBERT J. PITMAN .. 4	EDMUND J. MORRIS .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Stedman on the bells, which were augmented to eight in 1867, and first peal of Stedman for the Guild.



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SIX BELL PEALS

RUGELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., June 5, 1954, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt.

*STELLA HUGHES Treble	GEORGE W. HUGHES 4
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 2	MAURICE G. TURNER 5
JOHN R. JOYNER 3	HOWARD HOWELL Tenor

Conducted by MAURICE G. TURNER.

* First peal in the method and of Minor. The first peal of Minor on the bells.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., June 25, 1954, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being two 2,160's and one 720.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

FREDERICK A. MUNDAY .. Treble	E. JOHN WELLS 4
*ALAN PENDLEBURY 2	T. MARK WHITE 5
JOHN R. COOPER 3	JACK R. WORRALL Tenor

Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

* First peal of Surprise.

POTTERS PURY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., June 25, 1954, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 13 cwt. (approx.).

*TONY WOOTON Treble	FREDERICK C. CASE 4
K. MARY COWLEY 2	*JOHN CHAMBERS 5
EDWIN R. LAMBERT 3	WILLIAM A. YATES Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. YATES.

* First peal. First peal on the bells. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th.

HARTLIP, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 14 cwt.

TREVOR A. CROSS Treble	ALBERT DUNK 4
HARRY SPRINGATE 2	CYRIL S. JARRETT 5
EDWARD C. BARTON 3	GEORGE KENWARD Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL S. JARRETT.

25th peal as conductor.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. Dunk, wife of the ringer of the 4th.

ODIHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven 720's in eight methods: (1) Double Bob and Single Oxford, (2) St. Clement's, (3) Double Oxford, (4) Cambridge Surprise, (5) Oxford Treble Bob, (6) Kent Treble Bob, (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lb. in F.

ANN M. COX Treble	ROLAND W. MORANT 4
*†EILEEN M. TURNER 2	*E. JOHN WELLS 5
RALPH BIRD 3	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal in eight methods. † 25th peal, and all with E. John Wells. The first peal on these bells since 1913.

RAMPTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

(North Notts District.)

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise Treble Bob, London Scholars Treble Bob, Sandal Treble Bob, Kingston Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

MARION BRADLEY Treble	HAROLD DENMAN 4
KATHERINE BURCHNALL 2	DOREEN ARMSTRONG 5
GRACE BURCHNALL 3	FRANK BRADLEY Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BRADLEY.

WIGTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 8 cwt.

JOSEPH W. BAILEY Treble	JOHN G. AMES 4
STANLEY E. BENNETT 2	RONALD PADLEY 5
RONALD C. NOON 3	FRANK TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.

Joseph W. Bailey has now 'circled the tower.'

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

WONSTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 8½ cwt. in A.

RICHARD SMITH Treble	ADRIAN J. TUMBER 4
*DOROTHY G. SMITH 2	†BETTY J. DAYSH 5
BERYL R. PITTAWAY 3	J. MICHAEL LAKIN Tenor

Conducted by J. MICHAEL LAKIN.

* First peal. † First peal of Treble Bob. First peal of Treble Bob as conductor.

LOIS WEEDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., June 27, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 14 extents each of St. Simon's, Plain Bob and Grandsire.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

CECIL HINTON Treble	WILLIAM J. CHESTER 4
*BARRY SAUNDERS 2	WILLIAM A. YATES 5
MONTAGUE SAUNDERS 3	GEORGE SHELLARD Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. YATES.

* First peal in three methods.

Rung for the Feast of St. Peter.

LITTLE ASTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tues., June 29, 1954, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being eight differently called Morris's 240's, 10 different extents, and eight differently called Pitman's 240's. Tenor 9 cwt. 13 lb. in A.

*JOHN B. DINENAGE Treble	CLIVE M. SMITH 4
JEFFREY B. WEBB 2	DAVID W. BARR 5
MICHAEL W. FAIREY 3	†COLIN J. GALL Tenor

Conducted by CLIVE M. SMITH.

* First peal away from the tenor, and first peal in the method.

† First peal. David W. Barr now 'completes the circle.'

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

HANDBELL PEALS

BRISTOL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Wed., June 16, 1954, in 1 Hour and 44 Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Double Bob, St. Clement's and College, and three extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor size 15 in C.

ALAN E. PEDLER 1-2	ENID LLOYD-ROBERTS 3-4
DAVID J. MARSHALL 5-6	

Conducted by DAVID J. MARSHALL.

The first handbell peal in five methods by all, and for the Society. An engagement compliment to Mary Kennelly and Frank Mack, former officers of the Society.

BRISTOL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Sun., June 20, 1954, in 1 Hour and 53 Minutes,

AT THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor size 11 in G.

*MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING .. 1-2	ALAN E. PEDLER 3-4
DAVID J. MARSHALL 5-6	

Conducted by DAVID J. MARSHALL.

* First handbell peal. The Society's first peal by an all-male band.

OBITUARY

MR. F. J. RUSSELL

Mr. Frederick Joseph Russell, of 49, Ray Mill Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, Ringing Master at St. Michael's Church, Bray, for 30 years, died at his mother's home at Bray on June 17th. He was 57. For six months he had been seriously ill and had a major head operation in St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, in January.

Fred Russell had followed a tradition of bell-ringing at Bray which began in his family four generations ago. He rang there for 45 years. His father was towerkeeper and a ringer for over 50 years. He taught scores of young people the art of change ringing and was always proud to recount the history of Bray's bells, which have rung out over the village for nearly four centuries.

In his younger days he was a peal ringer, but his first concern was always ringing for Sunday services. Undoubtedly the peal of which he was most proud was the one he conducted at Bray on VE-Day when all the ringers were people he had taught himself.

Mr. Russell was a member of the Cumberland Youths. To the people of Maidenhead and district he was better known as an expert handbell ringer. With his brother, Harry, he astonished party and concert audiences by ringing tunes with three bells in each hand. Five years ago they broadcast in the B.B.C. programme, Opportunity Knocks.

Mr. Russell was maintenance engineer at Electrical Press, Maidenhead. He leaves six children. Mrs. Russell died four years ago.

The day before Mr. Russell's funeral, his body was taken into Bray Church, and eight ringers whom he had taught rang a half-muffled quarter peal of Grandsire Triples. They were: Gladys Rolls (sister) 1, Richard Lidbury 2, Malcolm Upstone (nephew) 3, Betty Gregory 4, Diana Spice 5, Doreen Hague 6, Peter Aslett 7, John Norsworthy 8.

MR. A. S. TOMKINS

With deep regret we record the death of Mr. Alfred S. Tomkins, of Bredenbury, Herefordshire, who died in Hereford General Hospital on June 18th while undergoing a serious operation.

Mr. Tomkins, aged 78 years, was Bredenbury parish clerk for over 50 years. He was also the village sub-postmaster, carpenter, builder and undertaker, and such was his kindness and ever ready to help spirit that in this quiet village life he became one of the central figures.

But it was to his church and the ten rectors he served that he saw his duty. In the regular and punctual service ringing in the tower, in his unflinching and enthusiastic attendance at the services, in the leisure hours devoted to the neatness of the churchyard—there was the testimony of his faith.

'Alf' to his own generation, 'The Foreman' to the generations after, was the only secretary of the Bromyard District of the Hereford Diocesan Guild since its formation 35 years ago. He was always delighted and pleased at the good attendances at the district's meetings which his sincere welcome and interest to young and old helped to foster. He will be hard to replace, and there will never be another just like 'The Foreman'.

In the quiet and peace of this lovely part of Herefordshire a large attendance of parishioners and ringers filled the church and overflowed into the churchyard at his funeral on June 22nd. Carried on the shoulders of his own ringers and friends, he was taken into the church for his last service.

The service and committal were conducted by the Archdeacon of Hereford, the Ven. A. J. Winnington-Ingram, assisted by the secretary of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, the Rev. W. R. Thomas. T. C.

MR. JAMES L. SMITH

The South Forest Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association have lost a former Ringing Master by the death of Mr. James L. Smith, of Lydney, Glos.

He came to Lydney about 1942 as gardener to Lord Bledisloe, having previously been a prominent member of the Wotton-under-Edge Branch. He will be remembered for his work among learners and the formation of his band of handbell ringers. At the meeting of the South Forest Branch at Clearwell on June 26th the vice-chairman (the Rev. H. H. F. Heal) spoke of Mr. Smith and the late Mr. J. W. Davies as great churchmen and great ringers.

MEMORIAL TO MR. H. SCOFFIN

During a pause in ringing for evensong at St. Wilfrid's Church, Alford, Lincs, on June 20th, the Vicar (the Rev. P. E. Mann) received from the ringers and dedicated a memorial in memory of their late captain, Mr. H. Scoffin.

The memorial in the form of a wall plaque is of English brown oak and bears the carved inscription: 'In proud memory of Harry Scoffin, a ringer in this tower for 55 years. Died September 12th, 1953.'

Beneath the inscription is a framed copy of a peal card commemorating Mr. Scoffin's one and only full peal, which he rang in Alford at the age of 64.

Mr. L. Slack, handicraft master at the Secondary Modern School, designed and carried out the work in accordance with the wishes of his fellow-ringers.



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BELL FOUNDERS AND CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



IRISH ASSOCIATION

Action Over Recorded Bells

A proposal to invite the Central Council to hold its meeting in Ireland in 1958 was adopted at the annual meeting of the Irish Association held at Dublin on May 28th. Before an official invitation is issued the Districts are to be communicated with to ascertain what support would be forthcoming. The year 1958 will be the 60th anniversary of the Association's foundation.

Mr. W. Pratt (president) was in the chair. The officers elected were President, Mr. W. Pratt; Master and librarian, Mr. R. S. F. Murphy, P.C.; general secretary, Mr. F. E. Dukes, 26, William Street, Drogheda; auditors, Messrs. W. Boveniger and R. W. Smyth; badge secretary, Mr. J. T. Dunwoody; 'Irish Bell News' Editorial Committee, Mr. F. E. Dukes (editor), Miss J. Stewart, Mr. G. Bingham and Mrs. F. E. Dukes.

The report of the 'Irish Bell News' showed that it was in a healthy state, with a circulation of over 200 copies.

Mr. Griffith E. Jones was elected a life member in recognition of his services in the cause of ringing in St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Barnett, Crayford, Kent, were unanimously elected non-resident life members (honorary).

Three resolutions regarding recorded bells were considered and adopted as follows, the general secretary being instructed to send copies of the first to the leaders of the various Church bodies:—

(a) 'That this Association is concerned at the number of recorded bell installations which have been and are being installed in place of proper bells in the various churches in Ireland, on the ground that "live" bells, when rung, are superior to those recorded.'

(b) 'That each affiliated tower of this Association be requested to refuse permission for their bells to be recorded where it is known that such recordings are to be used in connection with recorded bell apparatus for the purpose of summoning people in worship in God's house.'

(c) 'That the Central Council members of this Association be instructed to support any resolution which may be brought before the Council meeting, at Newcastle in condemnation of such recorded bell apparatus, as referred to in above resolutions.'

A contribution was made towards the oak case for the Central Council Roll of Honour in St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

The Central Council circular re 'The Ringing World' was read and it was decided that the Association should purchase a copy (postal) for the library. The District secretaries reported on their efforts to increase the sale of the journal. Messrs. F. E. Dukes and J. T. Dunwoody were appointed correspondents for Republic and Northern Ireland respectively.

The annual contest for the Murphy Cup was held earlier in the day at St. George's Church, Dublin. Kilbroney, a six-bell band from Rostrevor, County Down, won the trophy for the first time.

DEVON GUILD OF RINGERS

Meeting at Chudleigh

The Mid-Devon and South-West Branches held a successful joint meeting at Chudleigh on June 19th.

Ringing took place during the afternoon and evening, after tea at the Clifford Arms Hotel. Subsequently hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the church authorities for the use of the bells. Mr. A. Collins, of Chudleigh, suitably replied.

The Mid-Devon annual meeting at Nottory will be held on July 17th instead of the 24th. Mr. and Mrs. W. Frank Stenson, of Crewe, were elected non-resident members.

ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD

Annual Festival

Members from all parts of the Diocese attended the annual meeting of the St. David's Guild, held at St. Peter's, Carmarthen, on June 19th.

Just before the service the president, the Lord Bishop of St. David's, arrived and went up to the ringing chamber amongst his ringers. His visit was much appreciated as the presence of the clergy means quite a lot to ringers.

The Archdeacon of Carmarthen (the Ven. J. R. Pugh) officiated at the service and the address was given by the Lord Bishop in which he pointed out the part the ringers played for God and the Church, and how the sound of the bells reminded those who were in any way afflicted or distressed and who could not attend church to worship.

After the service the ringers were entertained to a very nice tea at the Shire Hall where 70 members enjoyed themselves.

The Lord Bishop kindly presided and opened the meeting with a prayer. A tribute of respect was paid to Mr. Fred Harton, of Burry Port, who had passed on since the last meeting. The custom of ringing handbells at all meetings of the Guild was observed. All the officers were re-elected for another twelve months. For the office of Ringing Master which must be changed every year, Mr. W. J. Harris, of Llanbadarn Fawr was appointed. A special appeal was made to members to buy 'The Ringing World.'

After a discussion on a few minor items the business meeting ended with a collection for the Bell Restoration Fund which realised the sum of £2 2s. 6d. A very pleasing statement by the Bishop on his attitude towards synthetic bells brought very loud applause. 'There must be no imitation in our churches,' he emphasised.

Mr. Humphreys, of Pembroke, proposed the vote of thanks, mentioning the Archdeacon of Carmarthen for officiating at the service and providing the tea, the ladies who waited at tea, and also to the organist. The Bishop was also warmly thanked for presiding and for his fatherly guidance. His invitation to the Guild to hold their next annual meeting at the Palace in 1955 was accepted with acclamation.

Halifax and District Association

Four towers—Meltham, Friezland, Silkstone and Shelley—entered for the six-bell contest on June 26th, which was won by Friezland with five penalties and 54 faults. The judge, Mr. H. Roberts, commented that ringing had been below standard all day and Silkstone and Shelley rang with the bells too high. The test was 600 changes.

Friezland received the silver cup, and each man a chrome tea caddy.

At the annual meeting the officers were re-elected and a bank balance of £20 3s. 4d. reported.

Norwich Diocesan Association

At the meeting of the West Norfolk Branch at Castleacre on May 29th Mr. Norman Harding reported that a plaque to the memory of the late Mr. W. Eldred, who was for 25 years secretary of the Branch, was being made and would be hung in St. Margaret's Church, King's Lynn. Donations from ringers for this plaque should be sent to Mr. N. Harding, Roydon, King's Lynn.

Mr. Ebberson spoke of the value of 'The Ringing World' to the Exercise in uniting all ringers into one colossal family, and, following discussion, a resolution was carried that all ringers should consider becoming postal subscribers to the journal.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Dersingham, and Gaywood was selected for an interim meeting on July 10th.

'TOWERS & BELLS OF BRITAIN'

A New Book by Ernest Morris

The new book by Ernest Morris, of Leicester, under the above title, is now in an advanced state of preparation for publication later this year. The publishers, Robert Hale, Ltd., of London, write in their prospectus of new books about to be published:—

'Architects have written on church towers and spires, and campanologists on bells; but rarely, if ever, have the two intimately related subjects been considered together. Here is a well-known bellringer and acknowledged authority on that art in all its phases, who has made a special study of church towers and their history, describes many little-known facts about the peculiar characteristics of bell towers—and many are distinctly odd. Giving examples of all the varying types and designs, Mr. Morris has written a fascinating book for all who ever wished to climb a bell chamber.'

A preface has been written by Mr. G. Arnold Cope, M.C., F.R.I.B.A., and an attractive 'jacket' designed by Cecil Dunford. The book will be fully illustrated with photos of the various types to towers. Mr. Ernest Morris' earlier books—'The History and Art of Change Ringing,' 'Legends of the Bells,' 'Bells of All Nations'—have all been sold with the exception of a few copies of the last-named, which can only be obtained from the author.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

Wigan Branch

It is the usual practice of the Wigan Branch to visit country towers for the summer meetings and the choice of Halsall Church, which is a fine example of Early English architecture, between Ormskirk and Southport, was a happy selection. The sanctus bell in this church was salvaged from the wreck of a Spanish galleon which sailed with the Armada and went aground off Ainsdale.

For many years Halsall had a resident band able to ring peals in several Minor methods. At present the older members of the band include three conductors—Mr. Arthur Mawdesley, Mr. C. Ackers and Mrs. Helen Parker. At the other end of the scale are several teenagers who can give a good account of themselves. With such a band, service ringing is good and regular.

At the meeting ringing ranged from Grand-sire Doubles to London Surprise Minor and Oswald Delight (a Branch favourite). Mention must also be made of the service, the warm welcome given by the curate in the absence of the Rector, and the usual sumptuous tea.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

Northern District

Despite the very rainy day there was an attendance of 51 at the Northern District meeting at Great Bardfield on June 12th. A cordial welcome was extended by the Vicar (the Rev. R. O. Masheder) at the service. Local ringers, their wives and friends had prepared a splendid tea.

Before the business meeting members stood in silence to the memory of Mr. S. Vaughan Pearce, of Witham, an honorary member.

Miss H. G. Snowden, District Ringing Master, presided, and the business included the election of eleven new members, eight being probationers from Rayne, who are being taught by the Stebbing ringers.

The chairman reported on the Central Council meeting, and Mr. Pratt on the Association's annual meeting at Chelmsford. Arising from the discussion Mr. A. R. Elliott, of 4, Easterford Road, Kelvedon, was appointed 'Ringing World' representative.

Stisted was chosen for the next meeting in August.

ASHTREAD, SURREY

Ashtread ringers with a few friends from Leatherhead and Epsom had an outing in the Thames Valley on June 5th. Altogether it was a happy day and very good experience to a band consisting almost entirely of 'improvers' in the art.

Ringing took place at Egham, Old Windsor (where ringing was interrupted for a wedding), Binfield (the only six-bell tower of the day), Wraybury (where the long draught found out the weakness of many of the visitors), St. Mary's, Staines, and Sunbury.

DORCHESTER

Four towers were visited on June 12th in the half-day outing of the Dorchester St. Peter's Society and friends, the party totalling 26. Three heavy towers—Crewkerne (22 cwt.), South Petherton (25 cwt.) and Martock (25 cwt.)—were selected and, as a contrast, the tiny six-bell tower of Evershot (7 cwt.). Ringing was in the four standard methods. The cordial welcome received at each tower was much appreciated.

SILSOE, BEDS

The Peak District of Derbyshire was an ambitious outing of Silsoe ringers, representing six towers on May 22nd. Towers visited were Christ Church, Burbage (where Spliced Surprise methods are rung for service touches); St. John-the-Baptist, Tideswell (the 'Cathedral of the Peak'); St. Lawrence's, Eyam (a light six with a ground floor pull); St. Giles', Great Longstone; and St. Peter's, Edensor (a lofty steeple and the hardest pull of the day).

On the return journey everyone was impressed by the magnificent scenery which had been veiled during the morning. The co-operation of local ringers and incumbents was much appreciated. Without their help the outing would have been impossible.

OUTINGS**OTTERSASH, SURREY**

Ringers and friends of Christ Church, Ottershaw, assembled at the Otter for a 7.30 a.m. start to their outing into Hants and Berks. At Deane, the first stop, during 120 Grandsire Doubles, the treble ceased to function. The Rector climbed aloft and found the stay firmly wedged under the frame. Apparently he had recently fitted a new stay but had only been able to get one bolt through and this had worked loose. A hefty kick by the Rector released it, and further ringing was enjoyed minus the offending stay.

The rest of the day's ringing was uneventful and periods of three-quarters of an hour were spent at the following churches:—St. Peter's, Over Wallop; The Ascension, Burghclere; St. Mary's, Shaw; and St. Mary's, Burghfield, where, with the help of some touring Worcester ringers, Cambridge was rung.

Mr. Bob Andrews was thanked and commended for such a successful outing. In his reply he asked for a collection to be made towards 'The Ringing World' funds, which resulted in a princely sum of 30s.

WHITCHURCH, GLAM

Whitchurch ringers, accompanied by ringers from Porthkerry, Bedwelty, St. Mellons, Radyr, Rumney and Cardiff, visited the Forest of Dean on June 19th. The bells at Hewelsfield, St. Briavels, Littledean and Tidenham were rung. It was a lovely day and despite the coach driver getting lost in the Forest all enjoyed themselves. The veteran of the party, Joe Bailey (82), rang in each tower, and George Whittington, who sang in Hewelsfield Church choir over 50 years ago, would have taken the old yew tree home with him if he could have got it into the coach!

BEDFORDSHIRE RINGERS

Eagerly awaited by a party of ringers from Bedfordshire led by Ron Sharp, June 19th dawned at last (we saw it!) and by 5.35 a.m. the last of four cars had left for Queen Camel. London and Cambridge sounded wonderful on the glorious six around 10.30. The time for ringing at Yeovil was somewhat restricted because of the deplorable tradition that the bride should be late. Nevertheless we enjoyed the privilege of ringing Caters there with Tom Setter. After lunch the convoy turned towards the Mecca of tenormen—Sherborne Abbey—where Yorkshire was very creditably rung.

The bells of Ditchat, famed for their excellence, recalled to four of the party a near-perfect peal of Superlative rung there nearly two years ago, and although a touch of Spliced wouldn't go on this occasion, none could fail to enjoy the bells or the tea which followed. A considerable journey was made to reach Westbury, our last tower, where we were joined by Mr. Joe Dyke. Yorkshire was rung first, followed by Stedman, etc., but the best on these magnificent bells was destined to be the last touch of the day—Spliced Surprise.

The thanks of the party are due to Ron Sharp for his excellent organisation. P. I. C.

WHIT MONDAY IN MID-KENT

Arranged by Mr. Fred Rye, 33 ringers and friends from Walmer, Great Mongeham, Ringwould and Dover had an outing in Mid-Kent on Whit Monday.

Towers visited were St. Mary's, Chilham; St. John-the-Baptist, Harrietsham; All Saints', Maidstone (the first 10-bell tower for many of the party); SS. Peter and Paul's, Headcorn (best ringing of the day), Tenterden and St. Nicholas', Newington. The day concluded with a visit to the theatre at Folkestone.

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The Official Journal of the Central
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BARNETT, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford,
Kent. Telephone: Bexleyheath 8689.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

J. FRANK SMALLWOOD (convener), 122, Lee
Road, Blackheath, London, S.E.3.

FRANK I. HAIRS.

JOSEPH T. DYKE.

HAROLD J. POOLE.

R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

The peal at Eltham on June 19th is believed
to be the first peal of Holt's Original to be
rung with three generations of College Youths
standing in. It was the first of this composi-
tion by Mr. E. B. Crowder, the conductor,
for 24 years, he having been away from ringing
for 20 years.

The accomplishment of Mr.
A. G. Watkin of ringing his
first peal of Stedman on a
working bell at Buckley, Flintshire, is a very
different experience from that of his father.
The latter made no less than 36 unsuccessful
attempts with the late Mr. R. Sperring and de-
clined to stand in the 37th, which proved suc-
cessful.

Two ringers in the peal of Grandsire Cinques
at St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, have now rung
Deaneries from Doubles to Cinques. They are
Mrs. D. G. Mayell, of Brentwood, Essex, and
Mr. Roger O. Fry, of Bath.

Mr. Ronald C. Noon has been appointed
'Ringing World' correspondent to the Elloe
Deaneries Branch, Lincoln Diocesan Guild, and
Mr. G. Dodds for the St. Albans District,
Herts County Association.

The ringer of the seventh in the quarter peal
of Cambridge Major at Harlow Common on
May 23rd was Peter Bond and not Peter Came
as stated. Our correspondent sends his apolo-
gies to all concerned.

Mr. E. Alexander Young desires to thank
those ringing friends who have informed him of
the location of spires with hanging weights, as
requested in his letter of a month ago. The list
is one Irish and 11 English. There are probably
several others.

King's Lynn staged a pageant to celebrate
the 750th anniversary of the granting of the
Charter to the Borough. The distant sound of
the bells concluding a peal of Plain Bob Royal
was an appropriate and much appreciated back-
ground to the first episode of the pageant.

For change ringing, Ticehurst ringers have
to visit nearby towers. For the first time, on
June 29th, three of their members rang a peal
in their own tower. In accomplishing this per-
formance they would like to express their grati-
tude to the towerkeepers and ringers of Wad-
hurst and Hawkhurst for their help.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The band who rang the peal
of Spliced Surprise at Queens-
bury on June 28th would like
to associate with the peal the name of Mr.
William Ambler. As the pioneer of Surprise
ringing in this district and leader at Queens-
bury until indifferent health curtailed his ac-
tivities, he laid the foundations of the ringing
of the majority of the band, who come from
Halifax.

Mr. L. Stilwell, by ringing the fifth to a
peal of Plain Bob Royal at St. Peter's, Brighton,
on June 26th, has 'completed the circle.' This
is the 12th tower in which he has accom-
plished this feat.

A correspondent informs us that a peal of
Rochester Surprise Major was rung at South-
port on April 8th, 1950. The footnote on page
370 needs amending.

There was a peal rung at Upper Graven-
hurst, Beds, for the Coronation. The claim of
a 'first on the bells' on page 374, writes a
correspondent, cannot be substantiated.

While Willesden Regatta at the Welsh Harp
was being televised on June 25th, the bells of
St. Andrew's, Kingsbury, situated about a mile
away, were clearly heard by viewers.

The ringers who took part in the peal at
Sittingbourne on June 20th would like to con-
gratulate Mr. J. E. Grensted on his faultless
performance, it being his first peal for 46 years.
He has recently returned to England after
spending 45 years in Canada.

In the ringing chamber of St. John-the-
Divine, Leicester, is a black and white scarf
assumed to have been left there by one of the
party of the Ancient Society of College Youths
who visited Leicester on May 8th. The claim-
ant is asked to communicate with Mr. S. Har-
rison, 73, Hopefield Road, Leicester, who would
be pleased to send on the scarf.

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CENTRAL COUNCIL

THIS BUSINESS ABOUT PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

FIRM STAND BY PEALS ANALYSIS COMMITTEE AFTER 50 YEARS—PLEAS OF IGNORANCE OF DECISION BY NOTED RINGERS—RECORDED BELLS DISCUSSED—NEXT COUNCIL MEETING AT BRISTOL

PEALS ANALYSIS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Peals Analysis Committee, in submitting their report for 1953, draw attention to the downward trend in peal ringing in the last few years.

In spite of the fact that 1953 was Coronation Year, the total number of peals rung was less than that of 1952. There was an increase of 16 in tower-bell peals, but a decrease of 69 in handbell peals. June saw 432 tower-bell peals rung, but this was followed by a reaction, for the number of peals during the remainder of the year fell well below the average.

Although in many churches the bells are rung regularly for the Sunday services, there are also many rings of bells which are silent on Sunday owing to lack of ringers. It is, therefore, heartening to find that in some districts young ringers are being encouraged and trained to become peal ringers.

Once again it is noticed, with congratulations, that the Leicester Diocesan Guild, with only 11 peals short of the previous year's total, occupy the first place in the Analysis. The Lancashire Association have moved up into second place, with the Essex Association in third place, the highest they have been for some time.

The five- and six-bell ringers have again upheld their reputation, accounting for 38.1 per cent. of all the tower-bell peals.

The Chester Guild have broken fresh ground in the Plain Major methods; the Norwich Guild in the Triples methods and the Worcester and Districts with Spliced Triples, while the Leicester Guild have enhanced their reputation with Spliced Maximus in twelve methods on tower bells and Stedman Sextuples on handbells.

The Middlesex Association accomplished a fine feat in ringing a silent peal of London Surprise Major on handbells, and the Hertford County a similar one of Cambridge Surprise Major.

Two remarkable peals which call for special mention are the handbell records of Grandsire Caters and Plain Bob Royal, both by the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, which, we have no doubt, will be dealt with more fully by the Records Committee.

It has been pointed out that there is a decision of the Council against peals of Plain Bob Triples, Caters and Cinques, therefore the committee have no option but to delete from the Analysis the following peals of Bob Triples:

Chester Guild (1), Essex Association (1), Hertford County (2), Kent County (1), Llandaff and Monmouth (1), Leicester Guild (1), North Staffs (1), Oxford Diocesan (1), Suffolk Guild (2), Winchester and Portsmouth (1)—a total of 12, which makes the peal figures 2,400 on tower bells and 154 on handbells.

Another 'peal' of Plain Bob Triples, rung at Littleport, without a cover bell, was not entered.

In conclusion, we thank peal ringers for responding to our request to send in peal reports with promptitude, but still wish that Minor and Doubles ringers would always state the number of methods rung.

Mr. W. Ayre, in presenting the report, commented: 'I think the fun begins now.' He said in the last few years they had had an occasional peal of Bob Triples. That year there were 12. He pointed out that there was a rule in 1904 and 1927 against ringing peals of Bob Triples, so they had been slipping very badly.

He decided to bring the matter up because he disliked the Council making decisions and not abiding by them. The committee were not trying to dictate and tell them what they should ring or not ring, but simply to abide by the decisions of the Council.

Mr. H. Miles seconded.

The Secretary: The Standing Committee recommended that the report be adopted.

Mr. N. Chaddock moved that peals of Treble Bob be included in the 1953 Analysis and that exclusion be deferred until after the publication of the Council's Handbook. He felt that the introduction of such a regulation would cause resentment. Some of the peals were rung specially for the Coronation.

Mr. W. F. Moreton seconded. He regarded the introduction now without warning as a big mistake.

Mr. Barker: The warning was given in 1904.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS

We have had an encouraging response to our call for new postal subscribers, and with the half-year just starting the time is appropriate for the enrolment of additional postal subscribers.

Congratulations to Hertfordshire, who head the list with 22 new postal readers.

They are closely followed by Essex 19, Wales 17, Surrey 15, London 13, Staffordshire 13, Birmingham 10, Leicestershire 10, Lancashire 9, Norfolk 8.

The rate for a postal subscriber is 11s. 8d. for the half-year. For each additional copy add 8s. 8d. Remittances should be sent to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall.

Mr. Eric Critchley asked how many towers throughout the country knew of the regulations. As a peal secretary he would accept such peals.

Mr. C. K. Lewis objected most strongly to the amendment. In the last few years, he said, they had refused to accept peals of Minor because they were irregular. It was not the fault of the Analysis Committee; it was the fault of the Council—they ought to know the decisions. The decision touched him deeply because his Guild rang a peal of Bob Triples to the memory of his friend Bob Newton and it was his sad duty to turn it down. The analysis ought to be a record of things that conformed to the Council's decisions. He asked if they could have an assurance from 'The Ringing World' Committee that all peals would be recorded and then only peals that conformed to the Council's decisions would be recorded in the Peal Analysis Committee's report. He had great sympathy with the Minor ringers who had their peals taken away without warning. If they gave way to eight-bell ringers it would discourage Minor ringers who rang 38 per cent. of the peals.

Mr. F. Dukes said they had no official warning that these peals were to be thrown out. He asked how many Associations had an official copy of the rules.

Mr. P. J. Johnson asked the members to put some sort of logic into their statements. It was no use being fair to one and unfair to another. It was well known since 1904 that Bob Triples had been discouraged by the Coun-

cil. The Council was not saying to ringers, 'You can't do this or that'; all it was saying was that these peals would not be admitted to the Analysis.

Mr. Robinson thought that the enforcement of the decision should not be done without notice. He would like to move that the decision be amended.

Mr. Johnson added, with emphasis, that the decision could not be amended at that meeting.

Mr. Harold J. Poole thought that to cut the peals out now would do a great deal of harm to young ringers.

The Rev. J. G. M. Scott said he lived in a county (Devonshire) where there was a great deal of Grandsire. If he had a band of his own he would try and get them through Bob Doubles before they heard Grandsire. He reminded the Council that the first recorded peal by John Garthorn in 1715 was Bob Triples. He asked the Council to rescind the decision as to Bob Triples.

Mr. J. R. Worrall supported the views of Mr. Poole. He said he had taken part in three peals of Bob Triples. 'I asked someone whom I thought would know whether there was a decision against it and I was told they simply frowned upon it.'

Mr. C. W. Pipe: I have rung and conducted Bob Triples and I did not know there was a decision against Bob Triples.

Mr. John Freeman: Personally I cannot see any merit in ringing Bob Triples. I assume that the rule was drafted by people who thought it was not worthy of being practised. I do not believe in the school of thought that if a peal was rung in innocence it should count. If ever I am pulled up by the police in Leicester I shall tell them that I did it in all innocence! He supported Mr. K. Lewis.

The Rev. K. W. H. Felstead took the view that the method had been rung so long that it would be a pity to rule out these peals.

Mr. G. W. Fletcher: We have heard a lot about this innocence, but about three weeks ago a member of the Methods Committee rang a peal of Bob Caters in the Eastern Counties.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow supported the views of Mr. Scott. As to the first recorded peal of 1715 it would be very sad to have to report that that was a good peal in every sense except in the eyes of the Central Council. If that decision came to pass the third edition of his book ('The Church Bells of Norwich') would have to have a very long footnote to that peal that it was not recognised by the Central Council (laughter).

'I feel in this age of specialisation that my sympathies are not with all the experts who can ring anything, but with the young ringers in the village towers who are struggling to do this and that.'

Mr. Harry Miles: Is it not a fact that every Association agrees to abide by the decisions of the Council?

Mr. Anderson said that Mr. Johnson was a member of the Council when the decision was made. Why had he allowed peals of Bob Triples in the Analysis?

Mr. Johnson: I feel you are getting all muddled. The point was made in the question asked by Mr. Miles. All your Associations have had this information since 1904, and if I have a responsibility so have you.

(Continued next page)

CENTRAL COUNCIL—Cont.

Mr. F. Dunkerley: I want to support Mr. Johnson. You have a rule and this is no place to rescind it. If you want to rescind it you must give notice.

Mr. R. G. Blackman felt that these peals should be allowed because they had accepted them since 1904. He moved that the 12 peals of Bob Triples referred to in the report be included in the Analysis and that the exclusion of these peals be deferred until after the publication of the Council's handbook.

Mr. Johnson maintained that such a resolution was out of order.

The President: Strictly speaking, that is right. Notice should be given.

Mr. Johnson: If you do this you open the floodgates on any decision of the Council.

Mr. W. Robinson suggested deferring the acceptance of the paragraph in the report until the next meeting.

It was eventually agreed to accept the report with the exception of the paragraph dealing with Bob Triples and that paragraph be postponed until next year.

The Secretary said the decision of the Standing Committee was that in future all peals not conforming to the Council's decisions will not be put in the Analysis; they will, however, if sent, be published in 'The Ringing World.'

The committee was elected as follows: Mr. W. Ayre (convener), Mr. H. Miles and the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE

The following were elected to the Standing Committee: Messrs. R. S. Anderson, W. B. Cartwright, F. E. Dukes, J. T. Dyke, J. Freeman, F. I. Hairs, P. J. Johnson, C. K. Lewis, H. J. Poole, A. H. Pulling, Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow and Mr. E. C. S. Turner.

The president moved a vote of thanks to the retiring committee for their work.

RECORDED BELLS

Before the motion was presented the president said in view of what they had heard recently he would ask the proposer to accept the following amendment:—

'That this Council deprecates the increasing number of installations of synthetic and recorded bells, which it considers to be unworthy of use in the house of God, and wishes to support the responsible authorities in the steps they are taking to prevent their installation.'

The president said that since the motion was sent in they had heard that the Church Assembly had passed a strong resolution, and also the Central Council for the Preservation of Churches. He thought it would be more appropriate if they added their support.

Mr. F. E. Hawthorne accepted the amendment and accordingly moved it.

Mr. Walter Ayre seconded.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow suggested that 'imitation' was a better word than synthetic. People might not think so but there were parts of the country that were not against recorded bells. He quoted a case of an Archdeacon, who, when the Queen arrived, played his gramophone not from the church tower but on the Vicarage lawn. One incumbent, finding that his church bells were a gramophone, attached a notice to the record: 'This peal is not to be rung any more.'

The president said the main argument against recorded bells was: 'Why not recordings of choirs from other churches, or sermons from the vicars of other churches, in fact why have your own vicar at all?'

Mr. J. A. Hoare spoke of the prevalence of recorded bells in Wales and said that the reason was that recorded bells did not cost much, only £110.

Mr. J. W. Clarke said he had been in this fight for some time. Every application that came before the Chester Advisory Committee

was met with a strong recommendation that it be not granted, but in some cases it had. If any of them had met Chancellor King they would know that he still gave way on recorded bells with a number of reservations, such as the kind of ringing. If they got the support of the Chancellors they could do most things.

The motion as amended was carried.

THE NEXT MEETING

The secretary reported that invitations had been received from Bristol and Leicester. This was discussed by the Standing Committee, who decided to leave the decision to the Council. Bristol was last visited in 1898, and Leicester in 1911.

Mr. F. I. Hairs proposed Bristol.

Mr. H. J. Poole asked the Council to place on record the invitation to Leicester the following year.

The Council decided to hold the next meeting at Bristol.

THE ATTENDANCE

The hon. secretary reported that 114 Council members were present. Twenty-four Associations were fully represented, 26 partly, four not represented. There were five life and seven honorary members present.

VOTES OF THANKS

The president proposed a vote of thanks to the Provost and Chapter of St. Nicholas Cathedral for the use of the Cathedral library, the Provost for officiating at the service, the Lord Bishop, the Lord Mayor and the Master for their welcome, Mr. D. Bayles and Mr. K. Arthur for making local arrangements and to all incumbents and towerkeepers for the use of the bells and having the bells ready (applause).

Mr. A. A. Hughes proposed a sincere vote of thanks to the president for the way he conducted the business (applause).

Mr. F. E. Dukes proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Barnett, Mr. F. Sharpe and the Editor of 'The Ringing World' (applause).

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress afterwards gave a civic reception and conversation in the Laing Art Gallery. During the evening a touch of Stedman Cinques was rung by members of the Council, conducted by Mr. H. J. Poole.

THE VISIT AN INSPIRATION

Dear Sir,—As a postscript to the visit of the Central Council to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, I should like to say how delighted our own members were to meet and ring with our visitors.

Names which were mere symbols in 'The Ringing World' became alive, old friendships were revived and new ones made.

The whole visit has been an inspiration to us all up here. We hope it will not be so long next time before we are favoured again with a Central Council visit, but that at any rate its members might come back north individually. They will always be sure of a warm welcome at any of our towers.—Yours faithfully

RICHARD A. GOFTON,

President,

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association

Leeds and District Society

When the Society met at Idle on June 26th they received a special welcome from the Vicar, who stated that he made it a practice to visit the belfry at least once a month to keep in touch with the ringers.

He was thanked at the business meeting by Mr. F. Rayment, who also thanked the ladies who waited at tea. Mr. T. Hill, on behalf of the local company, thanked the members for coming to Idle. They enjoyed hearing all the bells ringing, which rarely happened with their depleted band.

The July meeting will be held on the 24th at Calverley.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

75th Annual Meeting

THE 75th annual meeting of the Essex Association took place on Whit Monday at Chelmsford, when a large number of members and visitors enjoyed ringing on the Cathedral twelve and on the many towers that were available in the vicinity.

The Association's form of service was conducted by the Very Rev. G. E. Gordon, Provost of Chelmsford Cathedral, and the address was by Canon W. N. Welch, Archdeacon of Southend, who expressed the pleasure it gave him in accepting the office of vice-president of the Association and of being with the ringers on that particular day.

At the business meeting which followed the service, the Master (Mr. R. C. Heazel) welcomed all the visitors, mentioning especially Mr. C. J. Sedgley (Ipswich), Mr. R. Hazell (Enfield) and Mr. Ben Thompson (Norwich).

In reviewing the year's work the Master noted that 1953 had been one of great interest and activity. The Association had been privileged to send a letter of loyalty to Her Majesty and a reply had been received from the Home Office.

An innovation had been a week-end ringing course held in agreement with the Further Educational Committee of the Essex County Council at the Residential Hostel, Clarence House, Thaxted. It was believed that this was the first of its kind in the country.

Membership had increased. Honorary membership now stood at 208 and ringing members at 895.

The Bell Restoration Fund had been well supported and a sum of £69 had been distributed.

The peal total of 131 was only one short of the record annual total. 'Firsts' for the Association were York Surprise, Wembley Surprise and Spliced Surprise Major in 10 methods. Two hundred and thirty-two different members had participated in the peals, approximately 25 per cent. of the ringing members.

All the officials of the Association were re-elected, viz:—Master, Mr. R. C. Heazel; Deputy Master, Mr. H. Turner; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. F. V. Gant; hon. auditors, Messrs. J. Grove and D. Mayell.

At the lunch which followed, the guest of honour was the Provost, who obliged with his customary funny story.

To celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Association tea was arranged at Whittle, where sung evensong, containing a special litany of thanksgiving, was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. G. O. Nicholas. Thus the Association honoured its founder members and if the number and quality of the younger members present on Whit Monday is any criterion, then the work they began 75 years ago is in safe hands.

F. V. G.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—U.B.S.C.R. 4s., Whitchurch (Glam) Ringers 2s. 6d., Stanwick Ringers 2s. 6d., A. E. Young 3s., Ottershaw Outing £1 10s.

Peals.—South Collingham 2s. 6d., Dunkerton 3s., Stockbury 2s. 6d., Sittingbourne 4s., Bristol 6s., King's Lynn 5s., Brighton 5s., Lois Weedon 2s. 6d., Pottersbury 2s. 6d., Wigtoft 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Scunthorpe 4s. 6d., Keynsham 5s., Orston 2s. 6d., Drogheda 8s., Watford 4s., Stoke (Hartland) 2s., Bicker 2s. 6d., Collingham 2s. 3d., Wookey 3s., Pilton 3s., Upper Clapton 1s. 9d., Aldbourne 4s., Ashcott 3s., Boston 2s., Horbury 3s., Hinton St. George 1s. 6d.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COMPOSING A PEAL

Dear Sir, — A correspondent inquired recently about methods or systems of composing. This is a very general inquiry but I will try to give my own idea of the answer in the hope that others may add their criticisms and additions.

Composition of methods falls into certain well-defined categories, which are so radically different in their approach that composers tend to specialise only in one category.

Firstly, in composing Minor and Triples methods (except Stedman, see below) where it is necessary to obtain the extent of the rows, only those methods survive which have leads or sections which are mutually true, i.e., the extent can be subdivided into a set of leads each of which can occur in one way only (e.g., Grandsire Triples without singles) or sometimes in 'forward' and 'inverted' form only (any Minor method). Internal falseness of leads is absent, or it can easily be avoided by special treatment (e.g., inverting B-blocks of Grandsire Triples and singling them in) and the problem of composing an extent reduces to the task of linking up the leads which are already known to be true. As someone once said, 'The peal was proved before it was composed.' Graphical treatment lends itself especially to this category—e.g., W. H. Thompson's work on Grandsire Triples. Q-sets are also very useful. Other methods, e.g., Plain Major methods, also belong to this category although the extent is not usually wanted because the leads run mutually true.

However, in the composition of Treble Bob (including Surprise) Major methods the leads do run mutually false and the extent is not attainable. A peal is, therefore, a collection of salvaged leads put together. In order to simplify the job, and at the same time produce better music, certain bells, e.g., 1, 7 and 8 are kept fixed and this gives the normal scheme of false course-ends. Spliced Surprise peals are the culmination of this art of studying true and false pairs of leads and salvaging the true sets to fit them together. Stedman Caters can also be put in this category.

Stedman Triples is the 'problem child' which refuses to conform to the above division, for the sixes can be mutually false although the extent must be obtained. The problem has always so far been tackled by pinning down the part-ends and then letting the resulting sets of sixes work themselves into a part. This, of course, involves the whole technique of part-composition, which, as far as I am aware, has not been dealt with in print anywhere in its general application. Only two avenues of approach to Stedman Triples have been used—Hudson's 60 course-ends and J. W. Parker's 168 course-ends ('Mysteries Unveiled' course-ends, though possibly Parker was not the first to use them).

Fortunately, there is one simple technique which simplifies any mode of composition enormously, that of composing in parts. For example, to compose a peal of Spliced Surprise Major in four methods, each method has 60 possible courses and, therefore, 420 possible leads to be used, making 1,680 leads in all to be examined in pairs for falseness! If we decide to compose a five-part peal using part-ends 23456, 34562, 45623, etc., the 1,680 leads fall into 336 sets of five, and it is an elementary but none the less remarkable fact that, after certain precautions have been taken, these sets of five leads can be checked as one, which reduces the work to one twenty-fifth. This technique extends logically to sets of course-ends

(called groups) of higher order, and the bigger the number of course-ends the less the work involved in fitting together a part which will extend truly. However, a compensating difficulty arises, that of linking up the parts into one round block.

Thus composing need not be a matter of buying several rolls of wallpaper and taking a long holiday. Many peals obviously involve a lot of cross-checking to avoid falseness, but, in the main, composition is not a trial-and-error business, but a carefully calculated process, where one starts with a plan and cuts down the figure-working to a minimum. There is the tendency for composers who have discovered a particular way of approach to imagine that theirs is the only possible way. For example, the twin-bob way of composing Stedman Triples (based on Hudson's course-ends) is a very specialised way of composing the method, yet years ago many erroneous conclusions were reached by imagining it to be the only way—e.g., peals with bobs only unattainable, a two-part peal with two singles unattainable. These conclusions are true only for twin-bob peals.

There are so few ringers interested in composition that published information on the matter is scanty and scattered, and often suffers from being 'chatty' and loose. Surely anyone interested enough to read articles on composition, even though he may know little about it, deserves the facts which he can puzzle out and digest for himself.

Brynmaur.

B. D. PRICE.

PRESIDENTS OF THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Dear Sir,—In the report of the annual meeting of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers a slight error occurs. The Guild, during its 80 years of work, has had not five but only four presidents, viz:—

Col. C. A. W. Troyte, 1874-1896.

Rev. Maitland Kelly, 1896-1924.

Rev. E. S. Powell, 1924-1933.

Rev. Prebendary E. V. Cox, 1933—.

We hope that Mr. Cox will be spared to beat the record of 26 years by the Rev. M. Kelly.—Yours faithfully,

FREDERICK C. SMALE.

STEDMAN TRIPLES AT ST. GEORGE'S, BRISTOL

Dear Sir,—A few weeks ago I sent in a report of a peal of Stedman Triples rung at St. George's, Bristol, and claimed it as the first peal on the eight bells

The week after it appeared a note in 'Belfry Gossip' stated that a peal of Stedman Triples was rung at St. George's in 1899. In 1899 there were only six bells at St. George's. I am almost sure that the peal I called there was the first peal on the bells. The two trebles were added as a memorial to those from the parish who died during World War I.—Yours sincerely,

REGINALD G. HOOPER.

Redfield, Bristol.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERCREECH

Dear Sir,—I would very much like to congratulate the Evercreech band on their perfect striking, which is a delight to hear at two minutes to eight every Sunday morning on the B.B.C. Light programme.

Could somebody enlighten me—is this a local band?—Yours faithfully,

L. W. BULLOCK.

Romford, Essex.

THE CRAWFORD CUP History of a Notts Competition

The Southwell Guild Crawford Cup Contest for 1954 was held at Worksop Priory Church on June 12th. The test piece was 360 changes in any method from Doubles upwards. Although the Priory has a fine eight, recently rehung, only six-bell teams competed, being Warsop 'A,' Warsop 'B,' Ordsall, Gamston and East Retford. After being close runners-up for the last four years, Ordsall, who rang a fine 360 of Single Court, finally wrested the cup from Warsop, who have held it for the last five years. The judges were Mr. C. Glenn, of Nottingham, and Mr. W. E. Critchley, of Doncaster.

Mr. Crawford, the donor of the cup, who lives at Rampton, is still an active ringer at his local tower and gives the greatest encouragement to young ringers. Difficulty in negotiating steps, owing to his 'gammy' leg, prevents him attending many meetings. He was taught to ring by his father, Mr. C. Crawford, himself a great ringer, at East Markham, which then had only four bells, in 1895. The following year, at the age of 12, he was given a set of handbells by his father for ringing his first 720 at Ordsall. At 14 he was apprenticed to a joiner at Everton, and was reserve ringer at that tower, always having to attend but only getting a ring when one of the others didn't turn up. In his early ringing career transport was by horse and buggy, and he recalls attending a meeting in company with Mr. O. Street (still ringing at East Retford) at Shireoaks. It was decided to let the two lads have tea, which, incidentally, was rabbit pie, at half-price—fourpence. This was the first and last time, as apparently they ate twice as much as the men!

Mr. Crawford gave the cup to the North Notts Association in 1927 in memory of his father. He had met Mr. Blagg in Retford market place and he suggested it was a good idea, so went to Lincoln and had it made at Ushers, the silversmiths.

The cup was first competed for in 1928 at Cuckney. Four companies entered but only two brought a full band, viz: South Anston and Shireoaks, South Anston winning. The judge of this contest was Mr. J. Brearley, of Sheffield.

The results of the competitions show the rise and fall of various bands: Anston, winners many times in the early stages, have only entered once since the war, East Markham now without a band, Worksop again learning the rudiments of change ringing and Shireoaks, whose band broke up about two years ago with the death of some of the older hands and the bells now unringable. Ordsall, this year's winners, have always featured prominently, sometimes entering two teams. May their success continue.

E. P.

Gloucester and Bristol Association

Despite the inclement weather 36 ringers met at Bishopstone on June 12th for the half-yearly meeting of the Swindon Branch. The usual ringing was followed by the Association form of service conducted by the Vicar (Canon W. Hatherley-Jones), and tea had been arranged in the school by Mr J. Durham.

At the business meeting the Branch secretary (Mr. W. B. Kynaston) gave a brief report of the Central Council meeting held at New-castle and it was announced that a Ringers' Sunday would be held at Christ Church, Swindon, on September 12th. Places proposed for the next three meetings were Wanborough, Ashton Keynes and Castle Eaton. Visitors attended from Bristol and Fairfield, and ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge and London Surprise Major.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

Bishop of Lichfield Meets Ringers

THE annual meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford took place at Lichfield on June 19th. The weather was fine and the pleasant cathedral city was looking at its best in the bright sunshine. Ringing during the afternoon and evening took place at the Cathedral, St. Mary's and St. Michael's.

The service at St. Michael's was conducted by the Vicar, Prebendary H. S. Cresswell who also gave a most interesting address. Mrs. Chasney, deputy organist, kindly officiated for this service.

Tea was served in St. Mary's Schools and before the commencement of the annual meeting the Bishop of Lichfield, Dr. A. S. Reeve, accompanied by Mrs. Reeve, put in an appearance, which gave much satisfaction to the large attendance of 106 members and friends. Addressing the meeting, the Bishop said he had always had a profound respect for the people who, Sunday after Sunday, were prepared to climb innumerable steps to the belfries of our churches. He was very encouraged when he saw some of the boys returning from National Service going up into the tower to ring, and also to see some of the ladies taking their part. Mr. H. Knight and Mr. C. Wallater, who have been members of the Society for 60 and 50 years respectively, were presented to the Bishop and Mrs. Reeve.

FINANCIAL RECOVERY

At the annual meeting which followed the Bishop's visit, Mr. F. Brotherton, hon. treasurer, presented the accounts, which showed an increase in the balance in hand of £17 9s. 4d. Compared with two years ago, when the Society's finances were giving cause for concern, the balance at the bank had increased by over £20.

The committee's report, presented by Mr. Fred Bennett, lay secretary, made special reference to the ringing throughout the Archdeaconry on the occasion of the Queen's return from her overseas tour on May 15th. Members of the Society had rung four peals that day in honour of the event. The number of peals rung during the year, 57, was a decrease of 33 compared with the previous year.

Mr. Maurice Turner, retiring Ringing Master, gave a detailed account of the year's ringing activities and progress made.

Following these reports, the Ven. W. A. Parker, Archdeacon of Stafford and president of the Society, thanked all the officers for their services during the past year and said that he was very impressed with the happy spirit which prevailed in the Society. The Archdeacon said the fact that there had not been so many peals rung in the last 12 months did not worry him one little bit, for the simple reason that the older and more experienced ringers were doing a wonderful job of work in bringing on the Society's younger ringers.

The election of officers then took place. Mr. Dennis Holden was elected Ringing Master in place of Mr. Maurice Turner. Mr. Turner was thanked for his good services during the past two years. Other elections were: Mr. F. Brotherton, hon. treasurer; Rev. C. H. Barker, clerical secretary; Mr. Fred Bennett, lay secretary; Mr. Eric Speake, peal secretary and auditor.

Meetings for the next 12 months were provisionally arranged as follows:—August, Yoxall; October, Brewood; January, Bushbury; March, Christ Church, West Bromwich; May, Rugeley; June (annual) Lichfield. The third annual dinner will take place on November 13th.

After some discussion it was agreed to publish the report for 1953-54 with full list of peals rung, at a charge to members of 1s. per copy.

Mr. B. G. Key then gave members a very full and interesting account of the recent Central Council meeting at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

A vote of thanks to the Archdeacon for so efficiently taking the chair, and Prebendary Cresswell for conducting the service and allowing the use of the schools, ended the meeting.

THE LADIES' GUILD

A Visit to Tiverton

On June 12th a coachload of ladies and their escorts from the Bath-Bristol District attended the quarterly meeting of the Western District of the Ladies' Guild at Tiverton. Braving the unexpected hazards of a June day—torrential rain and dense fog on the high ground—the coach eventually arrived at Ottery St. Mary. Apparently the Devon pixies, whose threats of revenge upon the bells of this, one of the county's finest churches, have become almost national news, approve of lady ringers because some very good ringing took place upon this fine octave.

After a magnificent lunch in the comfort of the London Hotel at Ottery, the party set out for Uffculme, where the visitors were met by several friends from the Exeter District and a further hour's ringing was enjoyed.

At Tiverton the party received a warm welcome from the local ringers and the ladies were able to ring a creditable service touch of Stedman Triples. The service was conducted by the curate. During the short business meeting three new members were elected and it was decided that the June meeting next year should be held at Minchhead.

The last tower of the day was Huntsham, a completely unspoilt village in the depths of the country, approached through a maze of narrow, twisting lanes. An entertaining hour was spent on the eight bells in this home of Acland Troyte of 'The Art of Change Ringing' fame.

Thanks are especially due to Mr. E. J. Taylor for his invaluable help in making the arrangements. M. J. T.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Western District at Skipton

The summer meeting of the Western District was held on June 19th at Holy Trinity, Skipton. The approaches to this fine old church are flanked on both sides with well-tended lawns, and on this fine, sunny afternoon provided a pleasant rendezvous for ringers' wives awaiting their husbands and for ringers seeking respite from the crowded belfry. The musical Taylor octave (tenor 22 cwt.) were given little rest between 2.30 and 9 p.m., apart from the necessary interval for tea and the business meeting. Methods ranged from Plain Bob and Grandsire to London and Bristol Surprise, and well over 50 members and friends were present including three visitors from Clitheroe, over the Lancashire border.

The business meeting was held in the choir vestry with the vice-president (Mr. P. J. Johnson) in the chair. Votes of thanks were accorded to the church authorities and ringers of Skipton for their hospitality. New members elected were Mr. Peter Atkinson (Horbury) and the Misses Beryl M. Sanderson and Sheila M. Schofield (Leeds). An invitation was gratefully accepted to hold the September meeting at Sowerby, where the bells, having been recently recast, are to be rededicated in July.

A welcome visitor was Mr. W. Ambler, of Queensbury, a past District secretary, who was compelled through illness to give up tower bell ringing a few years ago. By taking part in a touch of Bob Major on handbells, he showed that he has not yet lost any of his old enthusiasm for ringing.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION

At High Ercall After 60 Years

The Shropshire Association has this year continued its policy of mixing 'the old familiar' with the new and strange. The May meeting, held at Market Drayton in conjunction with the Crewe Branch of the Chester Guild, produced a large attendance, good ringing and good fellowship, as is usual at this centre of Surprise Major ringing.

The June meeting at High Ercall was the first to be held there and, as far as can be ascertained, it is 60 years since the defunct Salop Guild paid a visit.

The bells are of four periods. Starting with four from the Gloucester foundry, one treble and then another were added. In 1812 the octave was completed with two of Briant's, and the result is an agreeable surprise. Unfortunately the frame has never been properly modified, the last two bells each swinging in an extension into windows.

New bearings in 1869 and again last year have been supplied by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and the 'go' seems satisfactory enough. The bells are rung from the ground, and a very high ceiling without guides makes the lighter bells, at least, difficult to control. The total length of rope is considerable, as the bells are at the top of a tall tower. To add to our difficulties, they are hung anti-clockwise.

It is not surprising that visitors have never been very popular with the local band, who ring call changes in exemplary style, the ropes falling in smooth array which the most experienced ringer might envy.

However, we first tried Grandsire and Plain Bob, and after a while became a little more accustomed to the unusual conditions. Mr. A. Pritchard, our Ringing Master, startled us by calling for Cambridge for the service ringing, but his judgment was vindicated as a very good course resulted. Personally I found Surprise methods easier than Plain, as in the latter I looked in the wrong direction, as the order is so well known.

The Rev. W. G. Beale (Vicar) conducted the service, Mr. F. H. Bennett (Deputy Ringing Master) was the organist, the secretary counting the verses for him and blowing the organ at the same time.

Thirty ringers crowded the Cleveland Arms for tea, and when we returned to the church, another dozen or so were waiting. Stedman, Yorkshire, Superlative and London methods were rung, which I certainly did not expect to hear on this occasion. W. A. F.

Memorial Plaque to Pioneer Ringer at Idle

An interesting ceremony took place at the Holy Trinity Church, Idle, near Bradford, on June 27th, when the Rev. R. P. Walters dedicated a plaque during the morning service to the memory of Mr. Willie Feather, who died in August last after 39 years of faithful service as a bellringer for the church. Willie was one of the original band of ringers, formed when the bells were installed in 1914, and was one of the most consistent and regular attenders which any band could wish to have. He had a serious illness a few years ago but took a keen and prominent interest in all ringing matters right up to the last.

The bells were rung before and after the morning service by past and present Idle ringers some of whom, although living out of the district, had returned to pay their last respects to a loyal friend. The ringers were: T. Hill, R. Umphey, F. Davison, H. Davison, G. Duck, H. Buckley F. Wilkinson, F. Rayment, M. Ryder, S. Spensley, D. White and T. Spensley. Mr. T. Hill, who is in charge of the local company, is now the only surviving member of the original band formed in 1914.

QUARTER PEALS

ABERGAVENNY, MON.—On June 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: N. Ward (aged 14, first quarter) 1, G. Lewis 2, Miss L. Temlett 3, J. Hughes 4, G. Ward (cond.) 5, M. Roberts 6.

ALDBOURNE, WILTS.—On June 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Savage 1, G. Newman 2, P. Manning 3, C. Wood (first quarter) 4, F. Wilton 5, A. Palmer 6, F. Read (cond.) 7, B. Bladon 8.

ARELEY KINGS, WORCS.—On May 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Hicks 1, J. Bass 2, Miss D. Hicks 3, C. W. Cooper 4, A. W. Glazard (cond.) 5, G. Lewis 6. A welcome home from Canada to Mrs. M. May, daughter of tenor ringers.

ASHCOTT, SOMERSET.—On June 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. Clarke 1, D. Miller 2, M. Stone 3, K. Prime (first of Minor) 4, F. Sweet 5, R. Short (cond.) 6. Also on June 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Maurice Bagg 1, Mervyn Bagg 2, K. Prime (cond.) 3, J. Walton 4, W. Cavill 5, P. Clarke 6. Rung as a farewell to the conductor, who is leaving for National Service.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCs.—On June 11th, 1,264 Little Bob Major: Miss J. Halliday 1, Miss M. Walshaw 2, F. Pritchard 3, Miss S. Higham 4, J. A. Somers 5, A. Ward 6, A. W. Stone 7, D. Ogden (cond.) 8. First in the method for 1, 3, 4, 5 and 7. Rung for the annual Whit-Walks.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On June 20th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: W. Pettigrew 1, C. A. Harding 2, A. Short 3, R. Ingram 4, G. Davis 5, G. W. Critchley (cond.) 6. E. Franklin 7, A. H. Rainey 8. A farewell to the ringer of the fifth, who is shortly leaving for Cardiff.

BARKING, ESSEX.—On June 13th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Sheila Green (first quarter) 1, S. T. Ford 2, Christine Ford 3, A. W. Beard 4, C. Fenn 5, F. Tomlin 6, D. W. Beard (cond.) 7, G. Cottis 8. First of Major for 2 and 3.

BARROW, SUFFOLK.—On June 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Rickwood 1, A. Ballaam 2, R. Rose 3, L. Sharpe 4, K. G. Brown (cond.) 5.

BEDFORD.—On June 29th, at St. Peter's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. J. Ivin (first 'inside') 1, J. B. Long 2, P. J. Shipton (first 'inside') 3, W. Stapleton 4, J. R. Taylor 5, H. Cottam (first quarter) 6.

BEXLEY, KENT.—On June 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor, with tenor covering: Miss J. Cox 1, P. P. Brown (cond.) 2, Miss M. Andrews 3, Miss M. Ward 4, I. H. Oram 5, J. L. Morris 6, Miss J. Elliott 7. Also on June 20th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss B. A. Thompson 1, J. L. Morris 2, I. H. Oram 3, P. P. Brown 4, P. Beresford 5, Miss M. Andrews 6, D. Beresford (cond.) 7, Miss D. M. Ward 8. First of Stedman for 1, 3, 4, 6 and 8. Average age of band just under 19 years.

BICESTER, OXON.—On June 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss A. Jones 1, E. G. Jones 2, Miss M. Skelton 3, H. Clifton 4, W. Baggett 5, C. H. Kinch 6, E. J. Smith (cond.) 7, W. Whiting 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam the Bishop of Oxford (Dr. Kenneth E. Kirk).

BICKER, Lincs.—On June 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Howard 1, W. B. Dawson (cond.) 2, A. J. Randall 3, G. R. Dawson 4, J. P. Morris 5, N. B. Fovargue 6, A. H. Bennett 7, C. A. Stubley 8. To celebrate the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. W. Croft, of Bicker.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.—On June 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss J. Haffenden 1, F. Gooddear 2, H. Payne 3, H. Baker 4, G. Waters 5, L. Payne (cond.) 6, C. Deacon 7, R. Watts 8. Rung with 7, 8 cover.

BRAY-ON-THAMES, BERKS.—On June 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. G. Rolls 1, R. Liddbury 2, M. Upstone 3, Betty Gregory 4, Diana Spice 5, Doreen Hague (cond.) 6, P. Aslett 7, J. Norsworthy 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Frederick Joseph Russell, for over 40 years ringing master at this tower.

BRIDGERULE, DEVON.—On June 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Pearce 1, W. R. Hill 2, Miss H. Oakshett 3, W. H. Cholwill 4, C. Sangwin 5, J. H. Bowden 6, M. F. Oakshett (cond.) 7, H. Stacey 8. Rung for Corpus Christi.

BRISTOL.—At St. John-on-the-Wall, on June 12th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. F. Lee (first of Minor) 1, F. G. Leaker 2, R. O. Fry 3, D. V. Smith 4, R. G. Hooper 5, G. E. Ruck (cond.) 6. Also at St. Michael's Church, on June 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Angela Faulkner (first quarter) 1, Enid Roberts (cond.) 2, T. Edwards 3, K. Kear 4, D. Marshall 5, A. Pedlar 6.

BOSTON, Lincs.—On June 20th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: D. Lyman (first quarter) 1, Lorna Briggs 2, F. Dewey 3, R. Hazell 4, S. Jessop 5, A. Freeston 6, W. E. Clarke 7, R. Brown (cond.) 8.

CANNOCK, STAFFS.—On June 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Borley (first of Triples) 1, W. Benton 2, P. A. Ruch 3, G. Oliver (cond.) 4, A. Armstrong 5, A. E. Barker 6, G. Bradbury 7, H. Butler 8.

CARDINGTON, BEDS.—On June 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: L. Duffield 1, Miss P. Gray 2, B. Pattison (cond.) 3, J. B. Long 4, W. Stapleton 5, C. H. Harding 6, S. Foskett 7, C. E. Jeffries 8. Rung on the anniversary of the Coronation of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

CHATTERIS, CAMBS.—On June 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. Smith 1, H. Goakes 2, W. Young 3, S. Shipp 4, T. A. Bevis (cond.) 5, F. S. Parsons 6. A 71st birthday compliment to Mr. P. Smith.

CHESTER.—On June 20th, at St. Mary's Church, Handbridge, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Griffiths 1, Miss H. Close 2, Mrs. D. Griffiths 3, P. Swindley 4, J. W. Best 5, A. B. Close 6, J. W. Griffiths (cond.) 7, T. Griffiths 8. For the dedication festival.

COLLINGHAM, YORKS.—On June 21st, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Elsa Murray 1, C. Hague 2, G. Smith 3, G. Thackray 4, A. E. Hartley 5, Margaret Barker 6, Jean Lawn 7, W. M. Scheerer (cond.) 8. First quarter of Bob Major for all the band.

CORPLE, BEDS.—On June 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. J. Shipton (first away from tenor) 1, S. J. Ivin 2, J. R. Taylor (first 'inside') 3, J. B. Long 4, C. E. Jeffries (cond.) 5, H. D. G. Brooks (first quarter) 6. For the Feast of St. Barnabas.

DROGHEDA, EIRE.—On June 12th, at St. Peter's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. J. George 1, E. G. Buchanan 2, T. McMorran (cond.) 3, C. J. Reede 4, W. H. Wilson 5, W. Farrell 6, R. Tait 7, J. M. Magill 8. Rung by St. Patrick's Cathedral Society.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—At St. Saviour's Church, on June 13th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Reynolds 1, L. Baldock 2, O. Wood 3, G. Beeny 4, H. Lewin 5, R. W. Pankhurst 6, F. H. Hallaway (cond.) 7, J. Rollison 8. First quarter in the method for 2 and 8.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—On June 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. White 1, J. Gordon 2, G. Bishop 3, D. Bosley (first quarter 'inside') 4, D. Jordan 5, M. Bishop 6, A. H. Webb (cond.) 7, W. Corderoy 8.

EDGEWARE, MIDDLEX.—On June 16th, 1,272 Minor (being 432 of Kent, 840 of Oxford): J. Taylor 1, J. R. Mayne (cond.) 2, D. J. Ward 3, B. O. Hughes 4, H. E. Clayton 5, R. G. Ouston 6. First of Kent and Oxford for 3, 4, 5 and 6.

ELTHAM, KENT.—On June 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: W. Rawlings 1, I. Oram (first 'inside') 2, Miss M. Hunt 3, J. Hurrell 4, E. B. Crowder 5, B. Aldridge 6, F. Hurrell 7, G. Daynes (composer and cond.) 8. For the Nativity of St. John-the-Baptist. Also on June 27th, 1,316 Grandsire Triples (third quarter of Holt's Original): G. Hurrell 1, Miss M. Hunt 2, H. D. Holland 3, F. Richardson 4, J. Hurrell 5, F. Hurrell 6, E. B. Crowder 7, W. Daynes 8. For patronal festival Evenson. Also a welcome to the Provost of Southwark (the Rev. H. E. Ashdown).

EVERSHOLT, BEDS.—On May 9th, 1,440 Norwich Surprise Minor: D. Broyd 1, R. Sharp 2, M. Orme 3, R. Piron (first of Norwich) 4, J. Sinfild 5, D. Jones (cond.) 6.

FLOOKBURGH, LANCs.—On June 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: N. M. Newby (cond.) 1, Miss B. Fairer 2, C. H. Ford 3, J. Mackereth 4, R. Suart 5, A. Edgar 6.

FRITTENDEN, KENT.—On June 19th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: T. Cullingworth 1, Miss D. Colgate 2, G. Pearson 3, B. F. Baker 4, A. J. Lancelfield 5, E. J. Ladd 6, T. E. Sone (cond.) 7, R. Collins 8.

FYFIELD, ESSEX.—On May 8th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: P. J. Eves 1, E. W. Furbank 2, Mary Dowsett 3, D. A. S. Symonds 4, Joan J. M. Saunders (cond.) 5, E. E. S. Johnson 6. A birthday compliment to E. W. Furbank and John Symonds.

GREAT AMWELL, HERTS.—On June 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Meeks (first quarter) 1, R. Saunders (first quarter) 2, F. Cooke (first quarter) 3, R. Hornby (first quarter) 4, C. Springham (cond.) 5, C. Pawsey (first quarter) 6. Rung for a Confirmation service held in the church, at which two members of the band were confirmed by the Bishop of St. Albans, who was paying his first visit since he dedicated the bells on February 21st.

GREAT MARLOW, BUCKS.—On June 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Jill Cooke 1, Evelyn Gibson 2, Heather Bonner 3, E. E. Gosling 4, J. T. Clay 5, L. J. Young 6, R. E. Dean (cond.) 7, E. Silvey 8.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On June 20th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: F. Croft 1, K. Timbury (first of Surprise 'inside') 2, G. Cherry 3, W. Todd 4, J. Church 5, P. Croft (first of Surprise as cond.) 6.

HARWELL, BERKS.—On June 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss B. Corderoy 1, D. Lawson 2, D. Jordan (cond.) 3, F. Corderoy 4, P. Davies 5, Miss M. Luker 6, W. Corderoy 7, D. Bosley 8. With 4, 6, 8 covering. Rung half-muffled in tribute to the late Dr. Kirk, Bishop of Oxford.

HATTON, WARWICKS.—On May 29th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss D. Palmer 1, Miss M. Middlemiss 2, A. A. Upton 3, A. J. Holey 4, A. C. Morris 5, D. Harrison (cond.) 6. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. G. A. Wood and Miss J. Harrison, sister of the conductor.

HEADCORN, KENT.—On June 23rd, 1,280 Whitwick Surprise Major: J. R. Cooper 1, G. Pearson 2, T. E. Sone 3, M. S. Lancelfield (cond.) 4, A. J. Lancelfield 5, R. Swift 6, B. F. Baker 7, T. Cullingworth 8. First quarter in the method for all.

HINTLESHAM, SUFFOLK.—On June 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. J. Brunt (first quarter) 1, P. Barnes 2, F. Erith 3, G. W. Moss 4, G. W. Barnes 5, A. E. Honeywood (cond.) 6.

HINTON ST. GEORGE, SOMERSET.—On June 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. W. Drew (cond.) 1, R. Dean 2, F. Welch 3, T. Locke 4, R. Gillard (first quarter) 5, J. Stenner 6.

HORBURY, YORKS.—On June 27th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: Miss P. Wood 1, A. Bowers 2, H. Rowley 3, J. W. Milner 4, T. W. Strangeway (cond.) 5, M. T. J. Axford 6, I. Slack 7, E. Atkinson 8.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On June 27th, 1,280 Treble Bob (Ilkerton Variation): Miss P. Smce 1, D. M. Salisbury 2, J. Carrott 3, R. Brown 4, J. Fowler 5, C. E. Wright 6, T. East 7, F. V. Gant (cond.) 8.

LYDNEY, GLOS.—On June 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles, with 7, 6, 8 covering: D. Sims (first quarter) 1, Mrs. D. Stafford 2, Mrs. K. Smith 3, W. Harris 4, L. H. Jones (cond.) 5, B. Nash (first quarter) 6, W. Cleaver 7, A. Harris (first quarter) 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam James L. Smith, former ringing master, South Forest Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, interred at Gloucester the same day.

MARCH, CAMBS.—On June 25th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. Leeden 1, A. W. Palmer 2, F. S. Parsons 3, W. Moore, jun., 4, T. A. Bevis (cond.) 5, J. Moore, sen., 6. Rung on the 70th birthday of J. Moore, a bellringer at St. Wendreda's Church for 53 years.

ORSTON, NOTTS.—On June 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Foster 1, S. L. Barley 2, G. E. Foster 3, A. W. Barley 4, F. W. Midwinter (cond.) 5, J. B. Smith 6. First quarter for 1 and 6.

PELSALL, STAFFS.—On June 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. C. Stackhouse 1, H. Claridge 2, E. Claridge 3, G. Cooper 4, J. Gregory (cond.) 5, K. Williams (first quarter) 6. A farewell to the Rev. A. G. Clough (Vicar) on the eve of his departure to Longnor.

PILTON, SOMERSET.—On June 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Talbot 1, A. Harris 2, S. Atwell (cond.) 3, M. Reilly 4, E. Lambert 5, E. Lewis 6. First quarter on the bells by an all local band.

PUCKINGTON, SOMERSET.—On June 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: K. Welch 1, J. W. Drew (cond.) 2, R. Dean 3, J. Gilbert 4, R. Welch 5, T. Hill 6.

SOUTHWARK, S.E.—At St. George-the-Martyr, on June 20th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Mudd (first quarter) 1, T. H. Taffender 2, Miss S. Barringer 3, Miss J. Hill 4, N. G. Hollingworth 5, G. F. Bryant 6, J. Bullock (cond.) 7, W. D. Grainger 8.

STEVENAGE, HERTS.—On June 16th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: D. Gullick (cond.) 1, H. Wittering 2, G. Johnson 3, W. Lawrence 4, F. Croft 5, A. Harris 6, W. Brown 7, P. Croft 8. Rung for Confirmation service, conducted by the Bishop of St. Albans.

STOKE (HARTLAND), DEVON.—On June 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Sangwin 1, A. Bissatt 2, Miss H. Oakshett 3, H. Stacey 4, M. F. Oakshett (cond.) 5, F. Pearce 6.

STRANTON, CO. DURHAM.—On June 6th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss P. James 1, Mrs. W. Maughan 2, Miss M. James 3, Miss K. Lawson 4, K. Lawson 5, J. Maughan 6, H. Short 7, W. Maughan (cond.) 8.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on June 27th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor (with tenor covering): J. Hales 1, Miss G. L. Friswell 2, Miss N. Hales 3, G. A. Parsons 4, R. K. C. Wilkings 5, D. Neal (cond.) 6, C. F. Neal 7. A farewell to John Hales, who was leaving for a three months' stay in France.

WALKER, HERTS.—On May 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. Jones (cond.) 1, R. Castledine 2, Miss M. Jackson 3, A. Tuttle (14, first 'inside') 4, Miss A. Willes 5, M. Orme 6.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—On June 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Chapman (first quarter) 1, R. Lumsden 2, H. Rumens 3, F. C. Maynard 4, J. Hales 5, A. J. N. Boyack 6, C. A. Hughes 7, B. Collard 8.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On June 22nd, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: E. Durrant 1, H. Clayton (first of Major) 2, S. Warwick 3, W. Wenban 4, D. K. Adkins 5, R. Rowley 6, S. Hoare 7, J. Mayne (cond.) 8.

WEMBDON, SOMERSET.—On June 25th, 1,260 Doubles (249 each of All Saints', Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob, April Day and 300 Grandsire): Mervyn Bagg 1, F. Sweet 2, K. Prime (first in more than one method as cond.) 3, C. Clarice 4, R. Short 5, E. Rollett 6. First quarter in more than one method by 1 and 6.

WOOKEY, SOMERSET.—On May 20th, 1,280 Doubles (520 Bob, 520 Reverse Canterbury and 240 Grandsire): F. Hall 1, V. Roberts (cond.) 2, F. Sandy 3, R. Gardiner 4, G. Salmon 5, B. Wear 6.

A HILLINGDON WEDDING

Mr. F. C. Price — Miss Sheila Coles

A pretty wedding of particular interest to ringers took place, as announced in our columns last week, on June 19th, at St. John-the-Baptist Church, Hillingdon, between Mr. Frank C. Price and Miss Sheila M. M. Coles. The father of the bride is Mr. William H. Coles, vice-president of the Middlesex Association, and the father of the bridegroom is Mr. A. R. (Tony) Price, Ringing Master of the same organisation.

Arranged by Mr. T. G. Bannister, the ring of ten was rung before and after the ceremony by members of the local band assisted by friends from Uxbridge, Ealing and Sunbury.

A very beautiful and impressive fully choral service was conducted by the Rev. F. C. Tyler (Vicar of Hillingdon). Miss Margaret Price (sister of the bridegroom) acted as bridesmaid, and his brother, Mr. Richard E. Price, was best man.

Sheila, although not a ringer, has since childhood been a popular figure at ringing meetings and functions, and in recent years has always supported her mother and her god-mother, Mrs. F. W. Goodfellow, in arranging and preparing tea for the annual October meetings at Hillingdon.

Frank, now on terminal leave from the R.A.F., is well known in many parts of the country, where he has been a welcome visitor to many towers during his Service career; his ringing includes a peal of Minor, ringing two bells, at Cranford, Middlesex, the tower where he rang his first peal when he was 10½ years of age.

At the reception the toast of the bride and bridegroom was proposed in affectionate and happy vein by the Vicar to 'Sheila and Frank.' The union of the two ringing families was, he said, an obviously happy event. He remarked on the young couple's love for their church, and paid tribute to Frank's service not only as a ringer but also as organist.

Congratulatory telegrams included one from Peterborough, U.S.A., one from South Africa and one from 'Uncle George' (Mr. S. G. Coles), of Taunton, Somerset, Sheila's godfather, who, due to a recent accident, was unable to be present.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

Elloe Deaneries Branch

The pretty little marshland village of Lutton, which lies about 1½ miles from Long Sutton, was visited by the Elloe Deaneries Branch on June 19th. Its red brick church with stone spire rising to about 150 feet is mainly 15th century and was restored in 1859.

There were four bells in the tower in 1770, by Eayres. In 1806 Osborn cast a tenor to make five. Then, in 1905, Taylors recast the front four and rehung the bells. The same firm also cast and hung the new treble in 1953 (the tenor weighs 4 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb.; note C sharp).

These were kept going to a variety of methods during the afternoon and evening. At the service a very thoughtful address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. Mr. Fenton). Tea was served in the schoolroom by members of the Mothers' Union and was a most excellent spread of chicken and salad with the usual array of cakes and a good cup of tea, all for 2s. A short business meeting followed at which a collection was taken for the Belfry Repair Fund. A few touches on handbells finished off the meeting and then all returned to the tower where ringing continued till past nine o'clock.

R. C. N.

DEDICATION

ST. GEORGE'S, BARKINGSIDE

After 22 years the Rev. A. C. Comer-Stone has had his ambition fulfilled of hearing a ring of eight bells proclaim their message from the tower of St. George's, Barkingside, Essex. Not only as Vicar had he collected funds for the building of the church, but it was to his own design.

The dedication of the new tenor, which completes the octave, took place on May 9th during Evensong. During the singing of the hymn 'Ring Forth, Holy Bells,' the choir, sacristan, Vicar and churchwardens made their way to the ringing chamber, where the Vicar dedicated the tenor and rededicated the second, fifth and sixth. Immediately afterwards rounds were rung.

In his address the Vicar spoke of the history of the bells and the art of change ringing. He followed this by particulars of the bells, all of which were cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. Details are as follows:—

Treble, Faith, 3 cwt.; second, Hope, 4 cwt.; third, Love, 4½ cwt.; fourth, Joy, 5 cwt.; fifth, Long Suffering, 5½ cwt.; sixth, Peace, 7 cwt.; seventh, Thanksgiving, 8 cwt.; tenor, Praise, 10½ cwt.

The first three bells were hung March, 1932.

After the service a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by members of the London County Association (Northern District), including John Barrance, Ringing Master of St. George's, who arranged the ringing for this occasion.

The ringers in the quarter peal were:—H. F. Perry 1, Mrs. M. M. Osborne 2, Mrs. S. Bullock 3, Mrs. J. C. Northan 4, H. Corney 5, J. Barrance (first in the method) 6, L. W. Bullock (conductor) 7, J. R. Brice 8.

JOINT MEETING AT THETFORD

After a lapse of 20 years the South Norfolk Branch and the Mildenhall District of the Suffolk Guild held a joint meeting at Thetford on June 19th. Thirty ringers attended from 13 parishes in Norfolk and seven Suffolk parishes with visitors from Heston (Middlesex) and Sawston (Cambs). The bells of St. Peter's, Thetford, and the Elvedon Memorial Tower were available.

The Rector of St. Peter's, Thetford, the Rev. R. Jackson, conducted the service. After tea the business meeting followed with the Rev. F. E. Vokes in the chair, supported by the Rev. R. Jackson, Mr. E. Whiting (South Norfolk Ringing Master), Miss E. A. Peckett (secretary for the Mildenhall District) and Mr. A. G. Harrison (South Norfolk secretary). It was decided to continue the monthly visits to isolated towers where help was needed, the next to be at Dickleburgh on July 15th.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector, organist and to Mr. H. Fuller, who carried out the local arrangements, also to the Suffolk Guild. Miss Peckett suitably replied for the Suffolk Guild.

LATE NOTICES

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.E. District.—Meeting at Harwich, Saturday, July 17th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45. Numbers for tea, please, to W. Felgate, 25, Una Road, Parkstone, Harwich. 4727

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Monthly meeting, Hemingbrough, Saturday, July 17th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Please provide own food, cups of tea only available.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 4726

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, July 24th, New Alresford. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Bell Hotel. Names by previous Wednesday to Mr. J. A. C. King, 29, Fox Lane, Stanmore, Winchester. 4725

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.

BIRTH

HICKS.—On Wednesday, June 30th, 1954, at 17, Imberhorne Lane, East Grinstead, Sussex, to Evelyn (née Capon), wife of Frank H. Hicks, a daughter (Elizabeth Mary). 4724

DEATH

HOLLIS.—On June 25th, 1954, Sidney M. Hollis, of Godshill, Isle of Wight, verger of the parish church and a ringer at Godshill since 1887. 4725

WANTED

FOR SALE OR LOAN to the Central Council Library. A copy of hymns Ancient and Modern in bell notation. Published about 50 years ago. Author believed to be W. Haley. Details to F. Sharpe, Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxfordshire. 4686

PUBLICATIONS

'THE CHURCH BELLS OF OXFORDSHIRE.'—A limited number of copies of the complete work i.e., Vols. 1 to 4, bound in one volume with stiff covers, price £2 7s. 6d. each, plus 1s. 4d. postage, may be obtained from F. Sharpe, Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxfordshire. 4688

'THE CHURCH BELLS OF BERKSHIRE,' Part XIII. (Shurlock Row—Swallowfield).—Price 2s. 6d., including postage. Obtainable from F. Sharpe, Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxfordshire. 4687

'BELLS OF ALL NATIONS.'—This profusely illustrated book is now out of print. A few copies only left can be obtained from the author at original price, 21s.—Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., The Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. 4644

MISCELLANEOUS

TEIGNMOUTH, SOUTH DEVON.—Sunday ringing during the season from 9.30 to 10 a.m. and, for the special 9 p.m. holiday-makers' service, from 8.15 to 9 p.m. 4657

OVERSEAS RINGER wishes to purchase books and pamphlets on campanology for establishment of a 'campanological library.' Send list of items offered, with price expected and description of condition, to Box 4015, c/o 'The Ringing World,' Guildford, Surrey. 4015

MEETINGS

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—St. Mary's, Alderley, July 10th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names, early, please, to A. A. Potts, 132, Great King Street. 4652

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Turner's Hill (8), July 10th. Names to Ivan Butcher, East Bungalow, Mount Noddy, Paddockhurst, Crawley.—C. A. Bassett. 4662

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Terrington St. Clement, Saturday, July 10th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Tea provided.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 4673

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—Meeting at Burnham-on-Crouch (6), Saturday, July 10th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Coach will leave Corn Exchange, Chelmsford, 1.30 p.m. Those requiring coach and/or tea please notify A. Everett, 24, The Chase, Boreham. 4618

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD—Farnham District.—Meeting at Worplesdon (8), Saturday, July 10th, from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. S. Petter, The Laurels, Fox Corner, Worplesdon. Note that the Four Guilds' Festival in the Basingstoke area is now on August 28th, not 21st, as on District meeting cards.—G. S. Joyce, Dis. Sec. 4651

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Flamstead (6), July 10th, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. E. Smith, 14, Trowley Hill Road, Flamstead, Herts. 4689

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, Boughton, July 10th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 2s. per head. Free conveyance from church to tea room and back.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 4625

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Aylesford, Saturday, July 10th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. This meeting will celebrate the 1,350 years' history and 27th jubilee of the Rochester Diocese, and a warm invitation is extended to everyone. To ensure effective arrangements please send names or numbers to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, Ditton, Maidstone. 4619

LADIES' GUILD (North West District) and **CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD** (Macclesfield Branch).—Joint meeting to be held at St. Mary's, Nether Alderley, Cheshire, on Saturday, July 10th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. 4706

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Pinner on Saturday, July 10th, 3 p.m. Business 6 p.m. Tea in shops nearby. Ringing at Ruislip 7 p.m. onwards.—T. J. Lock. 4715

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—West Norfolk Branch.—Interim meeting to be held at Gaywood, July 10th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. All ringers and friends welcome. Names and numbers to C. Tovell, 18, New Road, Gaywood, King's Lynn. 4681

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—Meeting at Powerstock, July 10th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. 4677

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Quarterly meeting, Solihull, July 10th. Bells (10) at 3.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. 4670

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Saxmundham District.—Meeting at Blaxhall, July 10th, 2.30 p.m. Arranged tea 5.15 p.m. Tunstall 6.30 p.m.—A. R. Bridges, Theberton, Leiston, Suffolk. 4685

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Glaston Deanery.—Meeting, Street, Saturday, July 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting. Notify for tea by Tuesday, 13th.—William Marsh, 4, Dovecotes, Street. 4661

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Meeting Wroxall, July 17th. Bells 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting. Wroxall Social Club, 5 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 4707

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery.—Quarterly meeting, Chard, Saturday, July 17th. Usual arrangements. Notify early for tea.—J. T. Locke, Hon. Sec., School Street, Drayton, Langport. 4705

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Meeting, Leighton Buzzard (10), July 17th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Everyone welcome.—Dennis Knox. 4713

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Marske (6) on Saturday, July 17th, at 3 p.m.—P. W. B. Semmens, Hon. Sec. 4720

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly meeting, Monk's Kirby, near Rugby, July 17th. Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 at the Denbigh Arms. Notifications, please, by Wednesday, 14th. Business meeting to follow tea. Bells again until 8 o'clock.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton. Phone: Nuneaton 3296. 4708

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Important Notice

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the forthcoming meeting due to be held at Flamstead on July 10th has had to be cancelled.—R. Shutter, Dis. Sec. 4704

DEVON GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—Rattery, Saturday, July 17th. Usual arrangements.—A. L. Bennett, Cornerways, Buckfastleigh. 4700

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Bottisham, Saturday, July 17th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Swaffham Prior (6) after tea.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 4716

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at Somersham (6) on Saturday, July 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. S. Peacock, Hon. Sec. 4714

GUILDFORD GUILD (Leatherhead District) and **SURREY ASSOCIATION** (Southern District).—Joint meeting, Capel, July 17th. Bells from 3. Tea at 5 (The King's Head). Numbers for same, by July 16th, to Mrs. Tullett, Baker's Cottage. It is hoped to have Oakley or Newdigate bells also available. 4666

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Brencley, Saturday, July 17th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea, by 14th, to G. Billenness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Hawkhurst. 4696

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Hinxworth, Saturday, July 17th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Special method: London Surprise.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 4709

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting, Essenden (6), July 17th, 3 p.m. Tewin (6) from 6.30 p.m. Tea at Essenden. Special methods: Primrose and Cambridge Surprise Minor.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 4712

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—Meeting at St. Peter's, Swinton, July 17th, 3 p.m. Names for tea, by July 13th, to H. Rothwell, 43, Shakespeare Road, Swinton. Bus from King Street West.—R. Benson. 4723

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Next meeting at Haslingden, Saturday, July 17th. All ringers welcome.—J. Porter. 4718

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly general meeting at Market Bosworth on July 17th. Bells (8) 2.30 sharp. Service 4. Tea 4.45 at Central Cafe. Names, please, by Wednesday, 14th, to Mr. R. Proudman, Market Place, Market Bosworth, Nuneaton. General committee meeting, Cathedral, Thursday, 15th, at 7.30.—W. A. Wood, Hon. Gen. Sec. 4667

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD (Gainsborough District) and **LADIES' GUILD**.—Joint meeting, Epworth, on Saturday, July 17th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify me by Tuesday previous.—George L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough, Tel. 2623. Mrs. R. Richardson (Hon. Sec., Ladies' Guild). 4694

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Branch.—St. Margaret's, Lowestoft, July 17th. Note change of venue. Ringing meeting and service only; no business. Please make own arrangements for tea. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Bells available after service. All holiday-making ringers welcome.—P. Newstead, Branch Sec. 4699

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Meeting, Lane End, Saturday, July 17th, 3 p.m. (Note date.) Names for tea by 12th.—Butler, 2, Faraday Road, Slough. 4697

OXFORD GUILD.—Reading Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, July 17th. Bells available: Checkendon, 3 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.; Nettlebed, 6.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea, before Tuesday, July 13th, to G. Hearn, The Garage, Stoke Row, Reading.—N. E. Swann. 4701

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Culworth and Towcester Branches.—Joint meeting, Sulgrave, on Saturday, July 17th. Service 3.30. Usual arrangements. Please notify hon. secretaries not later than Tuesday previous of those requiring tea.—W. A. Yates, Welsh Lane, Boycott, Buckingham, or A. E. R. Walker, Eydon, Rugby. 4653

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—Quarterly meeting, West Deeping, July 17th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names for tea essential by July 13th, to G. S. Bush, 18, Princes Street, Peterborough. 4633

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—Summer meeting, Dingley (5) with Brampton Ash (6), Saturday, July 17th. Towers open 2.30. Service at Dingley 4.15. Tea and meeting 5. Names for tea, by Tuesday previous, to D. Haynes, 5, London Road, Kettering. 4711

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, July 17th, Wilton. Bells (6) 2.15. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5. South Newton (6) after meeting. Names for tea by 13th, please.—Miss Eloie, 7, Victoria Road, Salisbury. 4671

SALISBURY GUILD.—Calne Branch.—Meeting, Bremhill (6), July 17th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea to G. Freegard, 30, Bremhill, Calne, Wilts. 4710

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Joint meeting, Twickenham, July 17th. Service 4.45, St. Mary's. Tea 5.15. St. Mary's Hall. Names, please, by previous Monday, to Miss P. Russell, 15, Craneford Way, Twickenham. Ringing: St. Mary's (8), 3 to 4.45 and after tea; All Hallows' (10), 2.15 to 4.15 and after tea. Both towers within easy reach of Twickenham Junction (S.R.)—P. N. Bond and F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Secs. 4676

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury-Lavenham District.—Meeting at Hartest, July 17th. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Names, please, to Mr. G. Garwood, The Green, Hartest. 4703

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Buxted, July 17th. Bells (8) 3 o'clock. Tea only for those who notify Mr. E. Eade, Beacon View, Buxted.—C. W. Linington, Hon. Sec., 4695

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.—Diocesan Festival, St. Columb Major, Saturday, July 17th, 2.30. Service 4.30, St. Columb, followed by tea. Bells: St. Columb (8), St. Enoder (8), St. Wenn (6), St. Mawgan (8), St. Eval (6), Little Petherick (6), Withiel (6). Replies by Monday, July 12th, to Rev. H. Trehwella, Crantock, Newquay. 4660

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Leigh, Saturday, July 17th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by Tuesday, July 13th, to E. F. Cubberley, Park Cottages, Kempsey, near Worcester. 4717

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Meeting at Hayfield, July 24th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea please advise, before July 20th, Mr. J. Hadfield, Spring Vale Road, Hayfield, via Stockport.—C. K. Lewis. 4721

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Quarterly meeting, Downe, Saturday, July 24th, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Names for tea (2s.), not later than Tuesday, July 20th, to A. Hill, 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere. 4702

(Notices continued next page)

NOTICES—continued

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—Meeting, Caistor (6), July 24th. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names for tea, by July 21st, to Mr. T. Richards, Nettleton Road, Caistor, Lincs. 4/19

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Heydour (8), July 24th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Meeting 5.30 p.m. Please bring own tea.—J. W. Haw, Hon. Sec. 4678

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting, Oxford, Saturday, July 24th. Service, Cathedral, 11 a.m. Meeting, Chapter House, 12 noon. Luncheon, Dining Hall, 1.30 p.m. Tickets 5s. 6d. Applications, by July 21st, to A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks. Ringing: Cathedral, Merton, New College, Magdalen, St. Giles', St. Thomas', St. Aldate's, Holywell, St. Mary Magdalen, Carfax, St. Ebbe's, All Saints'. Choristers please write F. Sharpe, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.—W. Hibbert, Gen. Sec. 4693

ITEMS CONCERNING PEALS

The peal at Tannington, Suffolk, on June 14th, was not the first on the bells. The first was on December 8th, 1894.

The peal at South Collingham, Notts, appears to be the first on the bells.

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