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THOMAS BALL WORSLEY

A TRIBUTE BY E. JENKINS

THE origins of greatness are not easily come by; are they inherited, born or learned? But by and large we recognise greatness when we meet it. It may have been one day in 1923 when requiring a composition of Double Norwich somewhat off the beaten track William Willson's famous composition was encountered. This seemed well worth ringing.

On March 24th, 1924, we rang this composition at Newchurch, Warrington, a new Taylor ring, and this lovely composition pleased us all. Quoth Harry Chapman (that happy man), 'I've waited twenty years to ring that arrangement.' During the evening T. B. W. and the writer were deep in conversation on the merits of compositions on this plan. Couldn't more be done in this direction? Up to this occasion T. B. W. had never shown any interest in the art of composition.

About this time some conversation was had with J. W. Washbrook, then living in Manchester. Washbrook handed the writer a composition of Cambridge Surprise Major of wonderful combinations. Alas, subsequent examination of this composition revealed that all was not well with it. Conversation at a later date elicited the information that T. B. W. had been experimenting with figures, and the writer, probably subconsciously recognising a greater mind, informed him that he had some figures of Washbrook's which were incorrect. Did he think he could rebuild the arrangement? Yes, he would try.

Perhaps a month passed by before T. B. W. handed back the figures of Washbrook's composition with the remark, 'Yes, you were right. It wouldn't run on that plan, but it's right now.' Subsequently we rang this arrangement at Pendleton on April 4th, 1925, and were all delighted with it. And so Tommy took to composing as to the manner born. Little did the writer realise at that date what would come of the partnership.

Later in 1925 Tommy said he was having a tussle with Superlative, and I believe it was on October 10th of that year after a peal at Pendleton that he said he had produced a 10,668. This was amazing, as Messrs. J. W. Parker and G. Lindoff had informed the writer that the method was worked out and both these gentlemen asked to see the figures. Well remembered are J. W. Parker's comment, 'You have sent me a record composition on a plan I had thrown away.' In just over a month a 10,784

was produced and early in December an 11,360 came out, but subsequent proving found it wrong, and then on Christmas Eve came the greatest length of Superlative with orthodox calling, the 11,232—one of the most masterly productions the Exercise has received. We rang it on January 29th, 1927, at Bolton.

Early in 1926 Tommy said, 'I think there's more to be got out of Treble Bob,' and there was. In July came by post a composition of Treble Bob, the 17,824—again on a plan supposed to be worked out. We rang this the following April at Heptonstall, Yorks. After this he turned his attention to Bristol, and in September, 1926, produced 19,360 and 20,320, at which point he dropped it and delved into London. Ultimately he found sufficient true courses to make 15,000, but in his own words, 'they wouldn't weld.' After some two years of endeavour he gave it up; this was possibly the only occasion of defeat.

In 1930 he again turned his attention to Bristol, and about September of that year came the greatest composition of them all—the 21,600, which my Cheshire friends magnificently performed at Over on November 4th, 1950. How delighted he would have been to have known of it! He had not, however, finished and, going back to his first love, Superlative, he produced on September 8th, 1934, another long length in this method, 11,328, which remains the greatest length in the method with orthodox calls.

The great years of his work were from 1925 to 1928, after which business claimed his attention more and more and spare time became precious, but he never gave up entirely, and little gems of ordinary length kept dropping out of his mind as it were and it needed very little to arouse his interest.

In appearance he was of medium stature, becoming grey early in life, of a most merry disposition and eyes forever twinkling. The writer never once saw him angry; it seemed impossible for him to lose his temper. In ringing he rarely made mistakes and was a fine striker, and could, if required, ring a heavy bell, though he didn't care much for the back end as he perspired very freely. Though he never thought of himself as a conductor, he was remarkably safe and called several peals of Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and Surprise Major. He took part in the 18,000 of Treble Bob at Mottram in 1922, which was false, and also the attempt for 22,000 of Double Norwich at Hepstonstall, which had to be brought round just over 18,000 changes which repeated in the calling round. His greatest performance was undoubtedly the 15,312 of Cambridge Surprise

Maximus at Ashton-under-Lyne on August 5th, 1929, of which he was justly proud.

His name as a composer will last to the end of campanological time, and he ranks with the greatest of our art; in long lengths he was the supreme artist and none can equal his ability in that direction.

His end was sudden—he would not have had it otherwise; that kindly disposition was not meant for long drawn out agony. Generally kindly and well-meaning friends were somewhat blunt in giving this information. . . . Peace of mind was long in returning. Time in its slow healing brings back many happy memories to ease the loss of one who was almost a brother.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tues., July 6, 1954, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 37 cwt. in C.

MICHAEL G. MORTON Treble	LEONARD TREVOR 7
MURIEL REAY 2	ANTHONY AGER 8
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 3	NORMAN J. GOODMAN 9
ALBERT WALKER 4	GEORGE E. FEARN 10
SHIRLEY V. RYMER 5	CLIFFORD A. BARRON 11
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 6	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 10, 1954, in 3 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 32 cwt.

ERNEST MORRIS Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE 7
BRIAN MARTIN 2	JAMES BENNETT 8
S. ANTHONY JESSON 3	TERENCE A. THORNER 9
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH 4	JOHN A. L. THOMPSON 10
PETER BORDER 5	GEORGE W. PIPE 11
E. ALAN JACQUES 6	CECIL W. PIPE Tenor

Composed by FRED DENCH. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

This is the 50th different tower in which James Bennett has rung a twelve bell peal.

TEN BELL PEALS

BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., June 12, 1954, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in D.

*STEPHEN J. IVIN Treble	*JOHN B. LONG 6
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES 2	BRYAN F. SIMS 7
C. HENRY HARDING 3	*SYDNEY J. WOODCOCK 8
GEOFFREY WATSON 4	*BRYAN PATTISON 9
SYDNEY FOSKETT 5	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

* First peal on ten bells.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 32 cwt. in C sharp.

FRED HAYES Treble	WILLIAM H. PLUMBRIDGE 6
RALPH COLES 2	†BRIAN L. TAYLOR 7
GILBERT R. GOODSHIP 3	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM 8
*DEREK W. STONE 4	EDWARD R. COLES 9
PETER BALDWIN 5	†ALLEN D. RIVERS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRED HAYES.

* First peal of Caters and in the method on ten bells. † First peal in the method.

A tribute to Mr. Ralph Coles on completing 60 years as parish clerk. Also a 65th birthday compliment to Mrs. G. R. Goodship.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

LONDON COUNTY ASSN. & N. SOUTHWARK DIO. GUILD.

On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 SOUTHWELL SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 16½ cwt. in E.

*HAROLD W. ROGERS Treble	ALAN F. THIRST 6
MRS. R. JOYCE PEARSON 2	SQUIRE CROFT 7
*SYDNEY A. WARWICK 3	A. ST. JOHN BOYACK 8
WILFRID G. WILSON 4	THOMAS E. DAVIES 9
MRS. K. F. J. PARR 5	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by HAROLD W. ROGERS.
* First peal on ten bells. First peal in the method by all, for the Association, and in the county of Middlesex. The conductor has now 'circled the tower' with ten-bell peals.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5400 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

PETER LAFLIN Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS 6
BASIL JONES 2	JOHN WORTH 7
*ALEX RICHARDSON 3	ALAN J. BROWN 8
*ROBIN TURNER 4	ALAN A. POTTS 9
JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER 5	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Arranged by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
* First peal of Surprise Royal. Longest length on the bells. P. Laflin has now 'circled the tower.'

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., June 28, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5024 RIBBLESDALE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

ALAN CARVETH Treble	FRANK E. HAYNES 5
MURIEL REAY 2	JOHN PINFOLD 6
CLIFFORD A. BARRON 3	PETER BORDER 7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.
The first peal in the method (Tipler's E64/3).

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., July 1, 1954, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP.

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.

ARTHUR V. PEARSON Treble	EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 5
RODNEY B. MEADOWS 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON 6
MURIEL REAY 3	GEORGE E. FEARN 7
MICHAEL G. MORTON 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by PETER BORDER.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., July 8, 1954, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5184 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.

JEFFREY B. WEBB Treble	MICHAEL G. MORTON 5
MURIEL REAY 2	GEORGE E. FEARN 6
*ARTHUR V. PEARSON 3	R. THOMAS NEWMAN 7
TERRY R. HAMPTON 4	CLIFFORD A. BARRON Tenor

Composed by R. F. B. SPEED. Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.
* 100th peal on the bells.

MORECAMBE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 10, 1954, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in G.

DOROTHY SCHOFIELD Treble	JAMES E. BURLS 5
WILFRED BOLTON 2	FRANK POSTLEWATE 6
JAMES METCALFE 3	GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE 7
WILLIAM GERRARD 4	ROLAND F. ECCLES Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE.
Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to and in memory of Herbert S. Palmer, by a few of his many ringing friends of the Lancaster and Furness Branches.

**SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., July 10, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,*

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

F. H. Dexter's Variation of Thurstans' Four-Part.
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in F.

WINIFRED M. BURTON Treble	JOHN M. JELLEY 5
JOHN R. SMITH 2	ERNEST J. JELLEY 6
*EILEEN M. BURTON 3	BRIAN G. WARWICK 7
*WILFRED G. SAUNDERS 4	†JOHN ORTON Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

*On Mon., July 12, 1954, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW.*

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

WILLIAM C. DOWDING Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN 5
MURIEL REAY 2	HENRY H. FEARN 6
EVELYN M. FLETCHER 3	JOHN PINFOLD 7
FRANK E. HAYNES 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by JAMES TOPP.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

A birthday compliment to Miss Evelyn M. Fletcher and Henry H. Fearn.

THURCASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Tues., July 13, 1954, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.*

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

RALPH ELKINGTON Treble	S. ANTHONY JESSON 5
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 2	*†JOHN A. ACRES 6
*MRS. H. J. POOLE 3	E. ALAN JACQUES 7
ERNEST W. RAWSON 4	HAROLD J. POOLE Tenor

Composed by H. LAW JAMES.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 100th peal together. † First peal in the method.

BOWDON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Wed., July 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,*

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt 1 qr. 25 lb. in F sharp.

DAVID VINCENT Treble	*A. NEVILLE BROWN 5
*JEAN C. BROWN 2	REV. R. D. ST. JOHN SMITH 6
C. KENNETH LEWIS 3	ALAN J. BROWN 7
ROBIN G. TURNER 4	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal in the method.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

*On Wed., July 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.*

A PEAL OF 5088 GAINSBOROUGH SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 19½ cwt.

MURIEL M. PIPE Treble	ALBERT E. WHITING 5
DIANA M. MATTHEW 2	LLEWELLYN ALLUM 6
FRANK RUFFLES 3	WALTER W. MILLER 7
RUSSELL G. PARKER 4	LESLIE G. BRETT Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY (No. 42). Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.
Believed to be the first peal to be rung in the method.

SHIRLEY, BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

*On Wed., July 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT.*

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. in B flat.

R. THOMAS NEWMAN Treble	*JEFFREY B. WEBB 5
PETER BORDER 2	*CLIVE M. SMITH 6
J. EDWARD CAWSE 3	ANTHONY AGER 7
GEORGE E. FEARN 4	CLIFFORD A. BARRON Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM H. BARBER. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

* First peal in the method.

BEDFORD.

THE NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.

*On Wed., July 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER DE MERTON,*

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

Constable C. H. F. KNIGHT, Leicester City	Treble
Constable B. S. LEWIS, Northants County	2
Ex-Sgt. H. G. JENNEY, Leicester City	3
Inspector H. J. POOLE, Leicester City	4
Ex-Ch. Inspector W. BOTTRILL, Metropolitan	5
Constable A. H. HINTON, Northants County	6
Constable E. A. JACQUES, Leicester City	7
Det.-Sgt. G. AMOR, Bedfordshire	Tenor

Conducted by Inspector H. J. POOLE.

Specially rung to commemorate the Royal Review of the Police Forces of the United Kingdom by H.M. Queen Elizabeth II., in Hyde Park, London, this day.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

*On Thurs., July 15, 1954, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,*

A PEAL OF 5056 MOSELEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.

JEFFREY B. WEBB Treble	ARTHUR V. PEARSON 5
EVELYN M. FLETCHER 2	PETER BORDER 6
MURIEL REAY 3	CLIFFORD A. BARRON 7
JOHN PINFOLD 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

The first peal in the method (Tipler's D16/1).

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

*On Thurs., July 17, 1954, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,*

A PEAL OF 5040 HERWARD BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*PATRICK SALTMARSH Treble	PETER J. EVES 5
ERNEST W. FURBANK 2	JOHN WARNER 6
ERNEST E. JOHNSON 3	IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS 7
PETER J. CAME 4	JOE E. G. ROAST Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.

* First peal of Major. First peal of Major in the method by all the band, on the bells and for the Association.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

*On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,*

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt.

VICTOR CONNELL Treble	JOHN G. NASH 5
MRS. R. F. DEAL 2	HILDA G. SNOWDEN 6
*TERRY EARLE 3	CHAS. E. WILLMINGTON 7
LEWIS W. WIFFEN 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.

* First peal in the method.

TARLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,*

A PEAL OF 5152 EASTBURY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY Treble	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN 5
MARGARET E. RIDYARD 2	THOMAS W. HESKETH 6
DOREEN DUTTON 3	EDWIN C. BIRKETT 7
RONALD KENRICK 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD Tenor

Composed by R. F. B. SPEED. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

First peal in the method by the band and for the Association.
Rung to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of Liverpool Cathedral.



CHURCH & TURRET CLOCKS

New Installations : Repairs : Maintenance

Estimates and Advice Free

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SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
On Wed., July 21, 1954, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's (7th Observation).	Tenor 6½ cwt. in B flat.
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD Treble	LEONARD TUFFEY 5
VINCENT A. HEMMING 2	EDWARD T. LLOYD 6
GEORGE E. FEARN 3	ARTHUR MORRIS 7
MRS. KATHLEEN WATTS 4	THOMAS GWILT Tenor

Conducted by VINCENT A. HEMMING.

Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Thomas Abbotts, for over 20 years a ringer at this church, who met a tragic death on July 14th in Devon.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

GOODWORTH CLATFORD, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., July 11, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 REVERSE CANTERBURY PLEASURE BOB DOUBLES

Tenor 10 cwt.	
REGINALD RIVERS Treble	PHILLIP E. DODD 4
PETER NASH 2	GEOFFREY K. DODD 5
MICHAEL H. MAISEY 3	*WALTER MULFORD Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY K. DODD.

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

ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., July 13, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven 720's, each called differently.	Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.
MAURICE HOLGATE Treble	LEONARD WALSH 4
*JOHN PILKINGTON 2	CHARLES W. BLAKEY 5
ROGER LEIGH 3	CHARLES CLEGG Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. BLAKEY.

* First peal.

FRYERNING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., July 13, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 20 methods, viz.: (i) College Bob IV., Willesden, Old Oxford and Newdigate Delight; (ii) College Exercise, Norbury, Duke of Norfolk and Ockley Treble Bob; (iii) Ipswich and Cambridge Surprise; (iv) Thelwall, Double Oxford, Childwall and St. Clement's; (v) Oxford Bob, Double Bob and Plain Bob; (vi) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob; (vii) Fulbeck Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

MARY DOWSETT Treble	ERNEST E. S. JOHNSON 4
*IVAN I. M. SAUNDERS 2	JOE E. G. ROAST 5
PETER J. CAME 3	HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE Tenor

Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.

* First peal in 20 methods.

A farewell to H. W. Egglestone, who is joining H.M. Forces.

ARDELEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., July 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 KIRKSTALL DELIGHT MINOR

Being two 2,160's and an extent (C.C.C. Nos. 96, 97, 98; 99, 100, 101; 94).	Tenor 9½ cwt.
*ALAN J. TUTTLE Treble	MICHAEL ORME 4
ANGELA WILLES 2	DEREK P. JONES 5
MAURICE A. COLLINGS 3	PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First peal of Delight by all. Believed to be the first peal in the method.

Birthday compliments to Miss Linda Orme and to the conductor.

CAXTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., July 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 1,440 Kent Treble Bob, 2,160 Bob Minor and 1,440 Cambridge Surprise.	Tenor 10½ cwt.
MICHAEL J. DYER Treble	JOHN J. PAWLEY 4
JOHN R. G. SPICER 2	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN 5
NORMAN MALLETT 3	HAROLD S. PEACOCK Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD S. PEACOCK.

First peal as conductor.

DEEPIING ST. NICHOLAS, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., July 14, 1954, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise, and one extent of Plain Bob.	Tenor 6½ cwt.
MARGARET CARTER Treble	STANLEY E. BENNETT 4
MAURICE BENNETT 2	*JOHN G. AMES 5
ERNEST BRITTAIN 3	FRANK TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.

* 250th peal.

Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. E. Brittain.

NAILSEA, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., July 15, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four 720's of Plain Bob.	Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. in G.
LEONARD DERRICK Treble	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT 4
*S. ARTHUR READ 2	GEORGE J. HAWKINS 5
*WILLIAM F. J. COPE 3	ERIC NAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by ERIC NAYLOR.

* First peal in two methods.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 2nd; Mrs. F. Naylor, the conductor's mother; and Miss M. I. Hemer.

WILLINGTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., July 15, 1954, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising one extent each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Single Oxford Bob, Double Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.	Tenor 9½ cwt.
C. HENRY HARDING Treble	BRYAN S. COPE 4
PATRICK I. CHAPMAN 2	SYDNEY J. WOODCOCK 5
*BRYAN PATTISON 3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES Tenor

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

* 25th peal for the Association.

ACTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 3 Hours and 35 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 6000 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 50 different six-scores, each bell in turn being the whole hunt for 10 six-scores.	Tenor 8 cwt. 42 lb.
ALAN R. ANDREWS Treble	ROY DUESBURY 3
JAMES G. STANNARD 2	ARTHUR G. BUTTON 4
	GEORGE N. ORMAN Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

GREAT BOWDEN, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being ten six-scores of April Day, 12 of Plain Bob and 20 of Grand-sire.	Tenor 15 cwt.
RICHARD COUSINS Treble	*JAMES FISHER 3
EDWARD W. MARTIN 2	FRANK ARNOLD 4
	GEORGE A. HOLLICK Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE A. HOLLICK.

* First peal.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Doreen Arnold. Also a birthday compliment to the conductor.

HALSALL, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes.
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 Oxford Bob, and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.	Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb. in A flat.
BARBARA HALDANE Treble	ELLEN PARKER 4
RUTH CARE 2	CUTHBERT ACKERS 5
JACK POUNDS 3	ARTHUR MAWDSLEY Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR MAWDSLEY.

Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Blundell.

LLANFRECHFA, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

REV. ROY HALLETT Treble	REV. F. A. OSWELL .. 4
GLYN F. JENKINS 2	DONALD G. CLARKE .. 5
REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS .. 3	ROBERT E. R. SMITH .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT E. R. SMITH.

Rung to mark the induction of the Rev. Ivor J. Richards to the benefice of Llanarth with Clytha with Llansantffraed and Bryngwyn.

NAZEING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

FRANK WRIGHT Treble	ALFRED A. LIVINGS .. 4
BENJAMIN G. BURTON .. 2	JOHN R. KETTERINGHAM .. 5
CHARLES W. SAMS 3	HAROLD J. HAZELL .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. HAZELL.

NORTON DISNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents in seven methods, viz.: York, Durham, London, Wells, Norwich, Bourne and Cambridge.

J. ROBIN WORSDELL .. Treble	GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. 4
MARGARET A. SWANN .. 2	WILLIAM R. PARKER .. 5
JOHN F. PEARSON 3	JOHN E. COOK .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. COOK.

First peal on the bells, augmented from three to six in June, 1954.

NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., July 19, 1954, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of five extents each of: St. Nicholas', Winchendon Place Bob, St. Martin's, St. Simon's, Plain Bob, April Day and Reverse St. Bartholomew and seven extents of Grandsire.

ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN .. Treble	WILLIAM L. EXTON .. 4
SIMON L. BARLEY 2	F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. 5
GEORGE E. FOSTER 3	CHARLES J. COPP .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. FOSTER.

A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Brenda Smith, of Newark.

OTLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Mon., July 19, 1954, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents, viz.: Double Court, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

GEORGE BENNETT .. Treble	CECIL W. PIPE .. 4
GEORGE W. PIPE 2	RONALD W. STEWARD .. 5
ROBERT E. LESTER 3	JAMES BENNETT, SEN. .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES BENNETT, SEN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Taylor, wife of the Rector.

HANDBELL PEAL

OCKBROOK, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 3, 1954, in 1 Hour and 40 Minutes,

AT 7, BARE LANE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Double Bob and Reverse Bob and three extents of Plain Bob.

*JOHN S. HARRISON .. 1-2	†MAURICE BAILEY .. 3-4
†W. RODNEY HARRISON .. 5-6	

Conducted by W. RODNEY HARRISON.

* First peal in three methods. † First handbell peal in three methods.



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CROYDON



PEAL RINGING IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE

By the Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

OUT of 89 churches with rings of bells, only 15 have eight or more in the county of Cambridgeshire, i.e., about 17 per cent. Leaving out the two tiny counties of Huntingdon and Rutland, which have very few bells, only two other counties have a smaller proportion of towers with eight bells or more—Hereford and Northants. One would have thought that this would mean many peals on some of the eight-bell towers since they are few and far between, but this is not so in this county. It is certainly one of these that has the most peals in the county—Long Stanton—but its total is only 73, and it is the only church that has passed the 50 mark. Forty-three of these peals were rung in the 1920's, when it was a very popular tower. Only four were rung in the 1930's, but it has again become the chief peal-ringing centre for 19 peals have been rung since the war.

A six-bell tower comes next on the list. Stapleford, where the next peal rung will be the 50th. This, too, had its heyday in the 1920's, when 34 peals were rung, but it has not regained its prominence of that time, since only two peals have been rung since 1945. Actually several towers seem to have recorded the majority of their peals in the 1920's, which seems to indicate that the Exercise was enjoying its greatest popularity in Cambridgeshire at that time. There were certainly more peals rung then than now. Examples of this are seen at Bourn (15 out of 25), Fulbourn (also 15 out of 25), Ickleton (18 out of 37), Over (26 out of 35), Trumpington (23 out of 28) and Willingham (12 out of 17). At the present time, apart from Long Stanton, the following towers

seem to be the most popular:—Ely (14 out of a total of 23 rung since the war), Whittlesey, St. Andrew's (12 out of 17), Whittlesey, St. Mary's (10 out of 25), Chatteris (12 out of 30), Harston (7 out of 12) and Meldreth (10 out of 13).

The only 12-bell tower is St. Mary's, Cambridge. Twenty-eight peals have been rung here from 1890 onwards—one every two or three years. The 10-bell towers have not been visited very often. Soham has only appeared four times in the list of peals—in 1924, 1929, 1931 and 1935. Wisbech isn't much better, but there was a little spasm of activity from 1935 to 1939, when nine out of the total of 13 peals were rung. There have been three since the war. All the eight-bell towers have had at least one peal rung at them since the war, and all except one have peal totals between 17 and 36 (omitting Long Stanton). The exception is the R.C. Church at Cambridge, where only four peals have been rung, the first in 1904 and the remainder since 1946, so there was a very big gap here.

Thirteen six-bell towers have reached double figures and some of the more interesting ones are mentioned above. Six out of the 36 have not yet had a peal. They are Brinkley, St. Edward's, Cambridge, Croxton, Guilden Morden, Litlington and Swaffham Bulbeck. Only eight of the 37 five-bell towers have had a peal, so there is plenty of scope here! It is one of these eight which has been silent, as far as peal-ringing is concerned, for the longest time—Fen Ditton, since 1911. But a six-bell tower, Chippenham, has not been heard since 1920.

Thus, taken all in all, there is nothing outstanding to report about Cambridgeshire.

THE REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS' NEW LIVING

On July 17th bellringing friends of the Rev. Ivor J. Richards, B.A., Hon. C.F., met at the Parish Church, Llanfrecfa, and rang a peal to mark his induction to the benefice of Llanarth-with-Clytha-with-Llansantffraed and Bryngwyn. Formerly Vicar of Crumlin, he was also a chaplain in the Forces from 1939 to 1945, being mentioned in despatches in 1944.

Mr. Richards is widely known in bellringing circles, having taken part in many peals in numerous towers. He is also a past master of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association and still holds the post of treasurer of the Association.

The Parish Church of St. Teilo, Llanarth, one of his new parishes, has a ring of six bells, which were cast in the year 1820 by John Rudhall. The fourth bell was recast in 1893 by Llewellyn and James and this bell bears the inscription: 'Ring out the false, ring in the true.' The tenor bell bears the inscription: 'I call in prayer the living to combine. The dead must hear a louder sound than mine.'

Although the bells of Llanarth are not in good ringing condition they can be rung for short spells, but it is to be hoped that in the not too distant future means may be found to put the bells in good order once again.

In the Church of St. Peter, Bryngwyn, another of his churches, are three bells. The second bell was cast by John Palmer I., of Gloucester, on 'Mai. 3. 1632,' as is so inscribed. The third bell is of the pre-Reformation era and was cast by a Bristol founder some time between 1480 and 1500.

Taking part in the peal to mark this induction were three clerical ringers—the Rev. Ivor J. Richards (new Vicar of Llanarth), the Rev. F. A. Oswald (Vicar of Llanfrecfa) and the Rev. Roy Hallett (curate of Llanfrecfa).

The many bellringing friends of the Rev. Ivor J. Richards will no doubt wish to convey their sincere good wishes to him on his preferment.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Change of Officers at Annual Festival

The annual festival of the Hereford Guild took place at Hereford on Whit Monday. An attendance of well over 100 ringers and friends was most gratifying considering the size of the Diocese and the fact that Hereford City is in the southern half.

The Guild Service was sung in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, conducted by the Ven. the Archdeacon of Hereford, who also preached, his address, as always, being most stimulating.

Tea was served in the College Hall, the arrangements for which were kindly undertaken by Mrs. A. W. Davis and friends.

This was followed by the annual general meeting. Mr. J. J. Webb, of Ross, was appointed Ringing Master in succession to Mr. W. H. Lloyd. A vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Lloyd for the splendid work done by him during his term of office.

The Rev. W. R. Thomas, Vicar of Marden, was appointed hon. secretary and treasurer in succession to the Rev. E. G. Benson, Vicar of Presteigne, and the latter was elected a vice-president in accordance with a unanimous recommendation of the committee. This was in recognition of his services not only to the Guild but to bellringing in general.

Miss Chandler was unanimously re-elected peal recorder, and Mr. W. T. Poston was re-elected hon. auditor of the Guild.

The annual report and statement of accounts were adopted, and the accounts showed a credit balance. The bells of the Cathedral (10), All Saints' (8), St. Nicholas' (6), Holmer (6) and Lugwardine (8) were available on the day.

AUGMENTATIONS AND DEDICATIONS IN OXFORDSHIRE

Within recent weeks two events of much importance to bellringers have occurred in Oxfordshire. A new treble bell has been added to the ring of four bells at March Baldon, and a new treble bell has been added to the restored ring of five bells at Langford.

St. Peter's Church, March (or Marsh) Baldon, has a western tower built in the 14th century, and of curious design, in that the top stage is octagonal corbelled out on the square section below. In 1922 Richard White, of Appleton, hung the four bells in a two-tier oak frame, and the new bell, cast by Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, London, has been placed above these. The result is a melodious ring of five bells, the tenor of which weighs 7½ cwt. The new framework has been installed by Richard White and Son. The dedication service took place on June 12th and was conducted by the Rev. N. E. Hope, until recently Rector of this parish. Unfortunately it was a pouring wet day and the attendance suffered accordingly. Nevertheless a number of visiting ringers were present including the Deputy Master of the Diocesan Guild, Mr. F. Sharpe, and the Guild librarian, Miss M. R. Cross. The first peal on the bells, ten Doubles methods, was rung by a mixed band of the Diocesan Guild on July 5th.

St. Matthew's Church, Langford, is an architectural gem and the lower part of the central tower is of Saxon workmanship. In 1741 Henry

Bagley III. cast a ring of five bells for this tower but the tenor had become cracked and the remaining bells unringable by 1947. A complete restoration has now been effected. A new iron frame has been installed, the cracked bell recast, a new treble bell added and the remaining bells tuned. The bell work has been carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and Richard White and Son have installed the new frame and hung the bells.

The result is a first-class ring of six bells, the tenor of which weighs eight cwt., in a part of Oxfordshire where an impetus is required in chancing. The new treble bell has been given in memory of Sydney Reading, but the remaining cost has been defrayed by public subscription.

A special service of hallowing and dedication was held on July 1st, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. L. Bunce, and the Lord Bishop of Dorchester hallowed the work of restoration and dedicated the new bell to the glory of God. He also gave a most inspiring address to a crowded congregation. The Diocesan Guild of Ringers was represented by the Deputy Master, Mr. F. Sharpe, who read one of the lessons.

After the service the bells were rung to a number of Doubles and Minor methods by visiting ringers, who voted them all that could be desired. Fortunately there are already some local ringers, so there is every hope that the bells will now be rung regularly Sunday by Sunday. A. R. P.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On July 18th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Diana Gough 1, Mary W. Brown 2, Stanley W. Brown 3, Harry W. Brown 4, Valerie Mephram 5, Roy D. Brown 6. First unconduted quarter peal by all the band. Rung to commemorate the 28th anniversary of the induction of the Rector, Canon H. T. Mogridge, to this parish.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On July 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss C. Gale 1, Miss K. A. Weller 2, Miss J. E. Winchester 3, M. V. Chilcott 4, D. E. Parsons 5, F. D. Jennings 6, S. F. W. Kimber (first as cond.) 7, L. A. Reece 8. Rung prior to evensong in honour of the Bishop of Southwark's visit.

CROYDON, SURREY.—On July 4th, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. H. Dearden 1, Mrs. F. E. Collins 2, W. Williams 3, N. Brown 4, C. Parks 5, G. H. Humphries 6, F. E. Collins (cond.) 7, F. E. Mitchell 8.

EAST COKER, SOMERSET.—On July 17th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. Selway 1, F. B. Lufkin (cond.) 2, W. H. Poole 3, A. J. Scott 4, G. Olliffe 5, J. T. Barrett 6, H. J. Gaylard 7, R. Keeley 8.

ESHER, SURREY.—On June 27th, 1,264 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: H. V. Young 1, Frances A. Threlfall 2, Margaret M. Lewis 3, R. F. B. Speed 4, F. E. Hawthorne 5, G. W. Morris 6, J. F. Dodson 7, G. W. Massey (cond.) 8. For evensong.

GOLDINGTON, BEDS.—On June 24th, 1,259 Grandsire Doubles: Ann Fundrey 1, Mrs. M. Marshall 2, C. H. Harding 3, L. Duffield 4, B. Pattison (cond.) 5, D. E. A. Houghton 6. Rung on St. John the Baptist Day.

GREAT BRINGTON, NORTHANTS.—On June 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. Elsigood 1, B. Barton 2, F. Robinson 3, V. Perry 4, M. Chown (cond.) 5, S. Manning 6. Rung for the wedding of Viscount Althorp and the Hon. Frances Roche.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On July 4th, 1,440 Annable's London Surprise Minor: F. Croft 1, R. Head (first of Surprise 'inside') 2, G. Cherry 3, K. Timbury (first in method) 4, J. Church 5, P. Croft (first in method as cond.) 6. For the patronal festival.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On July 4th, 1,440 London Surprise Minor, with tenor covering: L. Fidler 1, E. Winters 3, P. Croft 4, M. Orme 5, P. Mehew 6, D. Jones (first of London as cond.) 7, F. Croft 8. First of London 'inside' by 5 and 6.—Also 1,260 Grandsire Doubles on the front five: A. Tuttle (14) 1, C. V. Hare 2, L. Fidler 3, M. Orme 4, D. Jones (cond.) 5. Believed to be the first of Doubles on the bells. Both quarters for the patronal festival services.

HOUGHTON CONQUEST, BEDS.—On July 17th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Lennard (14) 1, D. F. Olney 2, S. J. Woodcock 3, R. Woodcock 4, T. P. Harris 5, S. J. Ivin (cond.) 6. First quarter for 1 and 2.—Also on July 10th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: R. Lennard (14) 1, P. J. Shipton (15) 2, J. R. Taylor (15) 3, J. B. Long 4, R. A. Ward 5, S. J. Ivin (cond, 16) 6.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On July 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. W. Rogers (cond.) 1, Miss E. Farrell 2, Mrs. O. L. Rogers 3, Mrs. K. F. Parr 4, T. E. Davies 5, F. Hopgood 6, S. Croft 7, A. Tomblin 8.

KEYNSHAM, BRISTOL.—On July 19th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Miss B. White 1, Bill Stowell 2, Miss J. White 3, Miss R. Cook 4, Tom Harris 5, Fred Day 6, Jim Ford 7, Johnny Owen (cond.) 8. First quarter of Bob Major for 1, 3, 4, 5; 6 and 7. In honour of the 80th birthday of Mr. Fred Day (July 12th).

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.—On July 18th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. J. H. Crampion 1, C. R. Smith 2, J. G. Nash 3, H. J. Ranzetta 4, C. A. Hughes 5, J. H. Crampion 6, E. D. Smith (cond.) 7, A. Haysom 8.

NITON, I.W.—On July 17th, 1,260 Doubles (120 each Stedman Slow Course, All Saints', Reverse St. Bartholomew, Old, 240 each April Day, Plain Bob, 300 Grandsire): Shirley Westmore 1, C. Callaway 2, C. J. Champion 3, L. Bailey 4, C. Denness (cond.) 5. First in seven methods by all.

PORTHKERRY, GLAM.—On July 15th, 1,260 Doubles (Reverse Canterbury, Southrepps, St. Simon's, Plain Bob, Grandsire): H. W. Dimond 1, H. Green 2, L. J. Malings (cond.) 3, M. Williams 4, H. D. Dimond 5, H. Smart 6.

PRESTBURY, GLOS.—On July 16th, 480 Plain Bob Doubles and 780 Grandsire Doubles: Miss D. Woolnough (first in two methods) 1, R. Taylor 2, D. Surman 3, C. Rouse 4, R. Dowdeswell (cond.) 5, Miss A. Rowles 6, A. Elliott 7, B. Parkin 8. (7.6.8 covering.) Rung to celebrate the enthronement that day of Dr. W. M. Askwith as Lord Bishop of Gloucester.

SHROTON, DORSET.—On July 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. W. Dennis 1, W. C. Shute 2, Ben Ridout 3, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 4, D. W. C. Chant 5, F. C. Crew 6. Rung half-muffled, immediately after the funeral, as a token of respect to William (Bill) George Damen, a faithful ringer at the above church for 27 years.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.—On July 11th, a quarter peal of Grandsire Caters: B. Newton 1, Mrs. F. Penn 2, G. H. Harding (cond.) 3, R. Amor 4, Miss E. Overend (first of Caters) 5, C. Doel 6, C. Butcher 7, F. B. Holloway 8, F. A. Penn 9, J. Lucas 10. Rung to celebrate the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. R. Amor.

John Taylor & Co.

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

LATE NEWS

We regret to record the sudden death of Mr.
Fred Bennett, of West Clandon, near Guild-
ford, who in his early days rang many multi-
method six-bell peals.

Those who have visited
High Wycombe will know
Mr. Ralph Coles and join
with us in congratulating him on completing
60 years as parish clerk. (It must almost be a
record.) For 33 years, from 1915 until 1948,
he was foreman of the tower. A congratulatory
peal of Caters to this 80-year-old veteran was
rung on the bells on July 17th.

The peal at Worsley, Lancs, reported in our
last issue, was the 200th on the bells.

It is never too late! Mr. Fred Day rang his
first quarter of Bob Major for his 80th birthday
at Keynsham, Bristol, on July 19th.

Don't go to Plymouth without visiting
Emmanuel Church. There is regular ringing
there twice every Sunday and on the practice
night, Thursday, 7.30 p.m.

The Ladies' Guild is restarting in Kent. All
lady ringers are asked to support the first meet-
ing, to be held at Marden on Aug. 14th. 'If
the ladies give the Guild their wholehearted
support, then it is sure to be a success,' writes
Miss Jill Haffenden.

The peal at Otley, Suffolk, on July 19th, was
rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Taylor,
wife of the Rector. Both Mr. and Mrs. Taylor
welcomed the band in the belfry and wished
success for the peal prior to commencement.
Mr. Taylor is the popular leader of his own
band at Otley.

Mr. Albert Walker is perturbed about the
peal of Stedman Cinques rung at St. Martin's,
Birmingham, on July 6th, which he conducted.
It followed a failure in a peal attempt for
Maximus, and in his opinion the peal was rung
at too fast a pace. He afterwards lectured the
band on the necessity of good striking and not
racing the bells unduly. Another 15 minutes, in
his opinion, should have been taken on the peal.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The death of Mr. J. F.
Priest recently at Woodstock,
near Cape Town, focused
attention on the first peal in South Africa in
1904. The ringer of the sixth in this peal, James
Murray, had conducted the first peal in Aus-
tralia 14 years before at St. Philip's, Sydney,
N.S.W., thus achieving the unique distinction
of taking part in the first peals in two different
continents. It is also interesting to note that
Gilbert Pearce, who rang the second in the peal
of Stedman Triples at Bristol in 1899, which
the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead mentions on page
453, took part in the first peal in Canada in
1911.

The two Maidstone Grammar Schools have
united to form a Ringing Society. Meetings are
held at East Farleigh.

Mr. James Bennett has rung a 12-bell peal in
50 different towers. It would be interesting to
learn the names of those ringers who have
surpassed this achievement.

Mr. Reginald Sills is the new district secre-
tary of the Maidstone District of the Kent
County Association, and Miss Mary Tapley, of
Eaglesham, Harrietsham, 'The Ringing World'
representative.

The peal of London Surprise Minor at Nettle-
ham on May 29th (see page 405) was arranged
by Mr. J. L. Millhouse and conducted by Mr.
Geoffrey R. Parker.

Mr. Wallace Palmer, one of East Budleigh's
old 'call-changers,' learned to hunt the treble
to Grandsire Doubles in 1938. Since then
through illness he has had to give it up. At the
age of 70 he made a 'come-back' with a
quarter of Grandsire Doubles for matins on
July 18th. For evensong another quarter was
laid on for the youngest recruit in the band,
but this came unstuck. After Evensong three
members of the band 'hopped' over the com-
mon to help in yet another quarter at Wood-
bury. This also failed.

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OXFORD GUILD'S SEVENTY-THIRD FESTIVAL

HUGHENDEN'S NOVEL GIFT — USE OF AMPLIFIERS A RETROGRADE STEP — MR. JOHN FOWLER'S SERVICES RECOGNISED — THE LARGEST GUILD IN THE COUNTRY — A HERITAGE AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES

THE 73rd annual festival of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, held at Oxford last Saturday, followed traditional lines and, as usual, members of the Guild were joined by many visitors, these coming from as far apart as Lancashire in the north to Cornwall in the south.

Proceedings started with the service in the Cathedral, which was conducted by the Master (the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg). Ringers of the Diocese provided the surpliced choir, with the Deputy Master (Mr. Frederick Sharpe) acting as crucifer and later reading one of the lessons.

The Rev. F. R. S. Tucker, Vicar of Barford, took as his theme for the sermon St. James the Great, whose festival was the following day. Saints' Days, he said, gave them an opportunity for extra ringing, but they reminded them as ordinary mortals who believed in the Church's teaching of striving like the saints of old for perfection. No one could obtain perfection without practice, and that was the salutary lesson they learnt from the saints.

They were church bellringers and the word church did not imply the place in which they rang but Church as members of the body of Christ with the special function to perform in that world-wide fellowship. Some of them might be fortunate enough to ring on the ground floor under the central tower right in view of the worshipping congregation. He would like to see bells rung during the service as an alternative accompaniment to one of the hymns because then they would be taking the fullest part in the worship of God's people. In the ringing chamber their highest ambition must be harmony and co-operation, which meant give and take. He would leave them the thought: 'Whosoever would be great among you let him be your minister.'

GIFT FROM HUGHENDEN

The Master presided at the business meeting in the Chapter House supported by the Deputy Master, the hon. secretary (Mr. W. Hibbert), the hon. treasurer (Mr. A. D. Barker) and the hon. librarian (Miss Cross). In front of the Master was a beautifully-made gavel with the head in the form of a bell, and a stand inscribed: 'Made out of the old bell-frame,' and beneath: 'Made and presented to the Oxford Diocesan Guild by members of the Hughenden Belfry, A.D. 1954.' The Master expressed his thanks to Mr. R. Biggs and the Hughenden band for the gift, which would be highly prized.

Arising from the apologies it was decided to send a congratulatory telegram to Edmund Pearson, of Deddington, and Betty West, who were getting married that day.

The report of the Master and Deputy Master in a reference to the Coronation said the Guild was by no means backward or lacking in loyalty and there must be very few towers in the Oxford Diocese from which the loyal salute of bells did not sound forth. A notable event was the rehanging for ringing of Great Tom of Oxford. 'Mighty Tom' was swung up frame high for the first time for many years on Coronation Day.

Other events recorded were the dedication of the memorial to Canon Coleridge, Mr. Richard White ringing another peal on the anniversary of his first peal, 60 years ago, the services and presentation to Canon G. Dixon, of Grandborough, chairman for 25 years of the Central Bucks Branch, and the loss to the Guild by the death of the Rev. T. Phillips, the ideal chairman of the Banbury Branch. The

monumental and scholarly work of Mr. F. Sharpe in completing 'The Church Bells of Oxfordshire' was not the least of the notable 'events campanological' of 1953.

MEMBERSHIP STEADY

The report of the secretary questioned how many towers in unity with the Guild rang the full complement of bells for both morning and evening service. He asked incumbents to show a little more interest in the ringers and thence spread that interest to members of the congregation from whom recruits should be drawn. Membership kept at a steady level but he wondered what percentage of new members made each year ultimately became steady service ringers. With all disappointments he thought they could hold their own with other Associations and Guilds.

The treasurer's report stated that the general funds of the Guild amounted to £925 10s. 7d., of which £826 13s. 10d. was in the Restoration Fund. During the year £500 had been received under the C. W. O. Jenkyn bequest. Grants were paid to Cassington, Duns Tew and Wavendon and the Coleridge Memorial Fund.

The reports and accounts were adopted on the proposition of Canon G. Dixon.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Acknowledging his election as Master, the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg said he would do his best with the limitation of time at his disposal. 'One of the best Deputy Masters we have had,' was how Mr. A. E. Lock submitted the name of Mr. F. Sharpe for his re-election to office. Other officers re-elected were Mr. A. D. Barker, hon. treasurer; Mr. W. Hibbert, hon. secretary; and Miss Cross, hon. librarian.

Elected to the committee were: Miss D. Fletcher, Messrs. G. Cauldwell, T. J. Fowler, R. White, W. F. Judge, G. Holifield, W. Dixon, C. J. Hibbert, A. R. Pink, B. Hall, P. Walker and W. Paice.

The Master reported the death of Mr. A. D. Cullum, one of the trustees, and that the Rev. B. Girling did not desire to continue in office. The meeting elected Mr. C. Kinch and Mr. A. R. Pink as new trustees.

It was decided to hold the 1955 Festival at Oxford.

RESTORATION GRANTS

Warborough was congratulated on raising within £20 of the £864 required for the restoration of its bells. The local branch had voted five guineas and it was agreed to pay ten guineas for the Bell Restoration Fund.

The meeting was very sympathetic towards the Boyne Hill restoration scheme, a memorial to Mr. G. Martin. The cost of the scheme was £750 and towards this £365 had been raised. The sum of £50 was voted.

Details of the memorial work for the beautification of Crowthorne Church, where Canon Coleridge administered with great faithfulness for 52 years, were submitted to the meeting. In view of the fact that the Guild had raised £360 for the Coleridge Memorial at Christ Church, Oxford, and that any contribution would have to come from the general funds of the Guild, it was decided on the proposition of the general secretary to vote three guineas.

The layout of future reports was discussed and the meeting decided that the present layout be retained but short reports of Branches be added.

PEAL RECORDS

An absence of peal records was reported to the Guild and the figure of 4,825 peals to the end of last year was stated to be 'miles out.' A start in compiling a new record had been made by Miss Cross and Mr. Roper and they were appointed peal recorders. Miss Cross made an appeal for early Guild reports.

Arising from a Bicester Branch meeting, Mr. Kinch moved: 'It is the considered opinion of the Oxford Diocesan Guild that it is a retrograde step to install in church towers amplifiers or like apparatus for the purpose of broadcasting the sound of bells in a parish where it would be possible to install a ring of bells.'

Seconding, Canon G. Dixon said: 'Everything to be said for the resolution and nothing against it.'

It was decided to send a copy of the resolution to the Chancellor of the Diocese and the Bishop of Dorchester.

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Editor was asked to amplify the letter of the general secretary of the Central Council on the need for more postal subscribers and the appointment of 'Ringing World' correspondents to push circulation and keep the journal informed of ringing activities. Mr. White reminded the meeting of the poor response so far received for new postal subscribers from the counties of Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Bucks, which compared unfavourably with Hertfordshire. He emphasised that no young ringer should allow his first quarter or peal to pass without being presented with a copy of the journal. If he or she persevered with their ringing they would look back on that first step with gratitude.

The Master said the Guild had a large general committee and if each one of them made it a point of pushing postal subscribers a better result might be achieved.

Mr. Sharpe proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. White and the Editorial Committee for their work.

The hon. secretary asked the meeting to ratify the election of 165 new members. Last year the number was over 200. He did not think they had lost 165 members. When they sent certificates to them they used to make sure that they would ultimately become Sunday service ringers. The elections were ratified.

A member called attention to the splendid example of the Vicar of Edlesborough. A restoration scheme costing £10,000 was launched for his church and he had decided to give priority to the tower and the bells.

The Master suggested that his example deserved the sympathy and support of the Guild.

It was decided to send a letter to the Vicar expressing the Guild's appreciation of his action.

MR. JOHN FOWLER HONOURED

Mr. A. D. Barker proposed on behalf of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch that in view of his past services to the Branch Mr. John Fowler be elected a vice-president of the Guild.

Mr. Hibbert, in seconding, said older members realised what Mr. Fowler had done. He had never called a peal of Spliced Surprise, but the number of people he had taught to ring at Cookham and the number he had kept on 'the straight and narrow' nobody knew.

OXFORD FESTIVAL.—Cont.

The election was carried with acclamation. Mr. Fowler, in returning thanks, said he could not tell them how much he appreciated the great honour. Anything he had done for the Branch, of which he was Ringing Master for 25 years, he had done for the good of the Guild. His late Rector once said to him, 'John, you have done more than anybody in Cookham in keeping the youngsters in the church after they have left the choir.'

The meeting stood in silence in remembrance of Messrs. A. D. Cullum (Reading), George Adcock (Windsor) and G. Russell (Bray), who had died since the report was published.

THE LUNCHEON

The luncheon, as on former occasions, was held in the hall of Christ Church. After the toast of 'The Queen' the Launton ringers, in charge of Mr. F. Sharpe, played selections of tunes and hymns on Mr. Sharpe's beautiful set of handbells, some of which date back to the 17th century. This was followed by a splendidly-struck touch of Grandsire Caters by a band in charge of Mr. C. Woolley.

The toast of 'The Oxford Diocesan Guild' was proposed by Mr. T. W. White, who said the Guild did not realise its proud position of being the largest in the country with over 2,000 members. The Oxford Guild had a great heritage: it had given to the Exercise leaders who had shaped ringing in the county. It was a great responsibility to live up to that reputation. Their festivals were unique and enjoyed and appreciated by many ringers from all over the country. The Guild was very fortunate in its Deputy Master, who was to-day one of the leading authorities on old bells, and his research and writings had added to the lustre of the Guild. In coupling the name of the Master with the toast, Mr. White wished him and the Guild every happiness during the coming year.

The Master, in acknowledging the toast, extended a warm welcome to the visitors. As their visitors knew, they were meeting without a Bishop. The Guild felt they had lost a personal friend and president of the Guild by the death of Dr. Kirk. They had with them as they prayed Sunday by Sunday for the wise choice of a successor, the memory of a great and dearly beloved Bishop.

The Master then proposed the toast of 'The Visitors.'

Mr. Gower, of Clitheroe, Lancs, replied, and said it was well worth coming to Oxford for the privilege of attending the service and lunching in that hall.

The Deputy Master proposed a vote of thanks to the Dean and Chapter for placing the Cathedral, Chapter House and the hall at the Guild's disposal for the service. He also thanked the Oxford ringers, Mr. Tucker, of Burford, the preacher at the service, Dr. Armstrong, the organist, and the choir, which came from all parts of the diocese.

Ringing followed in the various churches and chapels and parties were taken to see 'Great Tom' by Mr. Sharpe.

Wedding of Miss G. F. Good

Miss G. F. Good, until recently a member of the local tower, was married to Mr. J. Morris at St. Mary's, Apsley End, Herts, on July 17th.

The bride was given away by her father, Mr. A. V. Good, who is a past president of the Herts Association, and has been Ringing Master of the Western District for many years.

Before the ceremony the local band rang a 720 of London, and afterwards several touches in other methods were rung and the bells were 'fired.'

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BOB TRIPLES—BACK HISTORY

Dear Sir,—I note on page 441 of 'The Ringing World,' Mr. W. Ayre, in presenting his report, said that the Central Council in 1904 passed a rule against the ringing of Bob Triples, and yet I have in my possession a book published by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers dated 1907 entitled 'A Collection of Legitimate Methods,' which was edited and issued according to the instruction and under the authority of the Council by a committee consisting of Mr. John Carter, member of the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham; Mr. Henry Dains, member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths; the Rev. E. Bankes James, member of the Gloucester and Bristol Association; the Rev. H. Law James, Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, and Mr. J. A. Trollope, member of the Norwich Diocesan Association. Section 1: All legitimate methods of Doubles, all legitimate methods of Minor methods (except such as have 5ths place without the treble in 6ths), and all legitimate methods of Triples, and in the latter is included 'Bob Triples.'

Now I ask, if such eminent men should consider this method legitimate only three years after the Central Council had ruled against it, and it took another 20 years (1927) before the Council again objected and again another 27 years before the Council realised some bands enjoyed ringing it, surely it is time this vacillation ceased and its legitimacy was really and truly established.—Yours faithfully,

H. O. OVER.

Hugglescote, Leics.

A LEGEND OF ST. CLEMENT DANES'

Dear Sir,—The mention of St. Clement Danes' in your issue of July 23rd brings to my memory an account of an incident which happened there many years ago.

During a severe thunderstorm whilst the ringers were ringing, an ill-shaped being entered the ringing chamber, and dug its claws into the masonry of the window-sill, dislodging great pieces of stonework. The ringers left the ropes, tried to hide, the ropes whipped and cracked as the bells swung themselves down.

If you could find this narrative in an old 'Bell News' it might be of interest to some who have never heard about it.—Yours truly,

GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Ipswich.

NOTE.—Can any reader oblige?—Editor.

PRESIDENTS OF THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Dear Sir,—Mr. E. J. Taylor informs me that Mr. C. Pearson, author of 'The Ringer's Guide to the Church Bells of Devon,' was elected president of the Guild on May 25th, 1896, and resigned the office on September 24th, 1896. At a general committee meeting on October 24th, 1896, the Rev. Maitland Kelly was elected as his successor.

Mr. A. W. Searle, who is 86, tells me Mr. Pearson was an old man in feeble health and could only ring a six-score of Grandsire, though he was well known as a writer on bells and bell history. This accounts for his brief tenure of the office.—Yours faithfully,

FREDK. C. SMALE.

Okehampton.

SPLICING BY 'HOMES' ONLY

Dear Sir,—Mr. Seagar's very interesting article on this subject seems to me to introduce a technical query.

'Scissoring' at the 'leads' is readily understandable; but scissoring at the treble's lie is in conflict with a conventional feature of method structure.

The plain course of any method is, of course, divisible into a number of **groups** of changes, equivalent to the number of full 'working' bells in the method. Each of these 'divisions' is an integral block, characteristic of its 'end' rows; the pattern of its permutation structure being 'reflected' about its half-way line — i.e., the second line of Mr. Seagar's scissoring.

Since each individual method is distinguished by such pattern, **plus the form of the linking permutation at the division ends**, it follows that if only one half of a division be employed and joined with the opposing half from a different method, the result will be an asymmetrical division or 'lead.' In other words, something not at present recognised is introduced.

Mr. Seagar's examples at 'A' and 'B,' however, appear not to introduce such bisections. Would he be good enough to say, therefore, why they were mentioned?—Yours very truly,

A. YORK-BRAMBLE.

Southsea.

HONOUR FOR YOUNG WOLLASTON RINGER

Dear Sir,—May I be permitted through the medium of your valuable paper to offer my sincere congratulations to a young ringer, Mr. Charles Thomas Richards, who, according to the programme of the Royal College of Art Convocation held on July 9th, was conferred with the title, DES R.C.A. and was also awarded a Continuation Scholarship in the Department of Industrial Glass.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Percival Charles Richards, of Cobden Street, Wollaston, Stourbridge, Worcs. He was educated at Wollaston St. James' C. of E. Schools, and on winning a scholarship became a full time student at Stourbridge College of Further Education, and in 1951 was awarded a scholarship to the Royal College of Art.

No doubt many of his ringing friends will be pleased to learn the good news and join me in complimenting him on his success. — Yours faithfully,

C. E. STINTON, J.P.

Wollaston.

DON'T FORGET THE STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE

Dear Sir,—Mr. Field, in his letter of advice to outing parties, did not mention the initial item, the stamped addressed envelope. Although this has been aired on several occasions in 'The Ringing World,' our incumbent has this season received five applications from organisers who have omitted this courtesy. — Yours sincerely,

DOUGLAS BELLAMY.

Bampton, near Tiverton.

AN 1899 PEAL AT BRISTOL

Dear Sir,—With reference to the peal of Stedman given on page 453 by the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead, I have turned this peal up in the annual reports of the Gloucester and Bristol Association and find that it is recorded as Peal No. 363, and having been rung at the Church of All Saints, Bristol. This would, therefore, prove a misprint in the entry of 'The Bell News.'—Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM F. SCUDAMORE,
Bristol Rural Branch Secretary.

NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS

REVIEW COMMEMORATION PEAL

Following the review by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. in Hyde Park, London, eight members of the National Guild of Police Ringers met at the Church of St. Peter de Merton, Bedford, and succeeded in ringing a peal of 5,040 Stedman Triples in 2 hours and 50 minutes.

Those taking part were Constable C. Knight, Leicester City, treble; Constable B. Lewis, Northants County, 2; Ex-Sergeant H. Jenney, Leicester City, 3; Inspector H. Poole, Leicester City, 4; Ex-Chief Inspector W. Bottrill, Metropolitan Police, 5; Constable A. Hinton, Northants County, 6; Constable A. Jacques, Leicester City, 7; Detective-Sergeant G. Amor, Bedford, tenor. The peal was conducted by the president of the Guild, Inspector Poole. Ex-Chief Inspector Bottrill, Inspector Poole and ex-Sergeant Jenney took part in the last commemoration peal, which was rung in London in 1935 following the review by the late King George V.

It was originally intended to ring a peal of Pudsey Surprise Major at St. George's Church in the Borough, Southwark, and all arrangements were made to do this. The team for this event included three members of the Metropolitan Force, but information was received two days before the review cancelling the peal owing to the inability of the Metropolitan ringers to arrange their duties. Some quick moving was, therefore, necessary with alternative suggestions.

Contact with Detective-Sergeant Amor, of Bedford, brought forth the possibility of the peal at St. Peter's, and arrangements were made to attempt a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. In an effort to replace the three London ringers, several members were contacted but were unable to accept owing to the short notice. By the acceptance of two of the old hands, the team was completed by Police-woman B. A. Smith, of Bedford. The team had not rung this method together and it was expecting a lot from them to succeed with it.

After three short attempts it was obvious that more practice was necessary in that method for success and it was reluctantly decided to ring a peal of Stedman Triples. Policewoman Smith did not ring Stedman and it was much to the disappointment of all that she stood down in place of Detective-Sergeant Amor. Messrs. Poole, Jacques, Hinton and Lewis saw the review at Hyde Park and it was a question of working strictly to schedule to return to Bedford in time to ring the peal. Following the advice of Detective-Sergeant Hurst, of St. Albans, the car was left at Barnet and the journey completed by train. A quick cup of tea and sandwiches were laid on for the party at the Police Canteen at St. Albans and then a dash to Bedford resulted in arrival there at about 6.20 p.m.

Thanks are due to those members who obliged at such short notice and completed the team; to the Rector of St. Peter's Church for his permission to ring the bells; to Detective-Sergeant Hurst, of St. Albans, for his assistance; and particularly to Detective-Sergeant Amor for the local arrangements at Bedford. Had Policewoman Smith rung in the peal, she would have been the first lady to ring in a peal for the Police Guild. It is hoped, in the near future, to make amends for her disappointment and arrange for her to take part in a Police Guild peal. Thanks are also due to Mr. Kilby Holtom, who travelled from Daventry to Bedford especially to transport two members of the team to their homes in the Daventry district.

The day provided two interesting coincidences, quite unexpected, in that Mr. Holtom renewed association with a school friend. Detective-Sergeant Amor, and, in quoting the assistance given by Detective-Sergeant Hurst, of St. Albans, another member of the team, P.C. Knight, of Leicester, remarked, 'Well, that's queer, I went to school with him.'

P.C. Hammons, of Northampton, was in the original team for the London peal and intended to travel from Weymouth, where he was on holiday. It is hoped, in the future, with his assistance, to arrange a Police Guild peal in the Northampton district.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD

The Diocesan Festival was held at St. Columb with the neighbouring towers on July 17th. Ringers were present from Truro Cathedral, Camborne, Carbis Bay, Crantock, St. Ewe, Kenwyn, Landulph, Launceston (St. Mary Magdalene's and St. Stephen's), Lelant, Liskeard, St. Mawgan, Paul, Perranarworthal, Plympton St. Maurice, three of the local band and a few visitors from up-country.

St. Columb is not a Guild tower and we much appreciated being welcomed there. These bells are a perfect eight, good tone, good going and good ropes. Grandsire Triples, Doubles, call changes and rounds were rung.

The service was taken by the Rector, assisted by the general secretary, and the choir was present to lead the singing. There was an excellent tea served by the ladies of the parish.

Of the towers we were unable to visit, St. Enoder has a very beautiful tenor, St. Mawgan has one of the most musical light eights in the country, and St. Eval six have just been rehung and, contrary to the usual custom, are already being rung regularly although they will not be rededicated till August 21st.

After tea we, the Crantock band, proceeded to St. Wenn, a beautiful six in a wooden frame and on plain bearings, but go exceedingly well. The sundial on the church tower bears the gloomy legend, 'Ye know not when,' a necessary reminder perhaps.

From there we went to Withiel to ring the bells of St. Clement's. Withiel has a beautiful tower in the true Cornish style and of granite. The bells go well but the ropes are terrible, the sallies are so high that one has to catch the ropes eight inches below them. However, we rang better here than anywhere except St. Columb. With new ropes, St. Clement's, Withiel, would be an ideal tower for a peal of Bob Minor.

The last tower we visited was Little Petherick, where the fifth and the tenor are pre-Reformation bells, but we never seem to ring well at this tower and the single rope-ends were our undoing. However, we covered up our bad striking with a perfect fall. The Kenwyn band finished by ringing a quarter of Grandsire Triples at St. Mawgan's. W. H. R. T.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD

The Dudley and District Guild held their quarterly meeting at Stourbridge on July 3rd. 29 ringers and friends attending. The Vicar (the Rev. G. Pursey) conducted the service, at which the choir was in attendance, and gave the address. The lesson was read by the Ringing Master, Mr. W. Davies.

Tea was prepared by the local ringers, their wives and friends, and full justice was done by the visitors to their efforts.

At the meeting the Vicar took the chair and a report on the Central Council meeting at Newcastle was given by the Guild's representative. The secretary read the letter from the Central Council with regard to 'The Ringing World.' In the discussion that followed it was decided not to appoint a sales representative but the secretary was to write to all the secretaries of affiliated towers asking them to bring to the notice of all ringers the need for more postal subscribers, and to endeavour to persuade the ringers of their towers to become subscribers to 'The Ringing World.' The secretary undertook to forward to 'The Ringing World' all items of interest passed on to him by members of the Guild. Six new members were elected and the Rev. G. Pursey was elected a vice-president of the Guild. It was decided to hold the next meeting, subject to permission being obtained, at Hagley on September 4th.

THREE GUILDS' JOINT MEETING AT SHREWSBURY

An innovation on July 10th was a joint meeting at Shrewsbury of the Shropshire Association, Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford and the Hereford Diocesan Guild. The idea of this joint meeting was first mooted some 18 months ago by the Rev. F. A. R. Chapman, Vicar of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, and a good friend of ringers, and was enthusiastically received by Mr. W. A. Farmer, secretary of the Shropshire Association, and Mr. Fred Bennett, lay secretary of the 'Staffords,' who were determined to see the suggestion become a reality.

Mr. Farmer and members of the Shropshire Association made the arrangements for the meeting, when the following towers were available for ringing:—Shrewsbury—St. Chad's (12), St. Mary's (10) and St. Michael's (6), Conover (8), Berrington (8), Cound (6) and Bicton (6). Full use was made of this opportunity for tower snatching.

Ringers' 'widows' found much to interest them in the delightful town of Shrewsbury and more than one ringer discovered that it was an expensive business to let his wife roam amongst the attractive shops in High Street or the Mardol.

Tea, served in St. Chad's Schoolroom, was very kindly provided by the Vicar, churchwardens and Parochial Church Council of St. Chad's. An interesting visitor was Mr. Ernest Weatherby, of Los Angeles, California, who

used to ring in Shrewsbury over 30 years ago. After tea Messrs. Arthur Pritchard and Fred Bennett in turn expressed thanks and appreciation to the Rev. F. A. R. Chapman, the churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council and the lady helpers, and last but not least to Mr. Farmer for his organising ability. Mr. Bennett stated that the joint meeting had proved so successful that it would be repeated somewhere in the 'Staffords' territory next year.

All present then proceeded to St. Chad's for the service, which was conducted by the Rev. F. A. R. Chapman, assisted by his curate and the organist. The address was given by the Rev. C. H. Barker, clerical secretary of the 'Staffords,' who took an eight-word text, 'Choose you this day whom ye will serve,' which, he said, not only applied to eight-bell ringers, but six-, ten- and twelve-bell ringers as well. Ringers must give wholehearted service to God and His Church.

The attendance at the meeting was 106 and included visitors from as far apart as Leeds and Truro. Ringing during the day was under the direction of Mr. Arthur Pritchard, Ringing Master of the Shropshire Association.

A number of ringers and their wives finished this enjoyable day at the 'Boat House,' but the object of their visit had nothing to do with boats or the river. F. C. A. B.

ROCHESTER DIOCESE'S 27th JUBILEE

AYLESFORD'S COMMEMORATIVE FESTIVAL

ON July 10th the bells of Aylesford Parish Church rang merrily throughout the afternoon and evening in celebration of the 27th Jubilee of the Diocese of Rochester, which dates back to 604 A.D. There have been many Jubilee festivities during the last two months—indeed, the Bishop had preached in Aylesford Church only two days previously—and the bells have rung out from many towers, but this particular occasion was perhaps unique. It had been arranged by the Maidstone District of the Kent County Association and some 80 ringers had gathered, not only from many of the surrounding villages and from other parts of the county, but from as far afield as Sussex, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and even Co. Durham.

At 4.15 the throng of ringers gathered in church for Evensong conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. J. Powell), with Mr. Richard Hasler at the organ. During the service a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells, and in an inspiring address the Vicar spoke of the joy of practising an art which had been growing and developing for several centuries quite in keeping with the traditions of the ancient diocese itself. What a comfort it was to remember also in these days of unrest and upheaval that the Church had witnessed the changes and chances of many generations but herself remained the constant factor. So ringers in their regular duties in the tower Sunday by Sunday should perform them, not in the sense of struggling on under the cares of the world, but with a spirit of triumph on top of the world. The collection was for the Restoration Fund of Rochester Cathedral, for which the Dean had appealed in 'The Week's Good Cause' only the previous Sunday, and amounted to £2.

1,350 CHANGES FOR 1,350 YEARS

While the main company then migrated to the Junior School for a sumptuous tea prepared by the Aylesford ringers' wives and families a band of eight returned to the ringing chamber to attempt the special touch of Stedman Triples, which had been arranged by Mr. Louis Head, of Maidstone, to contain 1,350 changes, one for each year of the Diocese's long history. Unfortunately this did not quite succeed, for two bells changed positions, but the ringing was excellent.

CUTTING THE JUBILEE CAKE

That morning an expedition had set out for Ascot to convey to Aylesford the Jubilee cake together with its chef, Mrs. Edna Kansy, a member of the Wrotham band of ringers. There it was, two tiers of it, beautifully iced and decorated with bellpops and their coloured sallies, and with diagrams of ringing methods, surmounted with 27 candles, which now were lit. The Vicar introduced Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, of Gravesend, who were to make the first cut. Mr. Mitchell has been one of the principal officers of the Association for many years and still holds the office of general treasurer, and Mrs. Mitchell is herself a prominent ringer of the Ladies' Guild. Most fittingly it turned out to be Mrs. Mitchell's birthday and 'Happy Birthday' was vigorously sung. Then a loud cheer was given for the cook, whose effort was adjudged first-class.

A NEW DISTRICT SECRETARY

The company then passed to formal business after a telegram had been read bringing good wishes from ringers of the Canterbury District meeting that day at Boughton-under-Blean, as well as good wishes by letter from the Ashford and Rochester Districts, and from the Archdeacon of Rochester, that day sailing for America to attend the Anglican Congress at

Minneapolis. After the election of several new members Mr. Mitchell explained that consequent on the recent election of Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, of Aylesford, to be county secretary in the place of Mr. G. H. Spice, of Sittingbourne, it was necessary to find a new Maidstone District secretary. Only a single nomination was received, that of Mr. R. L. Silles, of Wrotham, who was consequently declared elected. Miss Mary Tapley, of Harrietsham, was then appointed 'The Ringing World' representative in the District.

THE LADIES' GUILD IN KENT

A letter was then read from Miss Jill Haffenden, of Marden, who has undertaken to revive the Guild in Kent, and Mrs. Mitchell was able to give first-hand information. It is hoped that this enterprise will be enthusiastically supported.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Wally Gosling, of Boxley, to all who had contributed to make this memorable day possible.

So back to the ringing chamber where the bells were kept busy until 9 p.m., the traditional signing-off time of ringers. Though numbers had thinned out by then, there was still quite a crowd to bid farewell to Aylesford on this Festival Day when the 27th Jubilee of the Diocese of Rochester was honoured by ringers in a manner after their own heart. E. S. J. H.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Northern District at Hinxworth

The cold and wet kept the attendance at the meeting at Hinxworth to the lowest this year. Evensong was said by the Rector (the Rev. G. O. Edwards) and the tea provided by the ladies will be remembered for its crisp lettuces.

The Rector, who presided at the business meeting, hoped that in his new parish, Blunham, Beds, he would receive similar visits from ringers. Master Peter Flack, of Baldock, was elected a member. Kirkstall Delight was selected for the next meeting at St. Ippolyt's on August 28th.

Afterwards members heard recordings made by Mr. D. P. Jones in Somerset and a course of Cambridge Minor on Henlow bells, which was as near perfect as one could wish. Many different methods were rung afterwards and the District now knows that London is not the hardest method but, says our correspondent, Kelso is.

A SONNET

Shall there ever be a bell so cast,
Turned and moulded by the craftsman's hand,
That shall unto the end of all time last,
And her strong note resound through every land?

Though the man-made cities of the world,
O'er the arid deserts, deep green seas,
High volcanoes with their lava curled
On open plains between the forest trees.

Shall I compare this winged note of praise
To mighty eagle or to dove of peace?

Her soulful depth the grovelling nations raise
Inspiring truth, compelling strife to cease.

This full-toned note flies ringing round the earth
And then, with echo clear, regains her birth.

BARBARA G. WHITE,
(Age 15 years),
Bolton Parish Church.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.—On July 4th, 1,260 Kent Treble Bob Major: W. H. Viggers 1, Miss R. A. Heath 2, W. Denyer 3, R. J. Corke 4, J. Bragg 5, J. A. Ainsworth 6, T. Page 7, G. K. Williamson (cond.) 8. A farewell to Rex J. Corke, who is going overseas with H.M. Forces.

BALDOCK, HERTS.—On July 18th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: P. Stacey (first of Major) 1, L. Hughes 2, R. Castledene (first of Major as cond.) 3, H. Heeley 4, P. Hutton 5, C. Harwood 6, D. Sutcliffe 7, J. Dear 8.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—On July 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. O. Wilks 1, Linda R. Binnington 2, M. Angela Carter 3, J. W. Seymour 4, P. G. Davies 5, M. S. Cloke (cond.) 6, W. Gilkes 7, C. G. Calcutt 8. First quarter of Grandsire Triples for 2, 3, 5 and 7.

EAST BUDLEIGH, DEVON.—On July 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Palmer 1, J. Carter 2, S. Skinner (cond.) 3, C. Savage 4, J. Smith 5, S. Elliott 6.

EAST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.—On July 7th, 1,080 Plain Bob Doubles: Beryl M. Colbran (longest length) 1, Patricia M. Howard (first 'inside') 2, Elsie F. Feltwell 3, John A. Howard 4, F. H. Hicks (cond.) 5, I. A. C. Butcher 6. Rung on the front six.

GODSHILL, I.W.—On July 11th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each Reverse St. Bartholomew, Old. April Day, Plain Bob and 300 Grandsire): E. Thorne 1, L. Bailey 2, C. Callaway 3, C. Denness 4, C. J. Champion (cond.) 5, C. Morris 6. First in five methods by all. An 80th birthday compliment to G. H. Denness, father of the ringer of the 4th.

HUNTINGDON.—At All Saints' on July 4th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: R. F. Baker 1, N. Mallett 2, J. R. G. Spicer 3, G. F. Carter 4, C. Clarke (first of Minor) 5, H. S. Peacock (cond.) 6.

LAWHITTON, CORNWALL.—On July 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. R. Johns 1, W. C. Boucher 2, J. Rich 3, J. Martin 4, C. E. Taylor (cond.) 5, J. Egging (first quarter) 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam T. W. Abbotts.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.—On July 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Watson 1, R. I. Shepherd 2, W. Welling 3, A. H. Bates 4, A. Cross 5, G. Cousins 6, D. W. Stone (cond.) 7, R. Wawman 8. Rung as a compliment on the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Wawman.

RADLEY, BERKS.—On June 17th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Reverse Canterbury, 420 Grandsire and 360 Plain Bob): Miss S. Alexander (aged 11) 1, Miss M. R. Cross (cond.) 2, Miss L. R. Binnington 3, Miss J. Eason 4, A. R. Pink 5, P. King (aged 14) 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of the late Bishop of Oxford, Dr. K. Kirke, president of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

SMARDEN, KENT.—On July 10th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: H. Jarvis 1, Mrs. M. Marshall 2, P. Jarvis 3, W. C. Marshall 4, C. Marshall 5, M. W. Marshall (cond.) 6. Rung to commemorate the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. C. Marshall.

SOUTHMINSTER, ESSEX.—On July 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss B. G. Litman 1, Miss D. Butcher 2, C. Robinson 3, E. Potter 4, K. Everitt (cond.) 5, A. T. M. Perry 6. First quarter for 1, 2 and 3. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Hopwood (first quarter) 1, Miss M. Mesley 2, Miss E. K. Fulton 3, G. J. Leversuch 4, P. Beedie 5, W. Wenban (cond.) 6, A. Wenban 7, C. Wenban 8.

STRETHAM, CAMBS.—On July 17th, 1,260 Minor (720 Kent, 540 Plain Bob): F. Gifford 1, H. Sharp 2, G. Walker 3, S. Shipp 4, T. Bevis (cond.) 5, A. Yarrow 6. An 80th birthday compliment to Mr. H. Sharp.

A MISCELLANY OF OUTINGS

ASH, SURREY

Although July 17th was reported to be 'the worst day of summer yet,' the rain did not dampen the spirits of ringers and friends of St. Peter's, Ash, on their annual outing.

Morning ringing was on two sixes—Broughton and Codford St. Peter. After lunch at Westbury the wonderful eight at All Saints' were rung. Next came the picturesque village of Bratton, and there was much competition in counting the numerous steps leading to the church. After such exercise the company was thankful for tea at Devizes. The last tower was Upavon, where the Vicar welcomed the party and his daughter joined in the ringing.

Despite mackintoshes it was 'a jolly good outing,' and thanks are due to Mr. E. Pepler for his excellent arrangements.

CLUTTON, SOMERSET

Clutton ringers with their friends and families (ringers and non-ringers) left for Paignton soon after 7.30 a.m. on July 3rd. Our first tower was Rockwell Green, a good-going six. After lunch at Paignton we rang there at the Parish Church (8). Honiton, St. Paul's, was our last tower. Here the two new trebles were rather springy and so were only rung by the more superior of our number! There was an additional stop—not for ringing—on the way home and we reached Clutton at about 11.30. Thanks for this most enjoyable outing are due to Mr. C. S. Bennett, who organised it.

Methods rung during the day were:—Doubles: Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman. Minor: Plain Bob, Kent, Cambridge. Triples: Grandsire, Stedman. Major: Plain Bob.

M. E. F.

EMMANUEL, PLYMOUTH

Reaching Bideford at 10.15 a.m., ringers of Emmanuel Church, Plymouth, started a grand day on July 10th. Appledore, with its gaily decorated waterfront for the regatta, was a good start, and Northam, two miles away, were two towers new to the party except Mr. Tom Myers. Mr. Lavers had, however, rung at Northam.

After lunch at Ilfracombe ringing took place at SS. Philip and James' Church, but a disappointment awaited the party by a locked tower at Holy Trinity. Energetic 'Bill' Collier eventually obtained the key from the caretaker. In the past 10 years some 130 churches have been visited by the Society, and this was the first time they had been let down. Two holiday-makers from Wigan and a R.A.F. corporal whose home was at Worcester here joined the party.

Miss Boyle, secretary of the N.W. Branch of the Devonshire Guild, and local ringers gave the visitors a right royal welcome at Coombe Martin.

The greatest treat of the day was the excellent tea at Barnstaple, where the Rev. and Mrs. Hearne greeted old friends. Mr. Hearne, now Vicar of Pilton, is a Plymouth man and was formerly curate at Emmanuel. An hour and a quarter was spent on the delightful eight at Pilton. Mr. Sims, the captain, thanked Mr. Hearne and the local ringers for having everything in readiness.

Mr. Sims is to be commended on the manner in which he superintended the ringing. The youngest member was his 12-year-old daughter, Sylvia, who received great praise for her handling of the different bells. She was recently presented with her Guild certificate.

DARTFORD AND DISTRICT

Thirty ringers and friends representing seven towers in Dartford and district visited parts of Hampshire for their summer outing on June 19th.

The Rev. K. Davis and the local captain welcomed the visitors at Hawley, and at St. Michael's, Basingstoke, this grand ring was fully used, although a wedding was taking place in the church. Lunch was served at the Opera Restaurant, overlooking the Market Square.

Mr. Chesterman and his daughter made the company feel at home at Sherborne St. John, and at Bramley, a ground floor eight recently augmented, Mr. Osler met the party. A cross-country route to Odiham for tea at the Salamander and ringing was followed by a visit to St. Michael's, Aldershot, where the company was received by Major Bragg. Ringing was of a good standard under the guidance of Mr. Hoverd.

HITCHIN

Shakespeare's country was the object of a small party of ringers from Hitchin, Norton and Maulden on July 3rd. A good start was made on the noble six at Middleton Cheney, near Banbury (tenor 23 cwt.), with Cambridge and London Minor.

The next call was something novel—Balscott Farm, where Mr. Jarvis has a private ring of six (tenor 1 cwt. 22 lb.) hung in his own tower frame and fittings above an outhouse. We eventually succeeded in keeping them off the stays for rounds and Grandsire Doubles. These bells sound and handle far better than their weight would suggest.

Lunch preceded ringing at Evesham Bell Tower, where Mr. Geoffrey Hemming had the bells ready. A well-struck course of Superlative at a deliberate open pace made a good start. A surprise visitor was Mr. L. W. G. Morris.

Pershore Abbey nearly provided a 'Waterloo.' After the perilous crossing to the airy confines of the famous ringing cage, the band had all their work cut out to ring this fine old Rudhall eight (tenor 28 cwt.). Skill having to give way to brawn caused striking to suffer.

For some reason striking was not up to expectations on the light ten at Stratford-on-Avon, where we met Mr. V. Hunt. A possible explanation was that the party tried to ring too slowly. London on the front six, however, went well, even the light end providing good bell music.

After tea and sightseeing at Stratford, some pleasant touches were rung on the light eight at All Saints', Leamington, and Mr. Burt welcomed the party. A hilly diversion was made to Burton Dassett only to find that the meeting there had just concluded, but an immense panorama was a rich reward.

REDENHALL AND DISS

Organised by Mr. William Flatt, the Redenhall and Diss ringers and friends, numbering 30, left Diss at 6.45 a.m. on July 17th for a tour in Essex. The first call was at Brentwood and the first 'touch' was 77 changes of Stedman Triples, rung to celebrate the 77th birthday of Mr. Clement J. More. Ringing followed at Romford and Hornchurch before lunch.

Chigwell Row and Barking were in the afternoon's programme, and after tea Woodford. The return journey was via Bishop's Stortford for supper. Home was reached about 1 a.m. after travelling 246 miles. Special thanks to Mr. W. Flatt and Mr. E. Whiting, Ringing Master.

A. G. H.

HUTTON, ESSEX

Hutton, Essex, ringers revisited Suffolk on July 17th and remained cheerful despite the weather.

Stratford St. Mary, on the border of Suffolk and Essex, was reached well before schedule, so we had 'elevenses' at the Swan Hotel before going to ring at the church. Unfortunately the Rector had considered our departure time to be our arrival times. Still, we just managed to take the bells up and let them down again and then we were off to Ipswich, where we rang for half an hour at St. Matthew's Church.

The afternoon was spent at Felixstowe, eating, drinking, walking through the rain and beholding the sea itself. Someone wondered who could have trodden on Felixstowe. A dry comment in a wet world! After tea we went across country to Hasketon Church. The tower here is partly cylindrical with a hexagonal top. The long rope draught also helped to give us the impression of standing at the bottom of a well. We were met by the Rector, the Rev. W. A. Gray, who made us welcome.

We arrived five minutes late at Grundisburgh, a picture-book village with a fine old church and ten musical-box bells, which we did our best to ring. Once again we were graciously welcomed at the church, this time by one of the local ringers, Mrs. C. W. Pipe.

Early in the day one of our friends boasted that the only thing he could ring was a dishcloth. Opportunity certainly came his way!

E. M. B.

LAVENHAM

The SS. Peter and Paul's ringers, accompanied by their wives and friends, spent an enjoyable day in Kent on July 10th. Ringing took place at Gravesend, Milton, Chatham and Gillingham, with lunch and tea at the last two places respectively. Methods rung were Grandsire, Stedman, Plain, Kent and Oxford, Double Norwich and Superlative. The closing hour was given over to refreshments, handbell ringing and a selection of several airs by the Bell-chords Trio. Again, 'Thank you, Kent.'

BARNESLEY VISIT CHESTER

The annual outing took place on July 3rd when two bus loads containing 66 ringers and wives, sweethearts and friends visited Chester. The first call was at Altrincham, where a very nice breakfast was thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. K. C. Lewis met the party here and piloted them to Bowdon, a short distance away, where the local company had the bells up and were waiting to welcome the visitors. About an hour's ringing here was enjoyed very much.

At Chester the first item was lunch at the Bear and Billet. The ringers then set out by bus to ring at Eccleston, but owing to the driver taking the wrong turning it was a trip into North Wales, and although they eventually arrived at Eccleston it was too late to ring without upsetting the rest of the programme. Nevertheless we arrived at St. Mary-within-the-Walls on time and here the Vicar (the Rev. J. Kingdon) was waiting to welcome the party, and after climbing the ladders into the ringing chamber, good use was made of the bells. Tea was served at the Bear and Billet and all too soon came time for the journey home.

The weather was rather unkind on the first part of the journey but from early afternoon there was glorious sunshine, and boating on the River Dee was enjoyed by some of the party. 'A very happy outing,' was the unanimous verdict by all who participated.

OBITUARY

THOMAS W. ABBOTTS

The Solihull service band has sustained a great loss in the death of Thomas Abbotts, who lost his life in a motor-cycle accident on Wednesday, July 14th, while on holiday in Devon. Tom learned his ringing at Shirley, but for some years he had been attached to Solihull Parish Church, and had rung there regularly for service. He handled a heavy bell very well and rang a number of peals on six, eight and ten bells, his last peal being on the tenor to Stedman Caters a few months ago at Solihull.

He was a powerfully-built man, but his nature was a gentle one, and his good humour persisted in all sorts of circumstances. On the annual outing he was always excellent company and fell in with great goodwill with all the arrangements.

As a service ringer he was most valuable for he was reliable, punctual and conscientious. Everyone at Solihull will greatly miss his burly figure and his invariable good temper.

The funeral service was held at Shirley Church on Monday, July 19th. It was attended by all the Solihull ringers, by Mr. Albert Walker (Master of St. Martin's Guild) and other friends. Before the coffin left the church a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by Messrs. V. W. Rigg 1-2, A. Walker 3-4, E. C. Shepherd 5-6, C. Bragg 7-8. On Sunday, July 18th, the bells of Solihull Church were rung half-muffled to a quarter peal of Grandsire Caters by W. Leeson 1, C. Dale 2, A. Walker 3, A. Jones 4, T. Warner 5, E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 6, H. Bragg 7, J. Bragg 8, C. Bragg 9, V. W. Rigg 10. E. C. S.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World',
July 31st, 1914

COLLEGE YOUTHS AND CUMBERLANDS AT CRICKET

The cricket match, which has been the chief topic of conversation among London ringers for weeks, was played on July 18th on Mitcham Green. The weather and everything else were perfect. . . . The Masters of the two Societies tossed for innings and Mr. T. Faulkner of the College Youths was successful. He put his team in to bat first, but, oh, what a fall there was. The Cumberland bowling was unplayable, and in a very short time the whole side was out for the low score of 31. When, however, the Cumberlands batted, history repeated itself, wicket after wicket falling quickly, and it was not until the last man was in that the winning hit was made. Then the last wicket fell, the Cumberlands having scored 33, winning by the narrow margin of two runs. The top scorer for the College Youths was H. Walton with 14, and for the Cumberlands R. Warner with 18. J. D. Matthews took six of the College Youths' wickets for 18 runs and D. Ellingham 4 for 8. The best analysis was secured by H. Wagstaff, who captured 6 Cumberland wickets for 7 runs.

[The College Youths' team was: Herbert Langdon (captain), Albert A. Hughes, Alfred W. Grimes, John W. Golding, A. S. Miller, Thomas Faulkner, Sedley J. Collins, E. Attwater, J. C. Adams, Harold J. Walton and H. Wagstaff. The Cumberlands were represented by: John D. Matthews (captain), his son Cecil J. Matthews, James Hunt, Richard N. Runham, Frank I. Hairs, D. Ellingham, Robert Warner, J. Arniger Trollope, Harold P. Burton, Thomas Jakeman and William Shimmans. The umpires were A. Walton and James Parker, and the scorers A. T. Miller and Miss Edith K. Parker. The ball was presented by Mr. Abraham G. Freeman of the Cumberlands, uncle of the famous Kent and England slow bowler, 'Tich' Freeman. Mitcham Green, where the match was played, is probably unique in that to obtain access to the pavilion from the field one has to cross a road.]

DEDICATION

ULCEBY, NORTH Lincs

A landmark in North Lincolnshire is the spire of St. Nicholas', Ulceby, as spires on churches are rare in North Lincs. In 1906 the five bells (four being 16th century and one 17th) were rehung in a steel girder frame by Alfred Bowell, and provision made for a sixth. The following year the fourth bell, dated 1583, cracked and a new bell was substituted.

Last August a life's ambition was realised when the parish was in a position to consult Mr. Paul Taylor, of Loughborough. He offered to supply a new treble and tune the existing ring (the bells being badly out of tune) conditional upon local work and transport to and from the foundry being provided.

Later it was found necessary to recast the old treble and the Parochial Church Council decided the rehanging the bells on ball bearings. By gifts from the relatives of George Farrow and Laurence William Jordan (a former ringer) and public subscriptions the additional money has been quickly raised.

On July 6th the Humber Graving and Engineering Dock Company took delivery of the bells at Loughborough and by the following Saturday mid-day had completed the restoration in readiness for the dedication by the Lord Bishop of Lincoln on Sunday evening, July 11th.

The bells are dated as follows:—

Treble.—John Taylor and Co., 1953.

Second.—S. S. Ebor.* Recast John Taylor, 1954.

Third.—S. S. Ebor.

Fourth.—S. S. Ebor.

Fifth.—Alfred Bowell, 1907.

Tenor.—H. O., 1606.† (Weight 9½ cwt.)

The handbells were thoroughly overhauled, some being recast.

Owing to extensive repairs necessary to the stonework, chiming only will be allowed for the time being.

*S. S. Ebor, Samuel Smith, York.

†H. O., Henry Oldfield.

JOINT MEETING AT TWICKENHAM

In spite of most unseasonable weather for a July afternoon the Middlesex County Association and Society of Royal Cumberland Youths held a most successful and enjoyable joint meeting at Twickenham on July 17th. The good octave at the Parish Church and the very fine ten at All Hallows' were available during the afternoon and evening.

All Hallows' is well known as being the successor of the old Church of All Hallows, Lombard Street, which church was pulled down before the late war and rebuilt to serve a new congregation at Twickenham. The bells were rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who recast the eighth and tenor, and the firm is to be congratulated on an excellent job.

About 30 members and friends, including a visitor from Fakenham, Norfolk, attended service at St. Mary's, conducted by the Rector of Twickenham.

An excellent tea was served to members in St. Mary's Hall, with the Rector acting as chairman. Through the kindness of the local ringers and their wives and friends, the charge for tea was purely nominal. Mr. F. W. Goodfellow, secretary of the South and West District of the Middlesex Association, welcomed the Cumberlands, and Mr. F. E. Hawthorne replied on behalf of the Society and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to all who had helped to make the meeting a success.

After tea those present returned to both towers and ringing continued at All Hallows' until 8 p.m. Methods up to Yorkshire Royal were successfully brought round during the afternoon and evening.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD

Saxmundham District

The summer meeting of the Saxmundham District held at Blaxhall and Tunstall was well attended with ringers coming from many districts including Bures and Needham Market. Seventeen members sat down to an enjoyable tea.

A short business meeting followed, when Mr. A. R. Bridges was elected District hon. secretary. Mr. J. Bailey proposed two new ringing members for the Suffolk Guild—Miss Margaret Cook and Mr. Bryan Lawrence—both having recently rung their first 720 Plain Bob Minor.

An appeal was made by the new secretary for more postal subscribers for 'The Ringing World'. Mr. G. Berry proposed a vote of thanks for the use of the bells. The place of the next meeting was fixed for Kelsale and Saxmundham on October 9th.

Many methods were rung including Ipswich, Kent, Oxford, Stedman, Cambridge, Double Court and Plain Bob.

R. R. B.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—R. K. R. 2s., Anon 5s., Hutton outing 2s. 6d., R. Dowdeswell 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Morecambe 4s., Allesley 4s., Bristol 3s. 6d., Ardeley 2s. 6d., St. Margaret's, Leicester, 6s., National Guild of Police Ringers, Bedford 4s., Nazeing 3s., Deeping St. Nicholas 3s., Goodworth Clatford 6s., Isleworth 2s., Llanfrehfa 8s., Caxton 1s. 6d., High Wycombe 5s., North Muskharn 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Stanwell 3s., Esher 2s. 6d., Porthkerry 3s., Smarden 2s. 6d., Lawhitton 4s., East Coker 3s. 6d., Stanmore 5s., Stretham 3s., Croydon 4s., Keynsham 4s., Southminster 3s., Godshill 2s. 6d., Shroton 3s., East Budleigh 3s., Radley 2s.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Mid-Devon Branch at Rattery

The Mid-Devon Branch held a quarterly meeting at Rattery on July 17th when, unfortunately, adverse weather conditions affected the attendance. Those who attended, however, were well rewarded as they were given a great welcome.

The bells were kept going to Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob Doubles during the afternoon, the visitors also having a good opportunity of ringing with the local ringers.

A service was later held in church conducted by the Rev. H. S. Patrick (Vicar), who gave an eloquent address. A move was afterwards made to the Village Hall where a sumptuous tea was much enjoyed, and this was followed by the usual business meeting with Mr. J. E. Lilley in the chair.

A letter was read from the general secretary regarding the appointment of a 'Ringing World' correspondent, and it was resolved that the Branch secretary should continue to deal with this for the present. It was decided to hold the Branch outing on September 11th and that the route be left in the hands of the Branch officials. Also, subject to the necessary permission being obtained, the next meeting is to be at Kingsteignton on October 23rd.

Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar and parishioners of Rattery by the chairman, who complimented the parish on the excellent appearance of the church. Ringing afterwards took place at South Brent and Dean Prior.

A. L. P.

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.

WEDDING

PEARSON—WEST.—On July 24th, 1954, at SS. Peter and Paul's, Deddington, Oxfordshire, Edmund E. Pearson, younger son of Mr. E. C. Pearson and the late Mrs. Pearson, to Betty West, second daughter of the late Mr. C. West and Mrs. G. West, Deddington. 4782

DEATHS

SCARDIFIELD.—On July 22nd, 1954, Victor Percy Alfred George Scardifield, of East Hagbourne, Didcot, Berks (nephew of the late George Williams, with whom he lived for several years in Brighton). 4777

JOYCE.—On July 22nd, 1954, George L. Joyce, of Hornchurch, Essex, in tragic circumstances after a long illness. 4789

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr. and Mrs. P. A. CORBY, late of 83, Hurstbourne Road, Forest Hill, London, S.E.23, after July 19th: 11, Bowley Avenue, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire. 4774

The address of Mr. DEREK P. JONES is now Holmeswood, 35, The Avenue, Hitchin, Herts (no telephone at present, but Hitchin 959 will take messages). 4792

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

WITHYHAM, SUSSEX.—£400 needed for urgent repairs to our ring (8). Any donations will be gratefully received by the Rector. 4772

WANTED.—For binding, 'Ringing World,' July 22nd, 1949.—John A. Hilton, 5, Mount Zion, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. 4793

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

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Saturday, July 31st, St. Mary's, Lambeth, 3.30. The Ship, Talbot Court, E.C., 6 p.m. There will be no ringing at St. Michael's, Cornhill, during August. —A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate. 4730

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Abbots Langley (6), July 31st, 3 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. 4758

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Meeting at St. Augustine's, Kilburn (close to Kilburn Park Underground Station) on Saturday, July 31st. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business in School Room. Names for tea to Miss A. Barker, 37, Summerfield Avenue, N.W.6. Telephone: Ladbroke 3733. 4743

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District. — Practice meeting, Reigate, July 31st. Bells (10) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Bells after till 8.30. 4759

GUILDFORD GUILD (Leatherhead District) and **SURREY ASSOCIATION** (Northern District).—Annual joint meeting, Leatherhead, on August Bank holiday. Bells from 3. Service 4.30. Tea in St. Nicholas' Hall, numbers for which, by July 29th, please, to G. Mariner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead. 4769

SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY and **LADIES' GUILD** (Northern District).—Joint meeting, Rotherham (10), Monday, August 2nd, 3 p.m. Tea at 5 for those who notify, by July 31st, Mrs. W. M. Ryder, 19, Middle Lane South, Herringthorpe, Rotherham.—N. Chadock and E. D. Kelly, Hon. Secs. 4729

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Meeting at Stevington (5), Aug. 7th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea by Aug. 4th to the Rev. S. Vickers, Stevington Vicarage, Stevington, Bedford. 4770

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall and Northwich Branches.—Joint meeting at Over on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names not later than Aug. 4th to V. Neal, 104, Dean's Drive, Winsford. 4791

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Meeting at Tredington, Aug. 7th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by Aug. 4th, please. —H. M. Windsor, The Bakery, Long Itchington, near Rugby. 4779

DEVON GUILD.—N.W. Branch.—A meeting at Holsworthy, Aug. 7th. Bells 3 p.m. Usual arrangements.—J. W. Sangwin, Hon. Sec. 4794

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting, Saturday, Aug. 7th, Christ Church, Consett. 2.30 p.m. Names by Aug. 5th to R. Oliver, Aldington Park Terrace, Castleside. 4771

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Downham Market, Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea, please.—J. Fox, Walpole St. Andrew. 4790

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. — Meeting, Woodchurch (6), August 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea, by August 3rd, to Mrs. D. J. Russell, Central Stores, Woodchurch, Ashford. 4760

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Branch meeting at Colne, Aug. 7th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 4781

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Aug. 7th, at Parbold Parish Church. Bells 2.30. Tea free. Names to Mr. H. Leyland, 16, Station Road, Parbold, near Wigan.—W. O. Farrimond, Branch Sec. 4787

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION and **ESSEX ASSOCIATION** (South-Western).—Joint meeting, Waltham Abbey, Saturday, August 7th. Bells (12) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea. Please assist by sending names for tea to Mrs. C. W. Roberts, 5, Monkwood Avenue, Waltham Abbey. 4767

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD (Rutland Branch) and **LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD** (Melton District).—Annual joint meeting at Cottesmore, Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Names to Rev. Howells, Cottesmore, Rutland, by Aug. 4th.—E. E. Gibson, J. H. Cook. 4783

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Drayton Parslow, Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells (6) at 5.15 p.m. All welcome.—R. H. Howson. 4784

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Sonning on Aug. 7th at 6 p.m.—B. C. Castle. 4796

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Meeting at Upavon (6), Aug. 7th. Bells 3 p.m. Service and tea. Names to Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 4795

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — Practice meeting, West Grinstead (6), Saturday, Aug. 7th. Names for tea by Aug. 4th to Mrs. E. Rapley, 48, Swindon Road, Horsham. 4773

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Quarterly meeting, Freshwater, Aug. 7th. Bells from 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting follows.—A. M. Guy, Hon. Dis. Sec. 4778

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Flamstead (6), Aug. 14th. Names for tea by Aug. 11th to Mr. Smith, 14, Trowley Hill Road, Flamstead, Herts.—R. Shutter, Dis. Sec. 4797

LADIES' GUILD

Kent Branch.

The first meeting is at St. Michael and All Angels', MARDEN (8), on Aug. 14th at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 and tea 5 o'clock. ALL LADIES WELCOME and gentlemen cordially invited. Names for tea should be sent to Miss Jill Haffenden, Hon. Sec., Church Green, Marden, Telephone Marden 270. 4776

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch. — Meeting, Preston Capes, Saturday, Aug. 14th. Names for tea to Mr. R. Fennell, Charwelton, Rugby, not later than Aug. 7th.—F. W. Hancock. 4780

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—First meeting, Westbury (light six), Aug. 14th. Mid-Wales buses 1.30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Teas only if you advise W. A. Farmer, 99, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury. 4786

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts District.—Meeting at South Anston (8), Saturday, Aug. 14th. Tea only for those who notify by 12th Mr. H. M. Turner, 10, High Street, South Anston, Sheffield.—H. Denman. 4785

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD**Young Ringers at Wilton**

The light sixes at Wilton (8 cwt.) and South Newton (9 cwt.) provided an opportunity for some of the youngest members to ring at the Salisbury Branch meeting on July 17th.

Susan Farmer (9½), probably the youngest member of the Salisbury Guild, rang the 2nd to 6th bells, as she very often does on Sundays. Christopher Kippin, from Southampton (10½), who was elected a junior member of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild only the previous Saturday, rang Grandsire. Raymond Haines, of Wilton, is quite a veteran at 10, and even Hilary Kippin (8) was seen on the tail-end of a rope before the day was out.

The attendance, though not large, included visitors from Southampton in one direction, and Chirton in the other, and everyone had the chance of a practice at something unfamiliar, including a course of Cambridge.

The Rector of Wilton (the Rev. W. J. Drury) spared time in the middle of a Sunday School treat to take the Guild service, and Mr. S. Gregory kindly deputised for the organist, who was on holiday.

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