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FRESH POSSIBILITIES

THERE is nothing new under the sun. It has all been done before,' said Sherlock Holmes to Inspector Gregson, and the inspector's complete ignorance of the history of poisoning debarred him from debating the question with the famous specialist. There is a belief in many quarters of the ringing exercise that little or nothing new can be discovered in the realms of method construction and composition. The Minor and Major methods (and their extensions) are reputed to be reducible to certain formulæ and their total number capable of computation, while all that is of value from Doubles to Cinques is said to be known. Of compositions in the standard methods it is often stated that there is much repetition, and that peal compositions worked out long ago by industrious composers are frequently put forward by modern investigators as their own discoveries.

Whether the view that nothing new is obtainable is correct to any degree is not easy to determine, and indeed it would need, as Mr. Peter Border said recently, either a prodigious memory or a phenomenal filing system in order to maintain a dogmatic opinion on the matter.

Certainly a contemplation of the vast flood of creative work, good, bad and indifferent, that swept through the columns of 'The Bell News' fifty and sixty years ago might lead one to conclude that virtually every acre of ground had been explored. One might have said that Dains had drained the well of Double Norwich, that Trollope's huge collection of Bob Major figures had brought enterprise in this method to an end, that the mass production of Stedman Caters and Cinques by Carter and Lindoff had supplied not only all demands but also the final formula for the composition of any further peal. Grandsire Caters seemed worked out; Stedman Triples was said to present scarcely a problem, apart, of course, from what was deemed impossible. Heywood's brilliant exposition of Stedman Triples opened the gate of entry to twin-bob composition, but at the same time seemed by the finality of its conclusions to render useless certain avenues of exploration. Dr. Carpenter's valuable collection of opening and turning courses set the seal on Davies' fine book on Stedman, impressing us with a sense of completeness, as though here the last word had been said on the question of getting Stedman Caters into the Tittums and back to rounds.

Time has shown that the last word in these matters has not been said. This century has been marked by an ever-increasing intensity of the study of methods and method construction. There has been an almost incredible mani-

festation of new methods and variations, so that even to-day, when some say that the supply is exhausted, fresh arrangements of the familiar material of hunting, dodging and place-making are set before us for our diversion.

Composition, too, seems limitless. Despite Dains, fresh peals of Double Norwich may be found; despite Trollope, Bob Major may yet be found to provide some new small entertainment. Stedman Caters, as Mr. Roberts clearly shows us, can yet bring some novelty; Grandsire Caters still holds possibilities for the unconventional explorer. And now, to add weight to these considerations, we have the new peal of Cambridge Maximus in the Tittums, produced by Mr. C. K. Lewis and called by John Worth at Macclesfield.

The reason for this ever opening field for creative enterprise would seem to be found in the essential vitality of change ringing, a characteristic that gives delightful scope for getting away from convention. Convention has been an important factor in the life of change ringing, a power, indeed, that could have crushed experiment and enterprise and possibly have destroyed change ringing itself. But throughout the three hundred years of the art there has been the same cycle: experiment ending in convention, then revolt against convention with an attendant enterprise and experiment, and the establishment of fresh conventions.

In Annable's day Tittum ringing was the correct form of Cater composition, and the single was a rather disreputable device, to be used only when unavoidable. In Thurstans' day more than two singles in a 5,040 Stedman Triples seemed unnecessary. Sixty years ago a peal of Bob Major, Double Norwich or Grandsire was judged by reference to the 6th or 5th so many times right or wrong. Ringers of those days thought along certain lines, and there is ample evidence that the inventor and experimenter were regarded with suspicion and often treated with critical intolerance and unreasonable prejudice. The permutation of the back bells in Maximus course ends did not enter into the schemes of the late 19th century composer, and it is probable that such an innovation would have shocked the purists of the time.

To-day most ringers will experience pleasure in the contemplation of experiments to extend what has been until now the rather limited musical field of Maximus. And some of the joy in breaking away from the conventional roll-ups must, in the peal at Macclesfield, surely have found its complement and consummation in the pleasure of returning in the last three courses to the familiar 7890ET.

E. C. S.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF 5021 ERIN CINQUES

Tenor 30 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in D flat.

*MRS. T. H. FRANCIS .. Treble	*A. RONALD LING .. 7
*MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS .. 2	*FRANK J. MATTHEWS .. 8
*MRS. R. F. DEAL .. 3	*†ALFRED J. HOUSE .. 9
*ARTHUR G. MASON .. 4	*†FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. 10
*MRS. F. J. MATTHEWS .. 5	*THOMAS H. FRANCIS .. 11
*HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. 6	*JOHN R. LEEMING .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by THOMAS H. FRANCIS.

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Cinques in the method.

‡ 350th peal.

Rung for the anniversary of the Queen's Accession.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 31 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 25 cwt. 20 lb. in D.

BRIAN MARTIN .. Treble	JOHN A. ACRES .. 7
BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 2	SAMUEL A. MARTIN .. 8
DONALD A. THEEDOM .. 3	S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 9
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. 4	NORMAN LEECH .. 10
MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 5	HAROLD J. POOLE .. 11
SAMUEL J. HAINES .. 6	*E. CHARLES TURNER .. Tenor

Composed by FREDK. H. DEXTER. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal on 12 bells.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam Rt. Rev. F. S. Hollis, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese.

TEN BELL PEALS

NOTTINGHAM.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5057 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 35 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in C sharp.

*CHARLES E. BROWN .. Treble	*GEOFFREY PAUL .. 6
JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 2	H. LESLIE PASK .. 7
*HERBERT LOWMAN .. 3	*JOHN WALDEN .. 8
*SYDNEY A. CHAMBERS .. 4	*RAYMOND F. SMITH .. 9
*GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. 5	ARTHUR W. HOODLESS .. Tenor

Composed by RICHARD F. DEAL. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters.

WILLENHALL. STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.

A PEAL OF 5043 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F sharp.

HOWARD HOWELL .. Treble	GEORGE W. HUGHES .. 6
ERNEST STITCH .. 2	HARRY GRIFFITHS .. 7
*CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 3	FRANCIS BROTHERTON .. 8
*HERBERT KNIGHT .. 4	WILLIAM DAVIES .. 9
FREDERICK G. HANDLEY .. 5	GEORGE DEAN .. Tenor

Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* 200th peal together.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., Jan. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP.

A PEAL OF 5024 CALTHORPE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. Treble	TERRY R. HAMPTON .. 5
EVELYN M. FLETCHER .. 2	RODNEY B. MEADOWS .. 6
MURIEL REAY .. 3	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 7
JOHN PINFOLD .. 4	PETER BORDER .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by PETER BORDER.

The first peal in the method.

LONG ASHTON, SOMERSET.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Sat., Jan. 29, 1955, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation). Tenor 30 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

ARTHUR R. WRIGHT .. Treble	FRANK D. MACK .. 5
DAVID HEIGHTON .. 2	DAVID J. MARSHALL .. 6
MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING .. 3	JACK R. WORRALL .. 7
LANCE C. I. WATSON .. 4	IVOR H. TRUEMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

WOBURN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 29, 1955, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb.

MRS. JOAN M. BROOKS .. Treble	JAMES G. NEWMAN .. 5
*ROBERT L. PIRON .. 2	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 6
RONALD J. SHARP .. 3	JOHN W. V. SINFIELD .. 7
*BRYAN PATTISON .. 4	DENNIS KNOX .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by DENNIS KNOX.

* First peal in the method.

Rung for the 15th anniversary of the birth of the Marquess of Tavistock, son and heir of the Duke of Bedford.

CONISBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Sheffield and District Society.)

On Mon., Jan. 31, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5056 HATFIELD SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

FREDERICK J. JACKSON .. Treble	*DENNIS A. CHAPMAN .. 5
ELIZABETH BATE .. 2	*REV. G. GORDON GRAHAM .. 6
HOWARD SCOTT .. 3	NORMAN CHADDOCK .. 7
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

* 50th peal. † 100th peal. The first peal in the method. 100th peal as conductor.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., Feb. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OR 5152 DERITEND SURPRISE MAJOR

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

MURIEL REAY .. Treble	MICHAEL G. MORTON .. 5
CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON .. 6
ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 3	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 7
JOHN PINFOLD .. 4	PETER BORDER .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

The first peal in the method.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Feb. 4, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

A Variation by F. H. Dexter of Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 15 cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT .. Treble	RALPH BIRD .. 5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. 2	GEORGE J. BUTCHER .. 6
*ARTHUR G. MASON .. 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. 7
EDWIN A. BARNETT .. 4	*ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

* 200th peal. † 50th peal on the bells. This is the 500th peal on the bells, 100 of which have been Stedman Triples.

RAINHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Feb. 4, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 18½ cwt.

EMILY B. P. WALKER .. Treble	GEORGE KENWARD .. 5
FRANCIS J. CHEAL .. 2	TREVOR A. CROSS .. 6
HARRY SPRINGATE .. 3	CYRIL S. JARRETT .. 7
EDWARD C. BARTON .. 4	GORDON R. WALLACE, R.E. Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL S. JARRETT.

Rung in honour of Mr. Eric Cross and Miss Renda Nicholls' wedding, which took place at the above church on the following day. Both are keen church workers.

BRENCHELY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

J. A. Lambert's Variation of J. R. Pritchard's.		Tenor 18 cwt.
*JANICE E. GRENHAM	Treble	REGINALD E. LAMBERT .. 5
BETTY A. TESTER	2	COLIN A. TESTER 6
GEORGE FRY	3	JOHN W. MEADE 7
KEVIN S. HOHL	4	ROBERT T. LAMBERT Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT T. LAMBERT.

* First peal of Major.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Colin A. Tester (local captain) and a 17th birthday compliment to Betty A. Tester.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5184 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17½ cwt.

*IAN H. ORAM	Treble	JOHN L. MORRIS 5
DENNIS BERESFORD	2	RALPH BIRD 6
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	3	†PETER BERESFORD 7
CYRIL S. JARRETT	4	GEORGE J. BUTCHER Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † 100th peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

FRED HAYES	Treble	DOREEN COKER 5
PERCY NEWTON	2	DOROTHY R. FLETCHER .. 6
ROLAND BIGGS	3	JOHN KAPE 7
DAVID CORNWALL	4	WALTER AVERY Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by JOHN KAPE.

HUNSLET, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in F.

THOMAS W. STRANGWAY	Treble	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 5
*ARNOLD COLE	2	ALFRED SMITH 6
ALEXANDER E. MARSH	3	GORDON BENFIELD 7
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	4	WILFRID F. MORETON Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

* First peal of Surprise Major. First peal in the method on the bells.

LEYLAND, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Preston Branch.)

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 23½ cwt.

*JACK L. HIGHAM	Treble	LAWRENCE WALMSLEY .. 5
†PHILIP DUNDERDALE	2	*GEORGE S. MEADOWS .. 6
THOMAS BARKER	3	ALAN MEADOWS 7
STANLEY WALMSLEY	4	CYRIL CROSTHWAITE Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by ALAN MEADOWS.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells and on an 'inside' bell.

First peal as conductor.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5088 GLASGOW SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in B flat.

ALAN A. POTTS	Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS 5
FRED DUNKERLEY	2	JOHN WORTH 6
BASIL JONES	3	PETER LAFLIN 7
EDWARD JENKINS	4	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER Tenor

Composed and Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

The first peal in the method by all the band except the ringer of the 4th, and first in the method on the bells.

Rung with a 4ths place bob.

MOUNTSORREL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 27 lb.

*KENNETH W. GRAHAM	Treble	*GEOFFREY J. LOWE 5
ROYSTON WILMORE	2	*JULIAN PAWLEY 6
*ARTHUR D. SAYER	3	ERNEST MORRIS 7
*MRS. A. D. SAYER	4	B. STEDMAN PAYNE Tenor

Composed by M. J. MORRIS.

Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.

* First peal of Plain Bob Major.

TARPORLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF 5152 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 10 lb.

GEORGE F. SPERRING	Treble	GEORGE A. PACKER 5
HARRY W. HOWARD	2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. 6
IVOR R. NICHOLS	3	JOHN W. GRIFFITHS 7
DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD	4	PERCY SWINDLEY Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by JOHN W. GRIFFITHS.

BIRSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Feb. 8, 1955, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in E.

ERNEST H. SIMPSON	Treble	DAVID ATKINS 5
*MRS. HAROLD B. SCHOFIELD	2	SAM LONGBOTTOM 6
*ANN LAYCOCK	3	JOHN PEARSON 7
HAROLD B. SCHOFIELD	4	†ARTHUR BOOTH Tenor

Composed by A. WILSON.

Conducted by JOHN PEARSON.

* First peal of Kent Major. † First peal.

A birthday compliment to Edith Mary, daughter of the treble ringer.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

ALFRETON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 22, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.

VIVIENNE HORTON	Treble	FRANCIS R. LOWE 4
GORDON A. HALLS	2	DAVID K. WALKLATE 5
ALAN G. FOSTER	3	REGINALD J. STRETTON Tenor

Conducted by ALAN G. FOSTER.

First peal of Stedman Doubles for all except ringer of 3rd and for Association. First peal of Stedman Doubles as conductor.



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ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE. THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 29, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent and three 720's of Plain Bob Minor. Tenor 11 cwt. 14 lb. in G.

LEONARD WALSH Treble	ROGER LEIGH 4
*GEOFFREY F. GARNETT .. 2	JOSEPH THORNTON .. 5
WILLIAM RAMSBOTTOM .. 3	GORDON R. WHEWELL .. Tenor

Conducted by GORDON R. WHEWELL.

* First peal.

PACKINGTON, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 29, 1955, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY ROOD,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Single Court, three extents of Oxford Bob and two extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 7 1/2 cwt.

*J. CHRISTOPHER RIGG .. Treble	ROLAND BENISTON .. 4
WILLIAM F. WOODWARD .. 2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. 5
JOHN A. UNDERWOOD .. 3	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

* First peal. First peal on the bells since being augmented to six in September last.

SUTTON BONINGTON, NOTTS. THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 29, 1955, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 32 extents of St. Martin's and five each of Grandsire and Plain Bob. Tenor 20 cwt.

VIVIANNE HORTON Treble	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 3
FRANCIS R. LOWE 2	DAVID K. WALKLATE .. 4
DEREK P. JONES Tenor	

Conducted by DAVID K. WALKLATE.

Rung to mark the engagement of Mr. P. I. Chapman, of Kettering, and Miss Joan Morris, of Kidderminster.

OLD MARSTON, OXFORDSHIRE. THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Feb. 2, 1955, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 1,200 changes of Grandsire, 480 changes each of St. Simon's, St. Martin's, St. Nicholas, Winchendon Place, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob, 240 changes each of Union, Stedman, All Saints and Reverse St. Bartholomew. Tenor 6 cwt.

ALEC GAMMON Treble	DOUGLAS O. WILKS .. 3
*BRIAN BLADON 2	HARRY P. FLOYD .. 4
ALAN R. PINK Tenor	

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in 11 Doubles methods.

Rung on the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

UPHAM, HAMPSHIRE. THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Feb. 2, 1955, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 8 cwt. 19 lb.

*CLIVE W. BARNES Treble	*DERECK C. JACKSON .. 4
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 2	J. MICHAEL LAKIN .. 5
*RAYMOND E. FINCH .. 3	†PETER NASH .. Tenor

Conducted by J. MICHAEL LAKIN.

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

Rung by members of Southampton University and Peter Symonds School, Winchester. Average age 17 1/4 years.

HUNTINGDON. THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Feb. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being two extents each of Norwich and Ipswich and three extents of Cambridge. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

*LUCY ALLEN Treble	MICHAEL J. DYER .. 4
HAROLD S. PEACOCK .. 2	STANLEY GILBERT .. 5
FRANK L. NICHOLLS .. 3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. Tenor

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

* First peal in Surprise methods

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. J. M. E. Bagley on completing nine years as Rector of All Saints'. Also to M. J. Dyer, who is leaving for service in the R.A.F.

TRUMPINGTON, CAMBRIDGE. THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Feb. 4, 1954, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

MICHAEL P. CLEAVES .. Treble	EUSTACE W. BULLMAN .. 4
JILL MARTIN 2	DAVID P. STUBBINGS .. 5
JANE THORPE 3	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

Rung half-muffled in memory of Mr. H. L. Willers, recently deceased father of Miss Kitty Willers, a ringer at this church and some time general secretary of the Association.

ASH PRIORS, SOMERSET. THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising an extent of Double Court, two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, two extents of Kent Treble Bob and two extents of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt. (approx.).

*GEOFFREY J. GAMMON .. Treble	*WILLIAM SLOCOMBE .. 4
*STANLEY BRISTOW 2	*GORDON WALFORD .. 5
ARTHUR H. PAUL 3	WILLIAM G. GIGG .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM G. GIGG.

* First peal in four Minor methods and also on the bells.

BRAYWOOD, BERKSHIRE. THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED DOUBLES

Comprising three extents each of (1) Plain Bob and Candlesby S.C., (2) Plain Bob and Boxford S.C., (3) Reverse Canterbury and Dorton S.C., (4) Reverse Canterbury and Raveningham S.C., (5) St. Simon's and Rugby S.C., (6) St. Simon's and Braywood S.C., (7) St. Martin's and Slapton S.C., (8) St. Martin's and Welford S.C., (9) St. Nicholas and Longford S.C., (10) St. Nicholas and Fundenhall S.C., (11) Winchendon Place and Thornborough S.C., (12) Winchendon Place and Haddiscoe S.C., and one extent each of (13) Plain Bob, Candlesby S.C., and Boxford S.C. (14) Canterbury, Dorton S.C. and Raveningham S.C., (15) St. Simon's, Rugby S.C. and Braywood S.C., (16) St. Martin's, Slapton S.C. and Welford S.C., (17) St. Nicholas, Longford S.C. and Fundenhall S.C., (18) Winchendon Place, Thornborough S.C. and Haddiscoe S.C. No bobs and 336 changes of method. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb. in G.

GEORGE MITCHELL .. Treble	WILLIAM BUTLER .. 3
MONICA HOWARD 2	FRANK T. BLAGROVE .. 4
JEFFERY C. BIRT Tenor	

Conducted by WILLIAM BUTLER.

First peal in 18 Spliced Doubles methods by all and for the Guild.
Rung as a 90th birthday compliment to Mr. F. V. Sinkins, late of Slough.

LIVERMERE, SUFFOLK. THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 20 extents of Grandsire, 22 extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt.

WILLIAM F. RICKWOOD .. Treble	†KENNETH G. BROWN .. 3
*LESLIE PIERCE 2	RICHARD ROSE .. 4
ARTHUR F. BALLAAM .. Tenor	

Conducted by KENNETH G. BROWN.

* First peal 'inside.' † 25th peal.

A birthday peal for Arthur F. Ballaam.

MARKSBURY, SOMERSET. THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(Bath Branch.)
On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 38 six-scores (10 callings) and one each of Pitman's and Morris's 240's. Tenor 12 cwt.

*JOHN H. SMITH Treble	RONALD E. SMITH .. 4
THOMAS W. KIMBER .. 2	ERNEST E. BRAY .. 5
ROSEMARY E. COOK .. 3	WILLIAM A. PRESCOTT .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. PRESCOTT.

* First peal.

Rung as a compliment to the Rector (the Rev. E. Wells) on his retirement, and also to Mr. and Mrs. G. Smith (parents of ringers of treble and 4th) for their silver wedding.

**PENTRICH, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 ST. MARTIN'S DOUBLES

Eight callings.

Tenor 11 cwt.

*REGINALD J. STRETTON .. Treble | VIVIANNE M. HORTON .. 3

DAVID K. WALKLATE .. 2 | ALAN G. FOSTER .. 4

DEREK P. JONES .. Tenor

Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

* First peal away from cover bell. First peal in method by all and for the Association. First peal on the bells.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Elisabeth Jones, sister of the conductor, and as a farewell to the Rev. F. J. Boston, who is leaving the parish.

**RAMPTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sat., Feb. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being one 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Killamarsh, Kingston, London Scholars Pleasure, Sandal, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*KATHERINE BURCHNAEL .. Treble | GEORGE CHALLANS .. 4

*HAROLD DENMAN .. 2 | HERBERT T. ROOKE .. 5

*GRACE BURCHNAEL .. 3 | DOUGLAS H. ROOKE .. Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS H. ROOKE.

* 100th peal together.

Rung in memoriam Mr. A. B. Crawford, of Rampton, and Mr. H. Hall, of Shireoaks.

**BREDENBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sun., Feb. 6, 1955, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of St. Clement's, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob and two of Oxford and Plain Bob.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

ROLAND LEWIS .. Treble | JOHN CLEMENTS .. 4

*JAMES WARD .. 2 | *FREDERICK MERRICK .. 5

C. WILLIAM NUTT .. 3 | THOMAS COOPER .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS COOPER.

* First peal in five Minor methods.

HANDBELL PEALS

SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Tues., Jan. 4, 1955, in 1 Hour and 36 Minutes,

AT 6, THE GREEN,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents.

Tenor size 13 in E.

B. STEDMAN PAYNE 1—2 | GEOFFREY J. LOWE .. 3—4

*MARY C. PAYNE .. 5—6

Witnessed by E. F. PAYNE.

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. LOWE.

* First peal 'in hand.'

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sun., Jan. 30, 1955, in 2 Hours,

IN JESUS COLLEGE.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven extents.

Tenor size 13 in E.

*J. D. PAINTER (Caius) .. 1—2 | W. T. COOK (Jesus) .. 3—4

B. J. STAFFORD (Queens') .. 5—6

Conducted by W. T. COOK.

* First peal 'in hand.'

LONG ASHTON, SOMERSET.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Jan. 30, 1955, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT GLENROSS, CHESTNUT ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

REGINALD G. HOOPER .. 1—2 | JACK R. WORRALL .. 5—6

ALBERT M. TYLER .. 3—4 | DAVID J. MARSHALL .. 7—8

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

**SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Tues., Feb. 1, 1955, in 1 Hour and 45 Minutes,

IN THE VESTRY OF THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 360 each of Winchendon Place, St. Nicholas', St. Martin's, St. Simon's, St. Dunstan's and Grandsire, 720 each of Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure April Day and Old Doubles.

D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 1—2 | EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. 3—4

ALAN SHEPPARD .. 5—6

Conducted by ALAN SHEPPARD.

First handbell peal by all in ten methods.



GILLETT AND JOHNSTON LIMITED

No matter in which corner of the country you happen to be, as likely as not you will come across Gillett & Johnston bells or tower clocks. Gillett & Johnston craftsmanship is embodied in an all-embracing service — as much in the preservation and restoration of old rings of antiquarian interest as in the installation of new.

BELL FOUNDERS AND CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



278 SURPRISE MAJOR METHODS

Dear Sir,—From a variety of conflicting reports it would seem that the following are the names of the methods I submitted: (1) By G. Lindoff; (3) 8ths place Ramsey; (4) Princess Marina; (5) 8ths place Beaconsfield; (12) Essex; (17) Guildford; (18) Deva; (19) by G. Lindoff; (22) Clacton; (25) Bristol; (30) 'Ringing World,' January 14th, 1938; (32) 8ths place Eastbury.

I trust that the remaining 21 will satisfy Mr. Roe.

I feel that the only answer to Mr. York-Bramble's idolising of method 'designers' is to show the Exercise that method designing is an automatic art and that good methods with little or no falseness can be churned out. I therefore submit for publication a complete list of 278 clean proof scale Surprise Major with P.B. coursing order in 7-8 and triple or quadruple changes only, which I churned out and proved in under 10 hours. I trust that they will prove useful to the Exercise.—Yours sincerely,

F. T. BLAGROVE.

W. Bedford, Stanwell.

SURPRISE MAJOR

A complete list of c.p.s. Surprise with P.B. coursing order in 7-8, and triple or quadruple changes only.

- (12) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, 14—, 38, 14, —, 14, 58
 (25) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, 14—14, 58, —, 14, —, 58
 (35) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, 14, 56, —, 58
 (36) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, 14, 56, 34, 58
 (37) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, —, 56, 14, 58
 (38) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, 14—14, 58, —, 14, —, 18
 (39) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, 14—34, 58, —, 34, —, 18
 (40) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, —, 56, —, 58
 (41) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, —, 56, 12, 58
 (42) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, —, 56, 34, 58
 (43) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, 12, 56, —, 58
 (44) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, 12, 56, 12, 58
 (45) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, 12, 56, 34, 58
 (46) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, 56, —, 34, 58
 (47) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, 56, 34, —, 58
 (48) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 38, 56, 34, 12, 58
 (49) —56—, 16, —56—, 36, 14—14, 58, 16, —, 34, 58
 (50) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, 14—34, 58, —, 34, —, 18
 (51) —58—, 16, —56—, 36, —14—, 58, —, 34, —, 38
 (52) 56—56, 14, —56—, 16, —14—, 58, 16, —, 34, 58
 (53) 56—56, 14, —58—, 16, 34—34, 58, —, 34, —, 38

All the above have 8ths place lead end.

- (34) —58—, 14, 58—58, 16, —14—, 38, 14, —, 14, 58
 (54) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —34—, 38, 14, —, 14, 58
 (55) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —34—, 38, —, 14, —, 58
 (56) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, 14—14, 58, —, 16, —, 58
 (57) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, 14—14, 58, —, 16, 34, 58
 (58) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, 14—14, 58, 12, 38, 14, 58
 (59) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, —14—, 38, 12, 36, 12, 78
 (60) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, —14—, 38, —, 12, 36, 78
 (61) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, —14—, 58, 14, —, 14, 78
 (62) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, —14—, 58, —, 12, —, 78
 (63) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, —14—, 58, 12, —, 12, 78
 (64) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, —14—, 58, 34, 56, 34, 78
 (65) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, 14—14, 58, —, 14, —, 78
 (66) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, 14—14, 58, 14, —, 12, 78

- (67) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, 14—34, 58, —, 34, —, 78
 (68) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, 14—34, 58, 12, 56, 12, 78
 (69) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, 14—34, 58, 34, —, 34, 78
 (70) —56—, 16, —56—, 16, —12—, 58, —, 12, —, 58
 (71) —56—, 16, —56—, 16, —12—, 58, 12, —, 12, 58
 (72) —56—, 16, —56—, 16, —14—, 58, —, 14, —, 58
 (73) —56—, 16, —56—, 16, —14—, 58, 14, —, 12, 58
 (74) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, —14—, 38, 12, 36, 12, 78
 (75) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, —14—, 38, —, 12, 36, 78
 (76) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, —14—, 58, 14, —, 14, 78
 (77) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, —14—, 58, —, 12, —, 78
 (78) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, —14—, 58, 12, —, 12, 78
 (79) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, —14—, 58, 34, 56, 34, 78
 (80) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, 14—14, 58, —, 14, —, 78
 (81) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, 14—14, 58, 14, —, 12, 78
 (82) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, 14—34, 58, —, 34, —, 78
 (83) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, 14—34, 58, 12, 56, 12, 78
 (84) —58—, 14, 58—58, 36, 14—34, 58, 34, —, 34, 78
 (85) —58—, 16, —56—, 36, 14—14, 58, 36, —, 36, 18
 (86) —58—, 16, —56—, 36, 14—14, 58, 16, —, 56, 38
 (87) 56—56, 14, —56—, 36, —14—, 58, —, 12, —, 58
 (88) 56—56, 14, —56—, 36, —14—, 58, 12, —, 12, 58
 (89) 56—56, 14, —56—, 36, —14—, 58, 14, —, 14, 58
 (90) 56—56, 14, —56—, 36, 14—14, 58, —, 14, —, 58
 (91) 56—56, 14, —56—, 36, 14—14, 58, 14, —, 34, 58
 (92) 56—56, 14, —56—, 36, 14—34, 58, —, 34, —, 58
 (93) 56—56, 14, —56—, 36, 14—34, 58, 34, —, 34, 58
 (94) 56—56, 14, —58—, 16, —14—, 38, 56, —, 36, 18
 (95) 56—56, 14, 56—56, 38, 14—14, 58, —, 16, —, 58
 (96) 56—56, 14, 56—56, 38, 14—14, 58, —, 16, 34, 58
 (97) 56—56, 14, 56—56, 38, 14—14, 58, 12, 36, 14, 58

All the above have seconds place lead end.

- (98) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —14—, 58, 14, —, 34, 78
 (100) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —14—, 58, —, 14, —, 78
 (102) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —34—, 38, 12, 36, 12, 78
 (104) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —34—, 58, —, 34, —, 18
 (106) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —34—, 58, —, 34, —, 78
 (108) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —34—, 58, 12, 56, 12, 78
 (110) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, —34—, 58, 34, —, 34, 78
 (112) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, 14—14, 38, 12, 36, 14, 38
 (114) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, 14—14, 38, —, 12, 36, 78
 (116) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, 14—14, 38, 12, 36, 12, 78
 (118) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, 14—14, 58, 14, —, 14, 78
 (120) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, 14—14, 58, —, 12, —, 78
 (122) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, 14—14, 58, 12, —, 12, 78
 (124) —56—, 14, —56—, 36, 14—14, 58, 34, 56, 34, 78
 (126) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, —14—, 58, —, 14, —, 58
 (128) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, —14—, 58, 14, —, 34, 58
 (130) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, —14—, 58, 12, 36, 12, 78
 (132) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, —14—, 58, 36, 12, 56, 78
 (134) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, —34—, 38, —, 16, —, 58
 (136) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, —34—, 58, —, 34, —, 58
 (138) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, —34—, 58, 34, —, 34, 58
 (140) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, 14—14, 38, —, 36, 14, 38
 (142) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, 14—14, 58, —, 12, —, 58
 (144) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, 14—14, 58, 12, —, 12, 58
 (146) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, 14—14, 58, 14, —, 14, 58
 (148) —56—, 14, —56—, 38, 14—14, 58, 14, 36, 12, 78
 (150) —56—, 14, 56—58, 16, —14—, 38, 14, —, 14, 58
 (152) —56—, 14, 56—58, 16, —14—, 38, —, 34, —, 58
 (154) —56—, 14, 56—58, 16, —14—, 58, 12, 36, 12, 38
 (156) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, —14—, 38, 12, 36, 14, 38
 (158) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, 14—14, 38, —, 34, —, 58
 (160) —56—, 14, 56—58, 36, 14—14, 58, 12, 36, 12, 38

(To be continued)

SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Presentation to Mr. S. F. Palmer

Some sixty to seventy ringers attended the meeting of the Society, held at Sheffield Cathedral and St. Marie's, on February 5th, over 20 towers being represented. Ringing started promptly at 3 p.m. and continued until 9 p.m., methods ranging from Bob Minor to London Major, Cinques and Maximus.

An encouraging feature of the meeting was the large number of young ringers present, and a good proportion of the time was devoted to rounds and Plain Bob for their benefit, though it was pleasing to see some youngsters attempting the more difficult methods and also tackling the heavy bells in a very capable manner. Visitors from Derby, Burton-on-Trent, Lichfield, Wakefield and Liverpool attended.

After an excellent tea in the Cathedral Hall, which, due to the generosity of the Cathedral company, was free to juniors, those present were entertained to a selection of tunes on handbells by ringers from Rotherham and Thrybergh, followed by a course of Grandsire Caters by Messrs. N. Chaddock, J. J. L. Gilbert, Rev. G. G. Graham, Messrs. W. L. Robinson and S. F. Palmer.

Twenty new members were elected, and it was announced that the next meeting (the annual general) would be at Ranmoor (10) on March 5th, when there would be a committee meeting at 2.30 p.m. prior to ringing at 3 p.m.

The secretary suggested it would be advisable to revert to the system of a two-year rota of towers for meetings in order that all towers be included, and asked for a specially good representation at the annual meeting and committee meeting in order that the question of fixtures for 1955 and 1956 could be satisfactorily dealt with.

After suitable votes of thanks, the last item on the agenda was a very happy one, viz., the presentation of a fountain pen to Mr. S. F. Palmer to mark his recent 80th birthday.

In making this presentation on behalf of the Society, the president, Mr. H. O. Chaddock, referred to Mr. Palmer's good work as a Sunday service ringer at Sheffield Cathedral, as a former officer of the Sheffield and District Society and as an officer of the Yorkshire Association.

Expressing his appreciation, Mr. Palmer recalled that he first joined the Cathedral company in 1903 and acted as Sheffield Society secretary for some 10 years soon after. His recipe for reaching 80 was: (1) Moderation in all things; (2) contentment in doing those things which were within one's limitations, and (3) regular exercise, of which ringing was one of the finest examples.

CLEWER RINGERS' DINNER

The Clewer St. Andrew's Society of Change Ringers held their annual dinner at the Thames Hotel, Windsor, on January 29th. Forty-nine people enjoyed an excellent dinner, among those present being the Rector, the Rev. Dymoke-Marr, his wife and Mr. J. W. Reavell, the people's warden.

The health of the Queen and the Church was proposed by the Rev. Dymoke-Marr. Then followed a speech by Mr. J. Fowler, of Cookham, proposing the health of the Clewer ringers. Mr. W. Butler replied. Mr. J. W. Reavell gave an entertaining speech, in which he proposed the health of the visitors. This was suitably acknowledged by Mr. Cook, manager of the local Trustee Savings Bank.

A social evening followed, during which various novel games and dances were introduced to the enjoyment of the company.

HILLINGDON GUILD SUPPER

A record attendance of 45 ringers and friends enjoyed the annual supper of the St. John's, Hillingdon, Guild, held at the Golden Lion, Hillingdon, on Feb. 4th. With the Vicar, the Rev. F. C. Tyler, in the chair, supported by all the local band, the numerous guests included the Master, the general secretary and assistant secretary of the Middlesex Association.

The toasts of the evening were interspersed with social items, among the latter being songs by M. Colwell, accompanied by J. C. Ferguson, choirman and organist respectively, violin solos by Mr. Pidwell, a ringer from Pinner, and tunes and changes on handbells.

Tribute was paid by the chairman to the memory of the Rector of Acton, friend of ringers and president of the Association, who was cremated the previous Tuesday.

CALGARY PLANS A RING OF EIGHT

We have received from Canada recently particulars of the ring of eight bells proposed for Calgary Parish Church, Alberta. The tenor, seventh and sixth bells have been ordered from Messrs. Gillett and Johnston and delivery is expected in the late spring.

The tenor will be a gift of the Parish in commemoration of the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the church when he laid the foundation stone on September 4th, 1954.

The seventh is in memory of Florence Odele Lowes, and the sixth to the memory of Edward F. L. Tavenden.

The weights of the bells are:—Treble, 3 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.; second, 3 cwt. 14 lb.; third, 3 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.; fourth, 4 cwt. 27 lb.; fifth, 4 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.; sixth, 5 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.; seventh, 6 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.; and tenor, 8 cwt. 2 qr.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION Hunts Annual Meeting

The Hunts annual meeting was held in Huntingdon on January 15th; despite the arctic weather the attendance was good. Ringing commenced at 2.30 p.m. at Godmanchester, and at 4 o'clock All Saints' was available, where at 4.30 the ringers' service was conducted by the Rev. J. M. E. Bagley. Tea was taken in All Saints' Hall, followed by the business meeting with the Rector in the chair. All the officers of the District were re-elected with hearty thanks for their efforts during the past year. Ringing then took place again at St. Mary's and All Saints' towers. H. S. P.

FORTY YEARS AGO Extract from 'The Ringing World' February 19th, 1915

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION

PRESENTATION TO A VALUED MEMBER

The President said Some time ago Mr. Hillier had the misfortune to lose, by accident, his horse, and as the possession of another animal was absolutely indispensable for the carrying on of his business, a meeting was held in Newcastle, when it was decided to raise sufficient funds to purchase another one. There was not the least difficulty in the matter, and the required sum was soon forthcoming. A horse was obtained and handed over to Mr. Hillier on December 1st. . . . [Surely a unique presentation to a ringer?]

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

Rutland Branch Report Progress

An increase of from 44 to 53 members was reported by the hon. secretary (Mr. E. E. Gibson) at the annual meeting of the Rutland Branch, held at Uppingham on January 29th. There are also 11 N.R. life members. The meeting was attended by about 30 ringers and they were welcomed by the Rector (the Rev. S. C. Woodward).

Officers elected at the meeting were: President, Mr. R. Scott; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. E. E. Gibson; Guild Committee, Messrs. F. Stevens, H. Tibbert and C. Green; branch committee, Messrs. A. E. Stevens, H. Wand and W. Clarke.

Touces in the following methods were rung during the meeting: Grandsire Triples and Doubles, Bob Major and Minor.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD

Winchester District

The annual meeting of the above District was held in Winchester on February 5th. St. Maurice's bells were first available, where nothing could seem to go wrong—London, Cambridge, Spliced Kent and Oxford all came round.

A business meeting was held in St. Maurice's Hall under the chairmanship of the Rev. C. E. C. Brinkworth. The officers were re-elected and a rota of monthly meetings was introduced by the secretary, which ensured that all affiliated towers in the District were visited at least once every two years. Being a bell-ringers' rota, it also had the advantage that the order of towers for any particular year would not repeat for 60 years. Four new ringing members were elected—the Rev. Mr. Tupholme, Messrs. G. Dixon, G. Foncey and D. Verity, and also four honorary members. It was also resolved to send a letter of sympathy to Mr. R. W. Rex in his recent accident.

Members later took part in Evensong in the Cathedral, at which the Rev. K. C. Davis, Vicar of Hawley, gave an address. He mentioned the motto of the Linlithgow family—'Hope remaineth'—and urged ringers to be constant in their ringing out the message of the love of God, and that even if everything goes wrong and the effort does not seem worth while, then there still remains hope.

The Cathedral bells were put to good use for two hours after Evensong. Grandsire and Stedman Cinques, Plain Bob and Kent Maximus were attempted, with several rounds for those not so well acquainted with 12-bell ringing.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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Ltd., Guildford, Surrey.

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months, 13s. 6d.; three months, 7s. post free.
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stones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall.

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER: E. A.
BARNETT, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford,
Kent. Telephone: Bexleyheath 8689.

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JOSEPH T. DYKE.

HAROLD J. POOLE.

R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

The Master of the Bristol University Society,
Mr. D. J. Marshall, comes of age on February
22nd. A happy birthday from all ringers,
especially those in the Derbyshire and Bristol
Districts.

The cancellation of ringing
Hereford Cathedral bells for
the time being arises from the
expert's opinion that movement caused by the
bells is weakening the walls of the south tran-
sept. Structural alterations are to be carried
out at once to reinforce the walls.

All the band who rang a golden wedding
quarter peal at Mereworth, Kent, on February
5th to Mr. and Mrs. J. Saunders were over 70
years of age except the conductor, Mr. H. H.
Usborne.

Sapcote (Leics) ringers rang a quarter peal
in honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and
Mrs. M. J. Abbott. Mrs. Abbott (nee Jean
Taylor) is the first lady ringer of Sapcote to
become a mother.

Six times the band assembled at Mount-
sorrel to enable the local captain, Mr. Royston
Welmore, to ring his first peal of Major. The
last time, on February 5th, was successful.
After the peal the band, with the Vicar, were
entertained to tea.

Sible Hedingham ringers and other friends
send their best wishes for a speedy recovery to
good health to Mr. Olave E. Broyd, who is in
hospital at Colchester. He would certainly have
been in the peal attempt on February 5th,
which was lost, and the subsequent quarter
had he been well.

The enterprising young team of ringers at
Kenwyn, Cornwall, are noted locally for their
good-natured leg-pulling, and when their popu-
lar vice-captain, Mr. Alan Carveth, missed a
call in a recent peal attempt after 2 hours
and 25 minutes' ringing, the opportunity to
'have a dig' at him was too good to miss.
Incidentally, the suggestion that Alan is now
giving up ringing and taking up tree-felling on
his future brother-in-law's estate is entirely un-
founded.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

The 232 peals rung by the
late Mr. Frederick White oc-
cupied 30 days, 22 hours and
25 minutes. He rang in Masonic peals of
Triples, Major, Caters, Royal, Cinques and
Maximus.

For the encouragement of young ringers and
conductors the Western District of the Herts
County Association have a programme of 30
quarter peal attempts for 1955.

Mr. S. A. Chambers, of Lincoln, has rung
Grandsire from Doubles to Cinques. The
'family' was completed on February 5th by a
peal of Caters at St. Mary's, Nottingham.

A small amount of money was found in the
belfry after the Watford meeting on February
5th. Will claimants communicate with Mr. S.
H. Hoare, 56, Acme Road, Watford.

After a birthday peal rung at Brencley,
Kent, on February 5th, the ringers were enter-
tained to tea at the home of Colin and Betty
Tester. It was Colin's coming-of-age, and Betty
is now a 'sweet seventeen.'

Erin Cinques was rung on the bells of St.
Martin-in-the-Fields by the Society of Royal
Cumberland Youths for the Queen's Accession,
on February 5th. It was the first peal in the
method for ten of the band.

Those taking part in the peal of Minor at
Packington were members of both the Leicester
Diocesan Guild and the Midland Counties
Guild, the peal being rung for the Leicester
Guild. The band were entertained by the Rev.
and Mrs. Rigg after the peal.

Mr. Philip Gray informs us that the peal of
Stedman Triples at Melbourne Cathedral on
November 28th was not the warmest peal
ever. It is on record, he writes, that a peal
of seven Minor methods was rung at St.
Peter's, Ballarat, Victoria, about 1900 with the
temperature at over 100 degrees.

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PEAL RINGING IN 1954

Lowest Since 1947

According to records to hand, the total of peals rung in 1954 was 2,412, which is the lowest number since 1947. Compared with 1953, there was a drop of 155 peals. The main decrease was in handbell peal ringing, in which department only 123 peals have been recorded. This is a decrease of 31 peals.

Total peals in recent years have been as follows: 1953, 2,567; 1952, 2,915; 1951, 2,925; 1950, 2,723; 1949, 2,906; 1948, 2,639.

The monthly totals are appended:—

	1954	Hand-	1953	Hand-
	Tower	bells	Tower	bells
January ..	180	9	193	12
February ..	192	9	163	16
March ..	170	17	150	16
April ..	155	12	210	10
May ..	264	13*	170	12
June ..	150	6	432	16
July ..	156	6	156	10
August ..	196	14	168	14
September ..	170	8	159	6
October ..	234	8	224	15
November ..	189	13	181	12
December ..	233	8	207	15
	2,289	123	2,413	154

Grand total: 2,412

* One withdrawn as false.

LEADING ASSOCIATIONS

	1954	1953
Leicester Diocesan ..	197	196
Kent County ..	146	130
Suffolk Guild ..	128	111
Essex Association ..	124	131
Lincoln Diocesan ..	107	116
Yorkshire Association ..	96	86
Lancashire Association ..	95	135
St. Martin's Guild ..	93	102
Oxford Diocesan ..	88	126
Chester Diocesan ..	86	103

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

Northern District

Over 60 members attended the annual meeting of the Northern District held at Halstead on January 22nd. Tea was provided by Mrs. Snowden and helpers and the members showed their appreciation by taking a collection for the fund for rehanging St. Andrew's bells. This amounted to £5 5s. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. W. Swallow) and the address given by Canon R. Jack.

Miss H. G. Snowden, the District Master, was in the chair for the business meeting, supported by Mr. R. C. Heazel, Master of the Association. It was reported that steady progress had been made during the year and Sunday service ringing had been maintained. Tower captains were asked to rope in more learners. Appeals for rehanging work are being made at Stebbing and Halstead. Great Easton was chosen for the next meeting in March.

All the officers were re-elected, viz: Miss H. G. Snowden, Master; Mr. H. A. Pratt, secretary; and Mr. J. Elliott and Mr. J. Warner committee members. Thanks were expressed to all who had worked to make the meeting so successful.

PORTISHEAD BELLS

Portishead bells, on which the first all-ladies' peal to be rung by a local band took place in 1915, have had major repairs costing £229. These bells are heard every Sunday morning and evening, and are popular with visiting bands. Mr. A. J. Gould, the tower secretary of St. Ives, West Hill, Portishead, Bristol, feels that many ringers who have had connections with this tower would like to be associated with this appeal and he would gladly acknowledge any contributions sent.

SHOULD PEALS BE SHORTER?

The first postcards received indicate a majority in favour of a change in the length of peals as outlined in 'The Topic for the Month' article in the issue of February 4th. Here are some:—

Mr. Cecil W. Pipe, Grundisburgh:—

For many years and for many reasons I have advocated peals of about 3,000 changes and shall be glad to support any proposal in this direction.

Mr. Stafford H. Green, Sampford Peverell, Devon:—

In view of public opinion and increase in built-up areas, am very strongly in favour of reduction to 2,500 minimum for peals, half and quarter peals in proportion. Long overdue reform.

Mr. John Cooper, West Bromwich:—

I beg to support suggestion for shorter peals. Reason: Many churches are now in built-up areas, and unless some of the ringing is curtailed we shall have the public declare war on us.

Mr. J. Arthur Hoare, Swansea:—

I agree wholeheartedly with the proposal made in 'The Ringing World.' The sympathy of the public to the ringing of bells should be cultivated. True sportsmanship and team effort could very well be introduced on handbells, which would produce 100 per cent. competitive spirit and put the art on a higher level.

The new proposals would help to divorce the sportsmanship policy from the primary use of church bells, which, in the general public's point of view, is correct. If the art is to survive, the proposals made should be given a fair trial.

Mr. W. Parrott, Cheam, Sutton:—

The essence of A. Y.-B.'s article is the introduction of a new standard length between 1,260 and 5,000 changes. This is more likely to be accepted by ringers if it does not upset existing customs and traditions. A new short peal of 2,880 changes (4 x 720) would give all the advantages claimed for the changes suggested without the disadvantage of a major change. If it proved unwanted no harm would be done, but the choice of what to ring would be in ringers' hands. Short peals could be printed in 'The Ringing World' in the present quarter peal style, reserving the longer layout for ordinary peals. The recognition of a length between 1,260 and 5,000 is long overdue.

Mr. B. M. Barker, King's Langley:—

The suggestion that the standard peal should be reduced to 3,000 changes is an excellent one.

I believe that if it were adopted we should witness a considerable revival of interest in peal ringing, and the field would be open for the less accomplished ringers to take part in peals. It would also help the mid-week peal ringer who finds the inevitable 6.15 start rather too near his knocking-off time for comfort. In West Herts there are a considerable number of younger ringers who are arriving at the stage when a peal should be attempted, but some parents are not at all convinced that three hours' non-stop ringing is within the physical capabilities of young folk; no doubt similar anxiety exists all over the country.

The accomplishment value of a peal, surely, lies in the methods attempted bearing in mind the degree of skill of the ringers taking part; the band of Surprise ringers which completes a peal of Bob Major has merely proved that the eight men can stand up for three hours. As for the hardened peal ringers, think of the fun they can have altering all of their achievements to date into long peals.

Mr. E. V. Rodenhurst, Whitchurch, Salop:—

I think the Council would be ill-advised to reduce the length of a peal to 3,000 changes. The 'old men' set us the 5,000 as a standard; may we hope we are as good men as they.

When a person can ring 100 peals in a year, it would appear that peals are already cheap enough in some quarters. Cheaper it still further and you will have more peal reports sent in than you can possibly cope with.

For my part I would not care to start for a 3,000. It wouldn't be worth calling a peal.

At towers where the bells are noisy and complaints occur, ring the very occasional peal with a set of 'Davis Silencers' fitted, and see how that answers. In any case do not cut the length of a peal as it would detract very greatly from its value as a performance.

I always think that the last hour or so is the 'trial,' especially if the bells are on the heavy side or rough going.

Mrs. P. M. Mayne, Harrow:—

My criticisms of the new suggestions are as follows:—

(1) If a peal were 3,000 changes taking about 1 hour and 50 minutes, we could easily go out and ring three or more in a day, and 'The Ringing World' could not cope with the numbers requiring publication.

(2) If a quarter peal were 1,500, it would be too long to ring prior to services, which some of us like to do.

MR. FARMER AND THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On January 29th about 80 ringers gathered at Wellington for the annual general meeting of the Shropshire Association, a meeting which has hitherto always been held at Shrewsbury.

From rounds, a large variety of methods, including four Surprise, were rung, and all tastes were satisfied.

During the service a very warm welcome was extended by the Vicar (the Rev. R. H. Makepeace) before an adjournment to the Parish Hall for tea.

An unusual interlude before the business meeting took the form of extracts from tape recordings. First the bells of St. Peter's, Brighton, at Christmas, with their ringers sending greetings to Shrewsbury. Then St. Chad's ringing in the New Year and reciprocating their good wishes to Brighton.

After the adoption of the minutes, the Ringing Master (in the chair) reported on the healthy state of the Association as reflected in the number and variety of peals rung, which included several new methods. All the meetings had been enthusiastically attended and

there had been a steady influx of new members.

The departure of Mr. W. A. Farmer, the popular hon. secretary and treasurer, was then mentioned and glowing tributes paid to his work for ringing generally, by his excellent articles which have been published fairly regularly, and to his faithful service to this body in recent years. This appreciation then took more tangible form by the presentation of an electric kettle and a cheque.

In a stirring reply, Bill told of how his new venture at Cheltenham, his great sorrow at leaving Shropshire, particularly St. Chad's, and all that ringing had meant to him.

Mr. Arthur Pritchard was re-elected Ringing Master, and Mr. F. H. Bennett his deputy as a semi-conditional clause to Miss E. V. Jones becoming hon. secretary. After some discussion the treasurer's post was also relegated to Mr. Bennett. A vote of thanks was expressed to Mr. W. H. Hughes, the auditor, who was re-elected. Mr. A. S. Bayley took Mr. Farmer's position as a trustee. F. H. B.

500 PEALS AT ST. JOHN'S, ERITH

WITH the accomplishment of the 500th peal at St. John-the-Baptist, Erith, this total has now been reached for the second time in a church tower, the other having been Erith's neighbour and associate in the new Parliamentary constituency of Erith and Crayford. Two of the band, Messrs. F. J. Cullum and E. Barnett, took part in the 500th at each tower.

Formerly a ring of six, St. John's, Erith, bells were augmented to eight in 1882, and the first peal on them, Grandsire Triples, was by an invited band of Cumberlands conducted by George Newson, on November 18th of that year. A peal in the same method on April 16th, 1888, was the first by Frederick J. Cullum, sen., whose father, though not a peal ringer, was associated with the tower for more than 60 years. His son, the present leader of the band, is, of course, a well-known ringer and conductor, whose enthusiasm has been responsible for most of the peal ringing at the tower since the war, which perhaps reached its zenith in 1947 when, in six months, ten peals were rung, all in different Surprise Major methods.

The tower first became popular as a peal-ringing centre in the 1890's, and about that time the key to the tower was kept under a tombstone in the churchyard, so that it was not unknown (since the Vicarage is quite a long way from the church) for bands to take advantage of the fact if they had been disappointed or unsuccessful elsewhere! Among the peals rung during that decade were 6,048 and 10,080 of Canterbury Major in 1891, 6,000 Bob Major in 1897, 10,464 Kent Treble Bob in 1898, and the then record length of Major, 15,072 Double Norwich, in 1899. This was conducted by William Pye, who only six days later called on the bells the first peal of London by the Kent County Association (altogether 20 'firsts' for the Association have been recorded at St.

John's). Since this time the only long peal has been 11,008 Double Norwich, in 1927.

There has naturally been a close association between Erith and Crayford towers, and in fact the four leading peal ringers at Erith all rang or have rung more than 100 at each place, while four others have been recorded over 100 in one and more than 50 in the other. Leading totals at Erith, with dates of first and last peals (number conducted shown in parentheses) are:—

F. J. Cullum (1919-1955)	222 (120)
H. E. Audsley (1920-1955)	181 (18)
J. H. Cheesman (1890-1938)	169 (41)
E. Barnett sen. (1889-1931)	149 (52)
C. Wilkins (1891-1911)	129 (10)
G. Conyard (1883-1903)	103 (2)
H. Hoverd (1929-1949)	89 (1)
F. J. Cullum sen. (1888-1926)	79 (9)
A. G. Hill (1924-1952)	61
W. Pye (1898-1934)	59 (48)
F. A. Coley (1924-1949)	56 (2)
E. A. Barnett (1932-1955)	54 (5)
L. J. Cullum (1924-1937)	52 (3)
A. S. Richards (1937-1955)	50
P. A. Corby (1938-1952)	48 (12)

The following is the list of peals:—
Triples (179).—Stedman 100, Grandsire 67, Union 10, Darlaston 1, Oxford Bob 1.

Plain Major (85).—Bob Major 18, Canterbury 10, Double Norwich 54, Double Oxford 2, Gonville 1.

Treble Bob Major, etc. (41).—Kent 37, Kent (Cambridge) 1, Oxford 2, Duffield 1.

Surprise Major (195).—Cambridge 45, New Cambridge 9, Superlative 40, London 34, Bristol 29, Ashted 1, Belgrave 2, Belvedere 1, Camdon 1, Eardley 1, Erith 1, Ipswich 1, Lessness 1, Norfolk 2, New Cumberland 2, Premier 1, Pudsey 3, Rutland 2, Staffordshire 1, Wheatley 1, Yorkshire 10, Four-Spliced 7.

E. A. B.

ARMY EXERCISE

In an attempt to emulate the Royal Air Force peal certain serving members of the Army in the Aldershot district decided to meet and attempt a peal of Minor at Bentley, Hants.

The parade was on orders for 1800 hours on February 2nd, but at that time there were two absentees. Sgt. Harry Poyner, R.A.E.C., was detained on a Physical Efficiency Test (campanology is not listed in the Army Manual of Physical Training as a test of efficiency) and Craftsman Eric Johnstone was listed on the posting order as Craftsman Johnstone A. and so was not informed.

So with a third of the resources not available, and bearing in mind the Central Council's view on peals of Bob Minimus, the 'O' Group that was called decided to enlist two local ringers, who were not alarmed by the sight of khaki but gave their services willingly, and thus saved the day.

A very good quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung, the ringers being as follows:—Second-Lieutenant B. Austin, R.E., 1, Spr. P. Minchin 2, A. Raggett (local band) 3, Dvr. A. Hartley, R.A.S.C., 4, Pte. A. Ainsworth, R.A.S.C. (conductor) 5, A. S. Sherfield (local band) 6.

It was natural to feel disappointed that the original intention had not been fulfilled, but it was felt that a start had been made, and with the constant flow of National Service men and Regulars through this district, it should be possible for a peal to be rung in the near future.

B. A.

NO RECORDED BELLS AT HOLTON

At a Consistory Court held at the Parish Church of Holton by the Chancellor of the Diocese of Bath and Wells, an application for a faculty to install equipment in the vestry and tower for the electrical reproduction of recorded church bells was refused. Mr. W. A. Osborn gave evidence for the Advisory Committee, of which he is a member, and was cross-examined by the petitioners.

In summing up, the Chancellor said it was clearly the duty of parishioners to put the existing three bells, which had been calling the parishioners of Holton to worship for over 500 years, in good and safe order. He congratulated the petitioners in putting their case so clearly before the Court, and thanked Mr. Osborn for giving evidence, and for the history of the bells.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—Rutland Branch 2s. 9d., 'Brum' 5s., G. H. Williams 3s. 6d., All Saints', Huntingdon 10s. 6d., Anonymous 10s., Hon. Member, Stroud, Glos. 7s. 6d.

Peals.—Sherburn-in-Elmet 1s. 6d., Cadoxton 3s., East Budleigh 2s. 6d., Dilhorne 1s., Conisborough 2s., Huntingdon 1s. 6d., Marksby 3s., Hughenden 4s., Long Ashton 5s., Ash Priors 3s., Leyland 2s.

Quarter Peals.—Hutton 2s. 6d., Clawton 2s. 6d., Durlough 1s. 6d., Honiton 1s., Hemyock 1s., Clayhidon 1s., Hughenden 2s., Eardisland 2s., Upper Clapton 2s., Somerton 3s., Brightwell-cum-Sotwell 2s., Isleworth 2s., Mereworth and East Peckham 6s., Woodbury 4s., Rugeley 2s.

HANDBELL RINGING IN A WALTHAMSTOW SCHOOL

Handbell ringing was first introduced into the William Elliott Whittingham Secondary Modern Boys' School, Walthamstow, when Mr. Maurice Baker decided to provide a further entertainment at the School's Christmas concert in 1947.

Mr. Baker, an enthusiastic ringer, borrowed the handbells from his local church, All Saints', in Hutton, Essex. He trained the boys, and the venture proved so successful that in June, 1949, the school purchased its own bells from Mears and Stainbank. The set was composed of 25 bells, two octaves, chromatic, in 17A.

The training went on after school hours week after week, but up to November, 1950, few had ever heard the boys ring or even knew of their existence. Early in November, 1950, the team received an invitation to ring before an audience of about 300 people at the Patronal Festival of All Saints' Church, Hutton.

The occasion proved so successful that it was not long before other invitations were given. This activity obviously lent itself to providing pleasure and helping deserving causes, and it was agreed that the bellringers should perform as many 'good deeds' as possible. Over 50 recitals have now been given up to date, and the team has given entertainment at many church socials, schools, clubs and institutes, a hospital and at functions for the aged and the blind.

Following an invitation to ring at a local Anglo-German Music Festival, the German party were so pleased that they asked for a

recording of the bells. In consequence, the B.B.C. visited the school and took recordings with the intention of using them in a future broadcast from Hamburg.

The activity has become so popular with the boys that another master, Mr. Eric Harrison, has himself learned the art, and now three teams are being trained.

With only two octaves of bells, harmony is out of the question, although a little two-part harmony has been successfully tried. The main concentration has been on tune-playing with good time and rhythm. This has enabled the boys to master a fair number of carols and popular and national airs which, with some change ringing, appear to give the greatest pleasure to the listeners. A few boys have been attending St. Mary's Church, Walthamstow, and have recently been accepted as Sunday service ringers. Two boys, John Bonner (school captain) and Robert Chapman, have already rung at several towers in Essex, and on November 14th, 1954, they completed their first quarter peal of Grandsire Triples at the Church of St. Mary, Walthamstow, which fact was duly recorded in 'The Ringing World.'

Very often the hard work involved in training boys to a good standard of ringing is eventually lost when they leave school. However, it is hoped that more boys will follow the example of John and Robert and continue this worthwhile activity in the local churches.

W. G. A.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE RECORD LENGTH ATTEMPT

Dear Sir,—I have just been reading the editorial comments and correspondence on the Loughborough record attempt in the issue of December 17th. and at the risk of saying something that may already have been said in the issues between then and now, which have not yet reached me, I would like to add a few comments and suggestions.

This attempt gained for ringers probably more publicity than we have ever had before. Almost everyone in Britain must have heard something about it. Even Australian papers reported it (incorrectly) but refrained from comment. In the U.S.A. 'Time' devoted a column to it which brought forth some rather scornful correspondence. Apparently much of the comment in Britain was scornful or, at best, tolerant tinged with sarcasm. As Mr. Rowe said, this sort of comment is unwelcome.

Now the general public are not used to hearing anything about bellringers, and when they do get a little bit of information they naturally tend to base all their ideas upon it. We are all guilty of this sort of thing with subjects we know little about.

As ringers, I don't believe we can afford to let wrong impressions about us get around. We have a job to do: Firstly it is to see that the bells in our churches are rung Sunday by Sunday, and secondly to see that they are rung as well as they possibly can be. We are not entitled to do anything that may hinder us from performing our duty, for doing that duty is a hard enough job as it is. Peal ringing (or even long-peal ringing for that matter) is justified as a means to that end, but it is not an end in itself. Possibly a very small proportion of peal ringing is a creative art and is justified as long as it does not hinder us in doing our real duties.

That is why there are bellringers. Was that the impression people got from the publicity on the Loughborough attempt? No, they will now have less sympathy with us and consider us as a lot of crackpots who are worthy successors to the old-fogey-with-a-beard-who-is-always-drunk type of ringer, which some people even now believe we are. If that sort of idea is fostered in people's minds we will lose a lot of sympathy and our job will become harder than ever to carry out. Complaints about bells will increase (no one has any conscience in complaining about a crackpot) and, worst of all, it will be harder than ever to recruit those many new ringers we need to ring the innumerable bells that are silent Sunday by Sunday the length and breadth of Britain (and Australia, too). This recent blaze of publicity may have cost us something we can ill afford.

But what an opportunity was lost for turning the publicity to good account! If only we could have used the occasion to get something really vital over about ourselves. Why didn't we? Well, it was not the fault of the Press. Journalists are naturally rather aggressive fellows—they have to be since little news drops on to their desk. They are used to going out and ferreting out what they can find and make their story from it. However, it is rare that they are not glad to accept information given to them by someone who really does know the story. In my own experience here in Melbourne I have found most journalists genuinely anxious to give an accurate account which conveys the right impression if only some of the ringers for their part will co-operate. A few journalists I have met are only out for sensation and I will not have anything to do with them.

The blame for this poor publicity must, I am sure, lie with us. On future big ringing occasions (such as the proposed recent performance at Loughborough) could we not make a real effort for dynamic Press relations?

Would it not be possible to appoint an honorary Press relations officer for the event? There must be a ringer somewhere, possibly with journalistic experience, who would be prepared to do this. I believe the Central Council has a Press and Radio Committee whose yearly habit it is to conduct a post mortem on what the public have been told about us. Could not they for once be a bit dynamic and influence the Press? This would, I believe, be quite a novel experiment for ringers but one I feel it would be well worth making. It would help people to understand why we go for record lengths amongst other things, and perhaps some of us ringers might also begin to understand why, too.

I noticed the 'Manchester Guardian' with characteristic perspicacity called the Loughborough attempt a 'monumental act of introversion.' Surely to ring bells, of all things, so they cannot be heard is an act of introversion with few equals. If you believe you are doing something worth doing you cannot keep all but the final result to yourself. If no one is interested in listening to you doing what you believe is worth doing, well, is it worth doing after all? Whether bells are rung for 20 seconds or 20 hours, whether they are in a secular or non-secular tower, they must be heard.—Yours, etc.,

PHILIP GRAY.

Melbourne, Australia.

FALSE PEAL AT KING'S LYNN

Dear Sir,—The peal of Plain Bob Royal rung at St. Margaret's, King's Lynn, Norfolk, on June 26th, 1954, and published in 'The Ringing World' of July 9th, on page 434, is false. The fact that I copied down the composition wrongly has only just come to light. I very much regret this unfortunate mistake and tender my sincere apologies to the rest of the band.—Yours sincerely,

NORMAN V. HARDING.

King's Lynn.

PEAL RINGING IN HEREFORDSHIRE

Dear Sir,—As Rector of Presteigne, I purposely made no protest against Mr. Felstead's inclusion of Presteigne tower in his interesting article on Peal Ringing in Herefordshire.

Presteigne civil parish (it is true) is the capital town of Radnorshire, but the ancient ecclesiastical parish which is served by Presteigne Church extends far beyond the bounds of the civil parish of Presteigne and includes no less than four civil parishes of Herefordshire, and it has always been in the Diocese of Hereford and, therefore, in the Hereford Diocesan Guild.

As it is unlikely that Mr. Felstead will write an article on Peal Ringing in Radnorshire (which has only six rings of bells) I was glad he had slipped us into Herefordshire—we are half in it.

Presteigne,

In the counties of Radnor and Hereford.

(REV.) E. G. BENSON.

LESS PEALS IN HERTS?

Dear Sir,—The excellent article by Mr. Felstead was more than interesting to those of us who know the answers to his many queries as to why certain towers have become less active as far as peals are concerned. Changes in the 'go' of the bells, in the leadership of the tower, in the incumbency of the church or in the surrounding population all have a marked effect on the number of peals permitted, but I find from a summary of our records that 29 peals per year were rung between 1885 and 1913, 44 between 1920 and 1939 and 49 between 1945 and 1954 on the average.—Yours, etc.,

H. V. FROST.

St. Albans.

MR. ROE REPLIES TO HIS CRITICS

Dear Sir,—May I reply to my critics, Messrs. Speed, Border and Blagrove?

Four places in one pair of rows: Cambridge is cited as a good method to justify this defect yet ringing text books with Central Council backing state 'Cambridge is an inferior method.' However ancient this example, it is not hallowed by time; its defects remain. It is not a matter of terminology to say that a Doubles change is the result. Could one claim to have rung Major after having rung, say, Bob Doubles with three covering bells?

I am indebted to Mr. E. W. Tipler and others for the identification of Mr. Blagrove's methods Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 12, 17, 18, 19, 22, 25, 30, 32. No. 6 was recently given in 'The Ringing World' by S. Ivin. For the remaining methods I give the f.c.h.s using Maurice Hodgson's grouping and the number of true courses available for each. Mr. Blagrove will be able to judge how many of these methods offer possibilities for 5,000 changes or more:—

Method	True	Method	True
No.	f.c.h.s	No.	f.c.h.s
2	BIK 24	20	FG 30
7	BOS 11	21	FO 20
8	BON 15	23	O 18
9	BO 23	24	OG 17
10	BOK 20	26	NER 11
11	NS 17	27	NIK 16
13	O 18	28	NI 16
14	OG 17	29	NG 16
15	O 18	31	N 24
16	NR 12	33	NO 16

Despite any criticism that has been made, I am unrepentant about my three-fold plea, viz:—

(1) For revision of the definitions.

(2) For a return to purity in construction.

(3) For an acceptance of responsibility for methods published, circulated or rung.

To assume the cloak of anonymity on the grounds that probably others have already produced the same figures is merely an excuse to avoid any personal responsibility.

This might be regarded as one degree better than having methods attributed to some other composer, alive or dead, however inadvertently this may happen. Mr. Speed has graciously acknowledged two methods of his which had been so attributed.

Mr. Border says I desire to abolish 'Surprise' but this is not so. My suggestion was for two classes of methods with Treble bob hunt, the simple and the difficult, i.e., 'Treble Bob' and 'Surprise.' My apologies if I did not make this clear. The effect of this would be to abolish or rather absorb the other classes or terms that are neglected, redundant or simply ignored. At present, according to reliable authority, we have Treble Bob, Exercise, Delight, Surprise, and on the higher numbers Passallatria, Passallatessara. I remember also a peal report of London 'Marvel' appearing in 'The Ringing World.'

None of the methods published by Mr. Blagrove conform strictly to the definition of Surprise though they are accepted as such. Should the definitions be revised to meet present day requirements, or should we not make some effort to conform to them?—Yours sincerely,

K. C. R. ROE.

Wigston, Leics.

WOODBURY, DEVON.—On Feb. 8th, 1,260 Grandisle Triples: Miss J. Gooding (first of Triples) 1. D. Gooding 2. L. K. Dawe 3. J. Glanville 4. Marine E. Harrison 5. C. Dean 6. J. L. S. Glanville (cond.) 7. J. Briggs 8. A farewell to Marine Harrison, who is leaving the district.

MR. FREDERICK WHITE**An Appreciation**

Many ringers, especially throughout Kent, will regret the news of the passing of Mr. Frederick White, vice-president, and for many years trustee of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers. For the past four years Mr. White had been confined to his room at his son's residence at Luton, Bedfordshire, with indifferent health and the end came peacefully on February 5th at a nursing home at St. Albans. He was 73.

Mr. White was an excellent ringer and a great friend to all members of our Association. His typical advice was always simplified and accepted. I am sure we all express our sincere sympathy to his son and family.

With Mr. Stafford H. Green, Mr. White did most valuable work in Mid-Kent to improve the standard of ringing. He was proud of the quality of his peals, which numbered 232 and spread over 40 years. He was usually at the heavy end and achieved his ambition to turn in all the heavy tenors in Kent to a peal. In 1908 he rang five peals of Stedman in a week with the Rev. F. E. Robinson, and in 1912 he took part in 12,160 Bristol Surprise at Knebworth. He was proud of the peal of Superlative at Goudhurst in 1926, when a peal there was almost an impossibility.

Mr. White was a Freemason and took part in Freemasonry peals of Triples, Major, Caters, Royal, Cinques and Maximus.

The funeral took place on Saturday last at Tunbridge Wells cemetery. The Kent County Association was represented by Mr. G. H. Spice, T. E. Sone, Miss D. Colgate, Mr. and Mrs. W. Dobbie, and the Sussex Association by Mr. W. Rogers. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the graveside by W. Dobbie, T. E. Sone, W. Rogers and Mrs. W. Dobbie. Immediately after the service the bells at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, were rung half-muffled and 503 Grandsire Triples was rung as a last token of respect by Miss M. Ladd, Mrs. W. Dobbie, T. E. Sone (conductor), A. F. Wellington, B. Collison, W. Dobbie, E. J. Ladd and L. S. Hohl.

MR. WHITE'S PEALS

His 232 peals were rung in 98 towers in 19 counties for 16 Associations and with 412 different ringers. His first peal was Grandsire Triples at Oxhey on February 3rd, 1904, and his last Grandsire Cinques.

Triples.—Grandsire 5, Stedman 41 (two 'in hand').

Major.—Plain Bob 4, St. Clement's Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 8, Spliced Treble Bob 1, Double Norwich Court Bob 27.

Surprise Major.—Cambridge 23, New Cambridge 2, Superlative 53 (two conducted), London 10, Bristol 6 (including 12.160), Norfolk 4, Yorkshire 4.

Caters.—Grandsire 7, Stedman 7.

Royal.—Plain Bob 2, Kent Treble Bob 10, Oxford Treble Bob 1, Spliced Treble Bob 1, Double Norwich Court Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise 3.

Cinques.—Grandsire 3, Stedman 1.

Maximus.—Plain Bob 3, Little Bob 1, Canterbury Pleasure 1, Kent Treble Bob 2.

E. E. S.

MR. OWEN PORTER

We regret to report the death of Mr. O. Porter, of The Plowden Arms, Shiplake, who passed away on February 1st at the age of 84 years. He had been in ill-health for some time, and had done little ringing for a considerable time. To those who knew him it is a very sad loss, for although he suffered there was always a great welcome to ringers who visited his tower. He was a ringer for 71 years, and words cannot express his fine admiration and his all-out effort for the furtherance of bellringing. May we follow his example.

P. J. D.

OBITUARY**THE REV. PERCIVAL GOUGH, M.A.**

The Rev. P. Gough, M.A., Rector of St. Mary's, Acton, and president of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, died on January 27th at the age of 73, in Central Middlesex Hospital, to which he had been taken a few days previously, suffering from bronchitis and pneumonia. Ordained in 1902, he held curacies at Christ Church, Southport, Holy Trinity, Tulse Hill, and at Normanston and Halifax Parish Churches. From 1912 to 1921 he was Vicar of Heptonstall and after a year at St. Thomas', Halifax, came to London as Vicar of St. Mark's, St. John's Wood. In 1928 he exchanged livings with the Rector of Acton.

He was elected president of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild in 1949 and did not once fail to take the chair at the annual general meetings. He always gave members of the Diocesan Guild a warm welcome to his church, and a meeting during the summer with tea on the Rectory lawn has been one of the most popular of each year's meetings.

Holy Communion at 8 a.m. and a funeral service at mid-day were held at St. Mary's, Acton, on February 1st, and the Diocesan Guild was represented at one or the other of these by F. A. Finch (assistant secretary, S. and W. District, and tower secretary at Acton), H. G. Hart and W. H. Coles (vice-presidents), T. J. Lock (secretary, N. and E. District), E. C. S. Turner (general secretary), and W. N. Genna (assistant general secretary). His body was subsequently taken to Golders Green for cremation, his ashes to be buried in the churchyard of St. Mary's, Acton.

That evening 1,280 Plain Bob Major was rung half-muffled by: F. W. Goodfellow 1, F. A. Finch (conductor) 2, A. H. Fulwell 3, A. J. Blair 4, A. Harding 5, W. H. Coles 6, T. J. Lock 7, F. C. Price 8.

MR. B. MERCHANT

The death occurred on February 5th of Mr. B. Merchant, aged 62, at Church House, Wembdon, Bridgwater, close to the tower where he had been a ringer since 1904. Until fairly recently he carried on the business of a carpenter and undertaker started by his grandfather and handed on by his father. He was also one-time sexton at St. George's Church, an office previously held by his grandfather and father before him.

After the interment the bells were rung half-muffled by members of the local band. This included Bob Doubles, deceased's favourite method.

MR. ARTHUR CRANE

St. Mary's, Bletchley, Bucks, ringers have lost a member of their tower of over 50 years standing by the death of Mr. Arthur Crane, aged 75 years. He was a founder member of the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and his cheerful disposition will be missed by many friends. His peals numbered ten and included the first on St. Mary's bells by local bands of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

On the day of his funeral, February 5th, the bells were rung half-muffled to 1,260 Plain Bob Minor to his memory. The band consisted of A. E. Daniells (first quarter) 1, J. F. Brooks 2, H. Sear 3, W. Daniells 4, F. Stonton 5, R. Cadamy (conductor) 6.

MR. ARTHUR CRAWFORD

The death occurred at his home at Rampton, Notts, on January 23rd, of Mr. Arthur Crawford at the age of 70. He was interred at Rampton on January 27th.

Mr. Crawford, a well-known and highly-respected ringer, was the son of Mr. Charles Crawford (one of the founder member of the North Notts Association), of East Markham. His ringing career commenced at an early age, for when only 12 years old he was presented with a set of handbells by his father for ringing his first 720 at Ordsall.

In 1928 he donated the 'Crawford' Cup in memory of his father, and this is still competed for each year.

Not a prolific peal ringer (he rang his first peal of Plain Bob at East Markham in 1899), Mr. Crawford is better remembered for his work among learners and his help in restoration of bells. He had taught young people to ring at Rampton, Lancham, Dunham and East Drayton.

When Rampton bells were increased from four to six the parishioners gave one in memory of those fallen in the war, and Mr. Crawford donated the sixth.

East Drayton and Dunham also received enthusiastic behind the scenes assistance with their restoration.

Mr. Crawford will be missed by all, especially the locals and peal ringers who used to retire to his house for sumptuous teas and to hear his criticism or praise of their efforts.

The bells were rung before and after the funeral and an in memoriam peal in seven Treble Bob methods was rung at Rampton on Saturday, February 5th. The bells were left open, which was his wish.

E. P.

MR. WILLIAM VINCENT

Sussex ringers regret the passing of Mr. William Vincent, of Bolney, at the age of 73. For 50 years he had rung at Bolney and for over 20 years was captain of the local band. He retired from ringing last summer.

Friends from Bolney, Cuckfield and Burgess Hill assembled at Bolney on the evening of January 24th, the day of his funeral, and rang 1,260 Grandsire Triples with the bells half-muffled. The band was T. Walder 1, J. Gasson 2, T. Gasson 3, R. Simpson 4, J. Ashdown 5, J. Jeffrey 6, F. Godsmark (conductor) 7, J. Hyde 8.

MR. B. F. TUBB

After a long illness, Mr. B. F. Tubb, of Finchley, passed away on January 29th at the age of 73. The funeral took place on February 4th at St. Mary's, and as the cortege left the church for the crematorium, the ringers—with bells half-muffled—paid their last respects with some well-struck rounds.

A member of the Finchley band since 1914, Mr. Tubb was secretary from 1939 to 1949, and was instrumental in the move to augment the bells from six to eight. Towards this end he spent much time and effort. Strangely enough, while he was a reliable Minor ringer, he was never 'at home' on eight bells and at times became depressed at not making headway.

Prior to his failing health he was always excellent company on the many trips and outings, especially the 'four quarter' trips. A really great feat of his was to teach a blind ringer to handle a bell—and he had the satisfaction of providing the band with a very capable ringer.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Rosemary Patching 1, Diana M. Gough (first as cond.) 2, Mary W. Brown 3, S. W. Brown 4, H. W. Brown 5, Pamela Law 6. A 15th birthday compliment to the conductor, and a 16th birthday compliment to the tenor ringer. Also on Feb. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. D. Brown (first in method) 1, Mary W. Brown 2, Diana Gough (first 'inside') 3, Valerie Mephram 4, H. W. Brown 5, S. W. Brown (cond.) 6. A compliment to Mr. G. A. Steele for his 83rd birthday.

ANSTEY, LEICS.—On Jan. 25th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Miss M. Disney (first of Major) 1, Miss J. M. Simpson 2, G. H. Arguile 3, D. S. Harris 4, A. Disney 5, R. Elkington 6, M. D. Stanforth 7, R. F. Elkington (cond.) 8. First in the method for 2 and 6. A farewell to David S. Harris on joining the Royal Air Force.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 30th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: A. Hilton 1, H. Lilley 2, J. H. G. Gardner 3, E. H. Knapp 4, R. Overy (cond.) 5, G. Cecil 6, K. Snelling 7, A. E. Laker 8. A 96th birthday tribute to Miss C. Provost.

BARROW-UPON-SOAR, LEICS.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,260 Doubles (420 Plain Bob and 840 Grandsire): K. W. Graham 1, P. Chambers 2, G. J. Lowe 3, F. K. Thompson 4, R. G. W. Soars 5. Also on Jan. 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. Soars 1, K. W. Graham 2, P. Chambers 3, F. K. Thompson 4, R. G. W. Soars 5, K. E. Lovett (cond.) 6. A farewell to the conductor, who is shortly joining the R.A.F.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.—On Feb. 9th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss E. Pryke 1, J. H. Sitch 2, E. W. Furbank 3, H. Turner (cond.) 4, A. Pryke 5, H. G. Goddard 6, B. C. Hines 7, B. W. Parke 8. First in method by 1, 6 and 8.

BRIGHTWELL-CUM-SOTWELL, BERKS.—On Feb. 6th, 1,320 Doubles (600 Plain Bob, 720 Grandsire): J. Holloway 1, F. C. Castell 2, C. J. Castell (cond.) 3, J. Jarvis 4, S. Turley 5, E. Bucknell 6. Rung for the festival of St. Agatha.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.—On Feb. 6th, at the Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. J. Rawlings 1, Miss M. Prockson 2, B. K. Lunn 3, I. H. Oram 4, J. L. Morris 5, P. Beresford 6, P. N. Bond 7, D. Beresford (cond.) 8. Rung to celebrate the third anniversary of the Queen's Accession.

CLAYHIDON, DEVON.—On Jan. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Tozer 1, C. Manley 2, C. Webb (cond.) 3, W. Sparks 4, W. Webb 5, J. Real 6.

CLEWER, BERKS.—On Jan. 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. Butler 1-2, Monica Howard 3, Diana Spice 4, R. Purchase 5, F. T. Blagrove (cond.) 6. A 90th birthday compliment to Mr. F. V. Sinkins, late of Slough.

DISS, NORFOLK.—On Feb. 7th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss K. Harrison 1, Miss B. Syrett 2, J. B. Morley (cond.) 3, A. G. Harrison 4, A. E. Cook 5, H. Moss 6, F. C. Roper 7, T. C. Ford 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam William H. Harrison, 50 years vergor of the Parish Church, who passed away on February 1st.

DURLEIGH, SOMERSET.—On Feb. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss J. Bird (first quarter) 1, W. Selly 2, G. Marchant 3, M. Stone 4, D. Miller (first as cond.) 5, C. Dymet 6.

EARDISLAND, HEREFORDS.—On Feb. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss J. Davies (13, first quarter) 1, P. R. Harris 2, Miss R. Bray (15, first 'inside') 3, L. T. Mainwaring 4, L. Evans (cond.) 5, P. Powles 6.

EAST PECKHAM, KENT.—On Feb. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Medhurst 1, L. J. Holness 2, C. A. Tester 3, G. Fry 4, H. H. Osborne 5, K. S. Hohl (cond.) 6. A golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. Saunders, of Mereworth.

EWELL, SURREY.—On Jan. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Spittle (first quarter) 1, R. Spittle 2, Gladys Anderson 3, H. E. Good 4, A. S. Besant 5, C. W. Munday (cond.) 6, J. E. Beams 7, P. J. Wood (first quarter) 8. Rung for Confirmation service by the Bishop of Guildford.

FINCHLEY, MIDDLEX.—On Feb. 4th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: A. Richardson 1, Miss Ann Gower 2, A. Warren 3, A. Goodall 4, Miss Gillian Ick 5, F. Tubb 6, B. Willis (cond.) 7, L. Tubb 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. B. F. Tubb, a member of the band for 50 years.

GREAT GADDESSEN, HERTS.—On Jan. 29th, 1,260 Minor (being 720 each of Oxford Bob and St. Clement's): R. V. Wallis 1, W. Ayre (cond.) 2, G. S. Duncan 3, W. B. R. Ellender 4, R. L. Shutter 5, B. M. Barker 6.

HEADINGTON, OXON.—On Feb. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Gallop (first of Minor) 1, V. Green 2, J. Hadfield 3, R. Trebilcock 4, M. Stone 5, T. Smith (cond.) 6. Rung for morning service.

HELLINGLY, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 6th, 1,320 Reverse St. Bartholomew: Kathleen Yeo 1, Laura M. Beeny 2, C. J. Piper 3, F. H. Beeny 4, G. Beeny (cond.) 6, A. Ellis 6. First in the method by all.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On Jan. 30th, 1,260 Cambridge Surprise Major: I. Biggs 1, A. Newton 2, D. Cornwall (first in method 'inside') 3, P. Newton 4, Doreen Coker 5, J. Kape 6, R. Biggs 7, A. E. Cox (first in method as cond.) 8.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,260 Minor (720 Norwich Surprise and 540 Plain Bob): G. Perkins 1, J. R. G. Spicer 2, G. D. Whitehead 3, M. J. Dyer 4, F. L. Nicholls 5, H. S. Peacock (cond.) 6. Also on Jan. 30th, 1,440 Minor (720 each of Norwich and Cambridge Surprise): G. Perkins 1, J. R. G. Spicer 2, G. D. Whitehead 3, M. J. Dyer 4, F. L. Nicholls 5, H. S. Peacock (cond.) 6. Also on Feb. 6th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. R. G. Spicer 1, M. J. Dyer 2, G. D. Whitehead 3, G. Perkins 4, F. L. Nicholls 5, H. S. Peacock (cond.) 6.

HEMYOCK, DEVON.—On Jan. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Webb 1, J. Real 2, C. Manley 3, W. Sparks 4, W. Webb (cond.) 5, B. Tozer 6.

HONITON, DEVON.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Webb 1, J. Real 2, C. Manley 3, F. Warren 4, W. Webb (cond.) 5, B. Tozer 6. Rung for morning service.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.—On Jan. 31st, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: E. E. Retter 1, W. Seldon 2, Miss E. Lomas 3, W. D. Ashdown 4, W. Reeks 5, A. Holway 6, G. E. Retter (cond.) 7, A. Tapley 8.

HUTTON, ESSEX.—On Jan. 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Barbara M. Forster 1, W. G. Wright 2, Judith D. Shedel 3, W. T. Hill (cond.) 4, C. E. Hill 5. Rung for morning service.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLEX.—On Feb. 6th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: Miss E. Farrell 1, Mrs. K. Parr 2, Mrs. O. L. Rogers 3, W. Rogers 4, S. Croft 5, T. E. Davies 6, F. D. Bishop 7, H. W. Rogers (cond.) 8. An engagement compliment to Miss E. Farrell.

MARCH, CAMBS.—On Feb. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. Leeden 1, R. Taylor 2, F. S. Parsons 3, W. Moore 4, T. A. Bevis (cond.) 5, J. Moore 6. Birthday compliments to the treble ringer and Miss P. Watson, a member of the choir.

MEREWORTH, KENT.—On Feb. 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: G. Bishop 1, L. Newman 2, L. J. Holness 3, T. Saunders 4, H. H. Osborne (first as cond.) 5, J. Saunders 6. Rung as a golden wedding compliment to the ringer of the tenor. All the ringers except the conductor are over 70 years old.

NEWCASTLE, STAFFS.—At St. Giles' Church, on Feb. 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: K. Moore 1, G. Ford 2, S. Collins 3, B. Ryles 4, E. Kettle 5, G. C. Beech 6, A. Gaunt 7, R. S. Anderson (cond.) 8. First quarter peal since re-hanging. Rung to mark the 21st anniversary of the induction of the Rector (Preb. J. C. Watkins).

PETERBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.—On Jan. 30th, 1,176 Grandsire Triples: D. Bell 1, Ruth Morgan 2, S. Wright 3, H. Goakes 4, P. Amos 5, J. H. Bluff (cond.) 6, J. Haw 7, G. Cowling 8. Rung for morning service.

ROTHLEY, LEICS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Handford 1, B. S. Payne (cond.) 2, R. Wilmore 3, J. Handford 4, G. Brewin 5, P. Plowright 6. First quarter for 5 and 6.

RUGELEY, STAFFS.—On Jan. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss J. Rundle 1, Miss A. Ward (first 'inside') 2, Miss V. Cubley 3, J. H. Joyner (cond.) 4, J. R. Joyner 5, E. H. Norman 6. A birthday compliment for the ringer of the 2nd.

SAPCOTE, LEICS.—On Feb. 4th, 1,440 Surprise Minor (720 Spliced London and Wells and 720 York): Rita Stratford 1, Christine Stratford 2, C. R. Hayward 3, J. A. Smith 4, J. Vernon 5, M. E. Brown (cond.) 6. First quarter in three methods by all the band. Rung for the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Abbott.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.—On Feb. 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss H. G. Snowden 1, F. Claydon 2, A. Catterwell 3, T. Earle 4, W. Arnold 5, T. Bird 6, J. H. Brett (first as cond.) 7, V. S. Connell 8. First in method for 6, 7 and 8.

SHILLINGTON, BEDS.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,259 Doubles (480 each of Winchendon Place and St. Martin's, 120 each of Plain Bob and Stedman and 59 Grandsire): D. P. Jones 1, A. R. Agg 2, K. C. Timbury 3, P. Mehew 4, L. M. Orme (17) 5. Rung to mark the engagement of Mr. P. I. Chapman, of Kettering, and Miss Joan Morris, of Kidderminster.

SOMERTON, SOMERSET.—On Feb. 6th, 1,260 Doubles (being 240 each of Stedman, St. Simon's, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob and 300 Grandsire): G. Jeanes 1, D. Sweet 2, F. J. White 3, A. Bown 4, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 5, C. Gratton 6. First in five methods by all except the conductor. Rung after Evensong for the third anniversary of H.M. the Queen's Accession.

TRURO, CORNWALL.—At the Cathedral, on Feb. 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: Miss M. Matthews 1, F. Roberts 2, A. H. Zplett 3, Mrs. J. M. Simpkin 4, D. Burnett 5, C. W. Jose 6, H. Harper 7, R. A. Southwood 8, C. K. Brewer 9, A. Carveth (cond.) 10. First of Royal by all except ringer of 8th. A wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Brian Parkin.

TURNER'S HILL, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Beryl Colbran (first in method) 1, H. J. Wilde 2, Patricia M. Howard (first in method 'inside') 3, C. F. Bonnett 4, I. A. C. Butcher (cond.) 5, E. J. Constable 6. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 2nd.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on Jan. 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss N. Hales 1, Miss G. L. Friswell 2, D. Neal 3, J. A. Hales 4, R. K. C. Wilkings 5, G. A. Parsons 6, J. Hales (cond.) 7, D. K. Brady 8. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss N. Hales.

YORK.—At the Minster, on Feb. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. H. Steel 1, B. Rodgers 2, D. Clegg 3, F. Atkinson 4, D. Forth 5, H. Forden 6, H. Walker (cond.) 7, J. Bower 8. Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to His Grace the Archbishop of York.

RUDDINGTON RINGERS' SUPPER

For the third year in succession Ruddington ringers enjoyed their annual supper on January 18th. More than thirty ringers and their wives, including six visitors from neighbouring towers, wish to express their thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Horspool, who so kindly provided a most generous meal consisting of traditional Christmas fare.

Mr. S. Adams (captain), in welcoming the visitors, said that real progress had been achieved during the last year, the highlights of which were a quarter peal last March as a compliment to Mr. Horspool on the occasion of his birthday, the after service ringing at harvest festival which was much appreciated by the village, and a quarter peal last November.

Mr. W. Nicholls, of St. Mary's, Nottingham, on behalf of the visitors, returned thanks and said that he and his fellow-guests would always be pleased to give any help that lay in their power.

The Vicar, the Rev. A. C. Shrimpton, in thanking the ringers for their services, said that he had hoped when he first came to Ruddington that he would eventually hear the bells for both morning and evening service. That hope had been realised and it was seldom now that less than six bells were raised.

The Youth Fellowship gave an entertainment, and several touches on the handbells were also given.

R. A. B.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Northern District Review Past Year

On January 22nd the annual meeting of the Northern District was held at Hitchin. Ringing began at 3 p.m. and continued until a local Press photographer wished to take a photograph just before the service. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. G. N. O. Walsh) and Miss A. Scott played the organ.

The Vicar presided at the business meeting. The secretary, Mr. E. Buck, read a letter from the Vicar of Norton about the Thomas Werrett Memorial Fund. This now stood at £17, and an application had been made for a faculty to put a plaque in the ringing chamber, and devoting any remaining money to a bell fund for the planned new church in the parish.

Mr. Buck's report was encouraging: 11 new ringing members and three non-resident life members had been elected, and Pilton had joined the Association. Eighteen peals had been rung in the District and one by the Association at Stotfold (Beds). There was an increased balance, which now stood at £30 10s. 6d.

Mr. Buck was re-elected secretary, and Miss J. Sanderson elected 'Ringing World' representative. The general committee will be: Messrs. J. Dear, B. Marks, D. Gullick, F. Croft, H. Werrett and E. Winters. The Ringing Master at the meetings will be decided each month.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION Canterbury District Elect 23 New Members

The quarterly meeting of the Canterbury District was held recently at Wickhambreaux. Once again this little village, pretty even in the winter, attracted a large gathering, there being 57 present, these representing 18 towers in the District, with visiting ringers from the Ashford and Maidstone Districts. Ringing during the afternoon was followed by the usual service. As there is, at the present time, no rector of the parish, the Vicar of the neighbouring village of Littlebourne officiated. One of the local ringers, Miss W. Miles, was at the organ.

The business meeting followed tea in the Village Hall. Twenty-three new practising members were elected, these including the band from St. Peter's-in-Thane, who were welcomed back into union with the Association. One new honorary member was also elected. A report was given by Mr. S. Walter of the business carried out by the Central Committee at their meeting at Maidstone. Deal was chosen as the place for the next quarterly meeting, with Chilham as the place for a by-meeting. Thanks were expressed to all who had made the local arrangements for ringing, tea and the service, especially to the Rev. S. B.-R. Poole, who had sandwiched the service in with other engagements. B. J.

A KENT GOLDEN WEDDING

Quarter peals were rung at East Peckham on February 4th, and Mereworth on February 5th, as a golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. Saunders, of Mereworth. Mr. Saunders has been a bellringer for 55 years. He started his ringing career at East Peckham, but he has been a member of the Mereworth band for 30 years.

Taking part in the quarter peal at Mereworth with Mr. Saunders were ringers with whom he has been associated for most of his ringing life, namely, Lewis Newman, Tom Saunders, Joe Bishop and Luther Holness. All

Ringing continued until the bells were rung down in peal at 9 p.m. The methods rung ranged from rounds to Pudsey and Bristol Surprise. J. S.

St. Albans District

Ringing on the Abbey bells and also those of St. Peter's preceded the annual meeting of St. Albans District on January 15th.

At the business meeting held at St. Peter's Institute the secretary (Mr. S. Huckle) reported that six new members had been elected during the year, plus four non-resident life-members.

Sunday service ringing had been maintained throughout the year and although there seemed to have been less night practice the standard seemed to be as high as ever. Cash in hand amounted to £24 17s. 3d.

The following new members were elected:—Abbey, Gerald Penny, Michael D. Frost and Mr. J. L. Cox (ringing members); St. Peter's, Marion Waldron, Georgina Goodey (probationary members) and Christine Pullen (ringing member); North Mymms, Mr. A. J. Scull (ringing member); Monken Hadley, Mr. J. Soper (ringing member); Wheathampstead, Mr. F. Ellis (ringing member).

Mr. Huckle was re-elected secretary, Mr. Eric Edmondson Ringing Master. The committee comprises Messrs. A. Day, G. Spencer, F. Bamford, J. Page, D. Price and G. Dodds. Messrs. Page and Dodds were elected District representatives to the county committee. The president (Mr. J. Hobbs) was in the chair.

these ringers are past 70 years of age and made the ringer of the fifth bell feel quite a youngster, although he is over 40, and has been ringing with Mr. Saunders for about 20 years.

Besides his ringing activities Mr. Saunders is vergar and steeplekeeper at Mereworth, an office he has held for 15 years. He is also a member of the Church Council.

After ringing the quarter peal, the band were joined by other bellringers, who helped to ring touches of Plain Bob until tea time, when everybody was entertained to a wonderful tea by Mr. and Mrs. Saunders and their family. After tea ringers returned to the belfry for further ringing until 7.30. P. J. B.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD

Basingstoke District

The annual meeting of the Basingstoke District was held at All Saints', Basingstoke, on January 29th and was attended by over 70 ringers and friends. The Guild service was taken by the Archdeacon of Basingstoke (the Ven. A. W. Chute) and the Rev. D. L. Board, of Wolverton, who gave an excellent address.

Tea was provided by the Ladies' Committee at All Saints' Church Room under Mrs. E. P. Austin and was very much enjoyed.

Officers elected were:—Chairman, the Archdeacon of Basingstoke; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. Chesterman; Ringing Master, Mr. C. Osley; representatives, Mr. H. Balaam and Mr. B. Garrett.

Meetings were arranged at Rotherwick on April 23rd, Wolverton on June 25th, and Sherborne St. John on September 24th.

It was also decided to arrange a combined practice for six-bell ringing throughout the year under the direction of the Ringing Master. Seventeen new members were elected and one compounding member.

Votes of thanks were warmly passed to the Archdeacon, the Rev. D. L. Board, the organist and the ladies. Good use was made of the bells at both All Saints' and St. Michael's. J. C.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. 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. 6d.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

COMING-OF-AGE

CONGRATULATIONS and best wishes to David John Marshall, of Sawley, and Ringing Master Bristol University, for February 22nd.—From Mother, Father, and all ringing friends. Sawley and district. 5845

ENGAGEMENT.

HOLLOWAY—CAMPBELL. — The engagement is announced between Sidney O.C. Holloway, 40, Edward Road, Smethwick, and Brenda Kathleen Campbell, of Langley. 5868

DEATH

JEFFS.—On February 9th, 1955, at the home of his younger daughter, at Peterborough, George Jeffs, of Titchmarsh, Northants. in his 90th year. 5859

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The present address of Mr. and Mrs. Brian G. Warwick (Ringing Master at St. Thomas', South Wigston, Leicester) is 12, Dorothy Avenue, Glen Hills, Leicester. Tel. No. Wigston 3244. 5869

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PUBLICATIONS

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EVERY TOWER should have a copy of the Central Council's Handbook on the Installation, Preservation and Repair of Bells, Bell Frames and Fittings and other kindred matters. Fourth edition just published. Price 2s. post free from Miss P. J. Ayris, 10, Sherwood Close, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

A FEW COPIES remain of 'The Church Bells of Flintshire,' 3s. 6d.; 'Ayrshire,' 3s. 6d.; 'Scottish Rings of Bells,' 2s. All post free from the author, Ronald Clouston, Swanslea, Westerfield, near Ipswich, Suffolk. 5825

MISCELLANEOUS

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Change of officers: Hon. secretary, Miss E. V. Jones, 30, Oakley Street, Shrewsbury; hon. treasurer, F. H. Bennett, 17, Chester Street, Shrewsbury. 5861

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.

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MEETINGS

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — St. Paul's, Bedford.—A 10-bell practice will be held on Feb. 19th. Bells available 5 p.m. till 6.30 p.m., 7 p.m. till 8.30 p.m. Short service 6.30 p.m. 5823

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Cambridge District.—Meeting at Duxford, Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 5828

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Hunts District.—Meeting at Hemingford Abbots on Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 5841

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting, Chipping Sodbury (6), Feb. 19th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—Mary Drew. 5876

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD. — Meeting, Burwash, Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. 5811

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leominster District.—Annual meeting Saturday, Feb. 19th, at Leominster. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in Church Institute. Notify by Wednesday for tea.—J. F. Fox, Hon. Sec. 5854

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—Meeting at Wheathampstead, Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells (6). Ringing 3 to 7.30 p.m. Kimpton available evening.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 5815

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Ashford District.—Meeting, Feb. 19th, at High Halden (6). Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—W. P. G. 5774

LONDON UNIVERSITY SOCIETY. — Annual dinner, Feb. 19th, White Lion, Upper Thames Street, at 6.30 p.m. Ringing: 2.45 St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green (8); 4.15 St. Olave's, Hart Street (8). Service 5.30, St. Olave's, Hart Street. Tickets, 10s. 6d., from Graham McKay, Hon. Sec., Halliday Hall, South Side, Clapham Common, S.W.4. 5790

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION. — S. and W. District.—Heston, Feb. 19th. Bells (8) from 4. Tea 5.15. Norwood Green bells (6) 2.30-4. Subscriptions now due.—J. D. Rock, Hon. Sec., 346, Staines Road, Bedfont, Feltham. 5817

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Banbury Branch.—Adderbury (8) on Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.45. All welcome. Please notify for tea.—E. C. Pearson, Adderbury West, Oxon. Phone 350. 5773

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern Division. — Annual meeting, Shoreham-by-Sea (St. Mary's), Feb. 19th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. 5809

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Axbridge Branch.—Practice meeting, Locking, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (6) 5 p.m.—E. C. Wickham, Hon. Local Sec. 5871

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Bridgwater Branch.—Practice meeting at Durdley, Feb. 26th, 6.30 p.m. Look up something and make good use of this practice.—R. Short, Chilton Trinity. 5858

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Ilchester Deanery.—Quarterly meeting, Kingsbury Episcopi, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify for tea.—T. J. Setter, 52, Middle Street, Yeovil. 5844

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Macclesfield Branch.—Annual meeting at St. Michael's on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (12) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—A. A. Potts, Hon. Sec. 5769

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Peak District.—Meeting at Darley Dale on Saturday, Feb. 26th, 2.45 p.m. Cups of tea only. All welcome.—H. E. Taylor, Dis. Sec. 5870

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—Monthly meeting, Denby (6), Saturday, Feb. 26th, 2.30. Service 3.30. Buses: Services 1 and 55 to Kilburn Toll Bar; 98 to Denby at 2.13, 2.58, 3.43. Good attendance requested.—M. Bailey, Dis. Sec. 5877

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Meeting at Arksey on Feb. 26th at 3. For tea inform A. Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent.—F. Jackson, Hon. Sec. 5872

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION. — Western District.—Meeting, Saturday, Feb. 26th, Blaydon, St. Cuthbert's, 2.30 p.m. Names to Mr. R. W. Leighton, 15, Burnley Street, Blaydon.—C. T. Lamb, Hon. Dis. Sec. 5851

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Cheltenham Branch.—Monthly meeting at Winchcombe, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (6) available 6 p.m.—Mary Bliss, Branch Sec. 5857

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—Baldock, Feb. 26th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Special method, Ealing Surpriss.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 5846

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bolton Branch.—Meeting at All Souls', Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells 2.30. Tea 5. Business 6. Cups of tea only. Buses Nos. 28, 29, 30, 31 from Trinity Street to Tramways Hotel. (8, 25 cwt.)—J. Thornley, Hon. Sec. 5856

LEEDS AND DISTRICT. — Meeting, Birstall, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided; bring own food. Business meeting afterwards.—I. Slack, Hon. Sec. 5874

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Melton District.—Meeting at Hose, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5 o'clock. Names, please, by the 23rd, to Mr. A. Moulds, Hose, Melton Mowbray.—J. H. Cook. 5867

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — South Norfolk Branch.—The postponed annual meeting arranged for Feb. 5th will now take place, Saturday, Feb. 26th, at Diss. Same arrangements. Please notify again for tea by 22nd.—Albert G. Harrison, 10, Mount Pleasant, Diss, Norfolk. 5827

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—Annual meeting at St. Margaret's, King's Lynn, on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (10) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 for all who notify N. Harding, Roydon, King's Lynn.—C. Tovell, Hon. Branch Sec. 5852

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Boyne Hill, Feb. 26th, 3.15 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Ringing afterwards. Names for tea before 21st.—Butler, 2, Faraday Road, Slough. 5842

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Witney and Woodstock Branch.—Annual meeting, Woodstock, Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea, King's Arms Hotel, 5. Bells also available: Bladon 2-3 p.m. and after meeting. Please notify for tea, Miss Lottie Pimm, Eynsham, Oxford. Phone: Eynsham 222. 5829

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — South Oxon Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Long Crendon, Bucks, on Saturday, Feb. 26th, at 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. Tea will be provided for those who notify me by Feb. 22nd.—H. Badger, Branch Sec., The Blue Man, Thame, Oxon. Tel. Thame 193. 5848

OWSTON FERRY, ISLE OF AXHOLME, Lincs. — Bells available all day Saturday, Feb. 26th, after rehanging 6 (tenor 12 cwt.). A cordial invitation to all ringers from the Vicar and churchwardens. Tea for those who notify, by Tuesday previous, George L. A. Lunn, Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. Tel. 2623. 5866

SALISBURY GUILD. — West Dorset Branch.—Meeting at Symondsburry on Feb. 26th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please.—Barrett, Proutbridge, Beaminster. 5864

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—Practice meeting at Nutfield, Feb. 26th. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names for tea, by Feb. 23rd, to Miss M. Kempshall, 1, Church Hill, Nutfield. 5820

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION. — Eastern Division. — Annual meeting, St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. followed by business meeting. Names for tea must be received by 23rd.—R. W. Pankhurst, 11, Salehurst Road, Eastbourne. 5865

DEVON GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—Meeting, East Budleigh, Saturday, March 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, by March 2nd, to R. Perry, Redcliff, Lymington. 5849

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South Eastern Division.—Meeting at Sandon (6), Saturday, March 5th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Those requiring tea, postcard, please, to A. Everett, Plantation Road, Boreham. 5850

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Buckingham, Saturday, March 5th. Bells 2.30. Service 3.30. Names for tea by Feb. 26th.—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. 5873

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). —The 67th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner and Bi-centenary Celebration will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 5th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Mr. Frank E. Haynes, M.A. Early application for tickets, accompanied by remittance (15s.), should be made to George E. Fearn, Hon. Sec., 92, Etwell Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28. Phone: SPR. 1025. 5875

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD. — Nottingham District.—Meeting at Lenton, Saturday, March 5th. Bells available 2.30 to 3.30 and after 4 p.m. Cups of tea provided; please bring own food.—C. W. Towers. 5853

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD. — Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, Sketty, Swansea, Saturday March 5th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea. Names, please, by Feb. 26th.—J. A. Hoare, 6, Gendros Crescent, Swansea. 5843

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Annual general committee meeting, March 12th, 3 p.m., St. Mary's Church House, The Butts, Reading.—W. Hibbert, Gen. Sec. 5863

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Preliminary announcement.—The annual festival will be held at Marlborough on Saturday, May 21st, 1955. Details later.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham. 5855

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD

A good company gathered for the meeting and social at Harbury on February 5th. The five bells were kept going to a number of methods, and call changes were rung for the less experienced ringers. The service was taken by the newly-inducted Rector, the Rev. W. F. E. Smith. The ladies who put on the very good tea had a good idea of ringers' requirements. We thank them very much.

At a short business meeting Hatton was selected for the March meeting and Butlers Marston for April.

There was further ringing until 7.30 when a few friends joined us at the social. Miss Purkiss was M.C. for the 'fun and games,' and the music was supplied by radiogram, lent by the hon. secretary, Mr. H. Windors. Records were also loaned by Miss Middlemiss, who is shortly leaving for Canada. Good luck, Mary! A very jolly and friendly evening was 'wound up' with Auld Lang Syne. R. J. B.

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