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AN IMAGINARY LETTER FROM ONE BEGINNER TO ANOTHER

MY DEAR GEORGE,

You ask my advice about ringing—here it is. If you are prepared to risk submission to a burning enthusiasm which will make such demands on your leisure as practically to exclude the serious pursuit of any other hobby, then take it up; otherwise, keep away. If you decide to try it, you will soon know whether you are destined to dedicate yourself to the art; some tentative learners do fall away. Should you find yourself uninspired when you have given it a trial, do break off quickly, and don't, I beg you, waste any more of the time of your instructor and his devoted band.

The reason I say this so emphatically is that when you enter a tower and say that you want to learn to ring you will instantly be welcomed into the brotherhood, and provided you are keen, the whole band, from the master downwards, will take endless trouble to teach you, at considerable expense of their time and probably curtailment of their opportunities for practising advanced methods. As you get on a bit, they will take pride in your progress, for all the world like the older members of a family rejoicing in the achievements of 'our kid.' In short, you will meet with exceedingly great kindness.

Don't be put off if curious little squabbles, also reminiscent of the nursery, break out from time to time among your new friends—it seems to happen in quite a lot of towers. If yours is one of them, you probably won't even understand what it's all about; but of two things you may be sure—it won't affect you, and the clouds will all blow away again as quickly as after a summer shower. As I said, there's something of childhood about it; it may be connected with the fact that these ringers seem to have the secret of perpetual youth.

From the learner's side, good discipline and a word of thanks now and again are appreciated. Do turn up whenever you have engaged to go, be punctual, be willing, and do as you are told without sulking if it isn't exactly what you wished. If you notice some of your seniors intolerant of criticism, you needn't imitate them in their touchiness.

As I have so recently learned the elementary stages of ringing (I am just taking my first helter-skelter steps into change-ringing—you'll understand later the suggestion of precipitancy!) and the memories are still fresh, I may be able to give you a few tips that will be useful. There's a special point about the recent memory, because many of the senior ringers, especially, learned to handle a bell so long ago that they seem to have forgotten the exact difficulties that beset the beginner. Our master, for instance, learned to ring fifty-odd years ago when his voice broke and he had a compulsory rest from choir duties.

First, then, don't be content with the casual glance at the bells which seems to be accorded to most beginners, but study them in the belfry, in diagrams, or, best of all, in a model, if your tower is fortunate enough to possess one, until you see exactly the cause of every movement of the rope—failure to appreciate the reason for the rising of the sally leads to unnecessary mystification, and prevents the clear visualising of what is going on above your head. Ask to be allowed to stand in a safe place and watch the movement of a bell when it is rung.

When you come to handle the rope, your master may be fussy about fitting the end to you every time before you begin; if so, you are lucky, for if you are allowed to clutch it vaguely somewhere near the end you get into avoidable trouble at backstroke, perhaps holding too close to the end, when the bell will probably go over the balance and need a great tug to bring it back; or even bump the stay, when at the best it will start on its downward swing before you are ready for it and probably get out of control, and at the worst the stay will break—and then you can't let go too quickly! Alternatively, you get your end too long, the bell is checked before it has risen properly, and, of course, begins to come down—again, you probably lose control of it. I'm specially keen on all this, because neglect of this preliminary caused me much trouble when I was too inept (and panic-stricken!) either to understand why the bell was being so awkward or to adjust my grip while ringing.

Realising at the start that successful management of a bell depends on keeping a tight rope at all times, so, whether you are nagged about it or not, and you should be, be certain to cultivate good follow-through at backstroke.

[Continued overleaf

If you hold on until your hands are as low as possible the sally arrives as straight as the proverbial ramrod and correspondingly easy to catch; if you don't, it presents itself to your horrified gaze wriggling like some frightful serpent! Even if you do catch it thus, and you may not, you gradually develop a sensation unpleasantly like seasickness. After pulling off at handstroke, whip your right hand down instantly to join your left, and don't let them rise until the rope pulls them up—that keeps it taut.

All novices, I believe, pull too hard, especially when they begin to ring rounds. One reason for this is that, being unsure of holding the bell on the balance, by bringing it over they can at least prevent its running away with them, so to speak, and carrying them helplessly out of their place. Until the knack of pulling just right is acquired this is inevitable, but an important consequence is the rapid onset of fatigue. This naturally affects the children and girls first, but I mention it because some instructors seem quite unaware that their learners tire so soon, and in their ignorance of its true cause scold them for a clumsiness they can no longer avoid.

It may not occur to anyone to point out to you that the whole art depends on the ability to ring at will at three speeds, i.e., the rate correct for rounds, a trifle slower to hunt up a place, and slightly quicker to move a place towards the lead. It is obvious when you consider what is going on, but it is only too easy to miss the obvious and waste time unnecessarily in the elementary stages by reason of not grasping simple points such as this. Incidentally, a simple lecture at the beginning, explaining elementary facts and some of the terms used, would save a deal of time and perplexity.

I hope you will be taught to raise and fall a bell early in your career. I found that the skill so acquired added enormously to my confidence. Also, the moment you are allowed to try to raise or fall in peal, seize the opportunity, though you'll get quite out the first few times.

Be content to ring rounds, rounds, rounds, in your tower and others if possible, until you can strike them accurately—truly accurately—and your efforts contribute to a performance which is a pleasure to hear. I'm certain the grind will prove invaluable later when you try to become a competent change-ringer. I have visited towers where learners are put on to changes the moment they can ring rounds, however badly, with the inevitable result that, even when they know a method, their striking is so bad that the result is excruciating to the unfortunate—and, remember, involuntary!—listener outside. The next step in their progress is the hellish din when they try to ring advanced methods before they can ring simple ones well.

Get into the habit of listening for the sound of your bell—it isn't as easy as might appear, because the sound reaches your ear just as you are approaching the next pull and fully occupied trying to time that correctly. There is little difficulty in picking up the inexorable stumble in the rhythm wherever you've pulled too quick or too slow!

Well, there is a first-hand account of the difficulties as one beginner sees them, and I hope it will help you. I'll let you know how my initiation into the next mysteries of the Exercise proceeds.

Ever yours, JIM.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 1, 1955, in 3 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5280 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 40 cwt. 10 lb.

RONALD H. BULLEN Treble	ALAN F. THIRST 7
CLIFFORD A. BARRON 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER 8
J. MARTIN THORLEY 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE 9
JOHN FREEMAN 4	THOMAS J. LOCK 10
SELWYN H. DEARDEN 5	RICHARD E. PRICE 11
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY 6	WILFRED WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

First peal in the method on the bells.

SOUTHWARK, S.E.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

On Sat., Aug. 6, 1955, in 3 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 48 cwt.

SELWYN H. DEARDEN Treble	WILLIAM J. RAWLINGS 7
JOHN PHILLIPS 2	ALFRED B. PECK 8
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 3	JOHN H. CRAMPION 9
JAMES PHILLIPS 4	JOHN CHILCOTT 10
FRANK E. DARBY 5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS 11
BROOKE K. LUNN 6	PHILIP A. F. CHALK Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by SELWYN H. DEARDEN.

TEN BELL PEAL

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., July 30, 1955, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5079 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. in F sharp.

STELLA HUGHES Treble	EDGAR T. SMITH 6
WILLIAM DAVIES 2	FREDERICK G. HANDLEY 7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 3	ROGER L. HAWKSWORTH 8
HERBERT KNIGHT 4	ERNEST STITCH 9
GEORGE W. HUGHES 5	*CHARLES F. W. EYRE Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by STELLA HUGHES.

* First peal.

Rung for the 15th anniversary of the induction of the Vicar, the Rev. S. B. Ashley, and the visit of Alfred J. Wallater, member of the above Society, after 43 years' residence in San Francisco.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

HIGHCLERE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 11 cwt. 27 lb.
GILLIAN E. BROWN Treble	*IAN TAYLOR 5
GEOFFREY K. DODD 2	C. JOHN CASTELL 6
PATRICIA A. GAUNT 3	HAROLD P. REED 7
JAMES E. DANIELS 4	WILLIAM KEWELL Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD P. REED.

* First peal of Triples.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Sat., July 30, 1955, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5,280 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ARTHUR B. COOPER Treble	*FREDERICK FLINT 5
STANLEY SLANEY 2	*HAROLD WAGSTAFF 6
REV. G. G. GRAHAM 3	JOSEPH SAXTON 7
*MRS. L. HOLMES 4	HERBERT T. ROOKE Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER.

Conducted by HERBERT T. ROOKE.

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major. First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major as conductor.

Rung on the occasion of the wedding at this church of Mr. Gerald Ashley and Miss Pamela Leaning. The bride is a member of the local band.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 30, 1955, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 8lb.

S. ARTHUR READ Treble	GEORGE W. MASSEY .. 5
A. GEORGE CLARE 2	RONALD G. BECK 6
JOHN THOMAS 3	*DAVID HOARE 7
MRS. JOHN THOMAS 4	ERIC NAYLOR Tenor

Composed by G. J. HAWKINS.

Conducted by ERIC NAYLOR.

* First peal in the method 'inside.'

WARGRAVE, BERKSHIRE. THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 30, 1955, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5,088 ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb.

*MRS. W. F. BUTLER .. Treble	*FREDERICK R. SCOTT .. 5
*WILLIAM F. BUTLER .. 2	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. 6
KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER .. 3	*WALTER LEE 7
*BRIAN L. TAYLOR 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by A. G. DRIVER.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

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

LYDD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Aug. 3, 1955, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5,040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ANNE E. BOULDEN .. Treble	†ROBIN A. HODGSON .. 5
*STEPHEN J. BOULDEN .. 2	JOHN R. COOPER 6
†ALAN J. HICKS 3	†MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. 7
†DAVID HODGSON 4	‡A. LEWIS TERRY Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD.

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal 'inside.' † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Aug. 3, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF EMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY .. Treble	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN .. 5
E. ROGER MARTIN 2	RONALD KENRICK 6
ARTHUR G. MASON 3	JACK ASHCROFT 7
CYRIL CROSTHWAITE .. 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

BRECON.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 6, 1955, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Pritchard's.	Tenor 18 cwt.
J. ARTHUR HOARE .. Treble	JOHN ALSOP 5
EDMUND MORRIS 2	TREVOR M. RODERICK .. 6
*ALAN EVANS 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 7
ALFRED HANNINGTON .. 4	GWYN I. LEWIS Tenor

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

* First peal of Major.

Rung during Her Majesty the Queen's visit to Brecon.

ST. DAVID'S, PEMBROKES.—On Aug. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Osborne 1, T. Griffiths 2, E. Williams 3, J. Webb 4, C. Hawkins 5, W. L. Williams (first of Triples) 6, G. Thomas (cond.) 7, L. Curtis 8. Rung for the occasion of H.M. the Queen's visit to St. David's Cathedral.

SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 6, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5,040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 26 lb.

MRS. A. D. SAYER .. Treble	ERNEST F. PAYNE 5
MARY C. PAYNE 2	JOHN M. JELLEY 6
ROYSTON WILMORE .. 3	ERNEST MORRIS 7
ARTHUR D. SAYER 4	B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

First peal of Little Bob by all the band except the conductor and on the bells.

Rung for the Feast of the Transfiguration.

WEST MALLING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 8, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5120 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Treble	BENJAMIN F. BAKER 5
LEONARD MANNERING .. 2	WILLIAM R. MANSEY .. 6
PETER CARTER 3	FRANK P. WRIGHT 7
E. S. JOHN HATCHER .. 4	REGINALD L. SILLS .. Tenor

Composed by J. PAGET.

Conducted by REGINALD L. SILLS.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Peter C. Wright and Kathleen Higgins, who were married at Bradford Cathedral on the previous Saturday.

HARROW WEALD, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Aug. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5024 WHITWICK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb. in A.

W. NORMAN GENNA .. Treble	H. GEORGE HART 5
PHYLLIS M. MAYNE .. 2	ALICK CUTLER 6
ELSIE K. FULTON 3	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. 7
PETER D. BEEDIE 4	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Composed by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

First peal in the method on the bells and by all the band except the ringers of the 6th and 7th.

HIGHER WALTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Preston Branch.)

On Wed., Aug. 10, 1955, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16½ cwt.

PHILIP DUNDERDALE .. Treble	JOHN R. NASH 5
*E. ROGER MARTIN 2	G. ALEC DIMMOCK 6
FRANK STEAD 3	W. KENNETH MARTIN .. 7
THOMAS BARKER 4	†CYRIL CROSTHWAITE .. Tenor

Composed by DENIS KNOX.

Conducted by E. ROGER MARTIN.

* 200th peal. † 100th peal.

Rung as a golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. A. Tomlinson, of Blackburn.

SILSOE, BEDS.—On July 31st, 1,260 Minor (720 Kent Treble Bob, 540 Plain Bob): Miss P. Oakshott 1, W. J. Ridgman 2, D. R. Brazier 3, T. P. Harris 4, J. F. Olney 5, S. J. Ivin (cond.) 6. Rung in the octave of St. James, patron saint of this church.

WARSOP, NOTTS.—On July 31st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Nancy Willcox 1, H. Prout 2, Doris Marshall 3, F. Flint 4, D. H. Rooke 5, H. T. Rooke (cond.) 6. Rung for Evensong. Miss N. Willcox is a grand-daughter of Mr. H. Prout.



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FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

PARRAMATTA, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA.
THE NEW SOUTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., May 1, 1955, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 17 methods, comprising one extent each of St. Simon's, St. Martin's, Eynshore, St. Leonard's, St. Peter's, Cossington, Winchenden Place, St. Nicholas' and St. Columba; two extents each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Clifford Pleasure; three extents of Southrepps Pleasure; four extents of Plain Bob, Old, April Day and Norfolk; and ten extents of Grandsire; all callings different. Tenor 10 cwt.

EDMUND J. FOWELL Treble	G. KENNETH STACEY 4
WILLIAM ROWE 2	THOMAS W. GOODYER 5
*RICHARD BAILEY 3	ROBERT FERRIS Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS W. GOODYER.

* First peal. Greatest number of methods yet rung in a peal for the Association.

Rung for the 60th anniversary of the induction of the Rev. Mr. Walker, Rector of All Saints'.

WELLINGTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 23, 1955, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores. Treble	CHARLES PHILLIPS 4
ALLEN COLCOMBE 2	AUBREY J. PROBERT 5
LESLIE H. COLCOMBE 3	RICHARD A. COLCOMBE .. Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD G. POWELL.

BETHERSDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Thurs., July 28, 1955, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising two extents each of Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Bob and one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM C. MARSHALL .. Treble	MARK W. MARSHALL .. 4
JOHN R. COOPER 2	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. 5
WILFRED W. RING 3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mrs. R. O. Ring, mother of Wilfred W. Ring.

BRANSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in nine methods, viz.: (1) London Scholars' Pleasure, (2) College Exercise, (3) Kent and Oxford T.B., (4) Norwich Surprise, (5) Bourne Surprise, (6) Single Oxford and Plain Bob, (7) Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in F.

GERALD T. SPEED .. Treble	JOHN F. PEARSON 4
BERTIE BEE 2	LOUIS WILLIERS 5
AMOS INGALL 3	JOHN E. COOK Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. COOK.

Rung on the wedding anniversary of the ringers of the fifth, who was married at the above church.

EAST FARLEIGH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 30, 1955, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Treble	† L. MAYNARD 4
* CAROL BUCKINGHAM .. Treble	† R. HARRIS 5
† R. RAYFIELD 2	S. HAYZELDEN Tenor
† J. HARRIS 3	

Conducted by S. HAYZELDEN.

* First peal, † First peal of Minor. ‡ First peal of Minor 'inside'. First peal of Minor as conductor.

CUMNOR, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 1, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being ten extents of Bob Doubles and 32 of Grandsire. Tenor 14 cwt.	
DAVID C. WOODWARD .. Treble	VERNON GREEN 4
* CHRISTINE M. WOODWARD .. 2	ALEC GAMMON 5
* ROY H. JONES 3	MALCOLM JOURNEAUX .. Tenor

Conducted by ALEC GAMMON.

* First peal. First peal in two methods by all.

NORTON ST. PHILIP, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 1, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 14 Plain Bob and 28 Grandsire, 14 callings, Tenor 11 cwt.	
* DAVID T. ROBERTSON .. Treble	W. JOHN PHIPPEN 4
EDWARD F. CONNACK 2	ERNEST E. BRAY 5
EUNICE D. OVEREND 3	CHARLES PEARCE Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST E. BRAY.

* First peal.

COGENHOE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Aug. 2, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being three extents each of Old Bob, Plain Bob, Kennington, April Day, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Southrepps, St. Columba, Clifford's Pleasure, Grandsire, Northrepps, Fortune, Reverse St. Bartholomew, London Single and All Saints'. Tenor 8½ cwt.

* JOHN VEARS Treble	GEORGE F. ROOME 4
NORMAN LINE 2	ALLAN R. JONES 5
REX LINE 3	ROLAND JONES Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. ROOME.

* First peal. First peal in fourteen methods for all the band.

A 15th birthday compliment to Allan R. Jones.

LONG BUCKBY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Aug. 2, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being two 120's of St. Simon's and 10 120's each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb. in E.

* DAVID J. WRIGHT .. Treble	ERNEST G. ORLAND 3
DAWN V. ELSON 2	MICHAEL F. AMOS 4

VICTOR A. PERRY Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST G. ORLAND.

* First peal.

Rung as a golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. C. Green.

FLITTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Aug. 4, 1955, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of Westminster, Netherseale, Norwich, York, Ipswich, Bourne and Cambridge. Tenor 6½ cwt.

C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. Treble	RONALD J. SHARP 4
C. HENRY HARDING 2	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 5
JOHN W. SINFIELD 3	STEPHEN IVIN Tenor

Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to H.M. the Queen Mother.

BOXLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 6, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

STANLEY A. HAYZELDEN .. Treble	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE .. 4
WILLIAM R. MANSER 2	WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT .. 5
* LUTHER J. HONEST 3	CHARLES E. J. NORRIS .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT.

* 250th peal.

This peal was specially arranged to mark the 50th year's membership of the Kent County Association of Mr. W. C. Gosling, and also captain of Boxley band for 30 years.

WILEY, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 6, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 5½ cwt.

* JOYCE B. WHITE .. Treble	ALFRED S. BAYLEY 3
LEO EVANS 2	† ALAN V. EDWARDS 4

JOSEPH L. STANIER Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED S. BAYLEY.

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

Rung in honour of the 21st birthday of the Hon. Juliet Forester, daughter of Lord and Lady Forester, of Willey Park.

QUARTER PEALS

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On July 31st, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: H. Wingrove (cond.) 1, Sheila Parker 2, Kathleen Fletcher 3, Dorothy Fletcher 4, R. Buckland 5, D. Lamb 6, J. Harrison 7, J. Daniels 8. First quarter of Major for the ringer of the 2nd.

BEDFORD.—On Aug. 1st, at the Church of St. Paul, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Ann Fundrey 1, P. J. Shipton 2, D. E. A. Houghton 3, J. B. Long 4, J. S. Mason 5, S. Foskett 6, C. E. Jeffries (cond.) 7, D. Thompson 8. First quarter on eight for 1 and 3. Rung in honour of the 60th anniversary of the tenor's first peal (then aged 17).

CHARLYNCH, SOMERSET.—On Aug. 1st, 1,260 Reverse Canterbury Doubles: C. Stevens 1, D. Miller 2, M. Stone 3, C. Clarke (cond.) 4, R. Short 5. First in the method by 1, 2 and 3. First in the method as conductor. Believed first quarter on the bells.

DORCHESTER, OXON.—On July 31st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. Francis 1, I. H. Oram 2, Miss J. M. Powell 3, J. L. Morris 4, W. L. Weller 5, S. J. Harding 6, F. W. Burnett (cond.) 7, E. W. Keys 8.

GOLDINGTON, BEDS.—On July 31st, at the Church of St. Mary, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Blick 1, L. Duffield 2, P. J. Shipton 3, Ann Fundrey 4, D. E. A. Houghton (first of Minor as cond.) 5, J. B. Long 6.

GRAFTON UNDERWOOD, NORTHANTS.—On Aug. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. G. Toseland 1, Miss M. Arkinstall 2, C. H. Harding 3, P. I. Chapman 4, S. J. Ivin (cond.) 5. Rung on the octave day of St. James, patron saint of this church.

HEADINGTON, OXON.—On July 28th, 1,260 Doubles (an extent each of Reverse St. Bartholomew, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, April Day, Old, Norfolk, Southrepps, Clifford Pleasure, Grandsire and 240 Plain Bob): D. Woodward 1, Christine Woodward 2, M. Journeaux 3, V. Green 4, T. Smith (cond.) 5. First in nine methods for 1, 2 and 3.

HEREFORD.—On July 27th, at the Cathedral, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Miss R. Jarrett 1, Miss M. Tilbury 2, Mrs. E. Chandler 3, P. G. Morgan 4, W. F. Moreton 5, L. Evans 6, R. T. Jones 7, J. J. Webb 8, A. W. Davis (cond.) 9, W. Gittens 10. First quarter of Caters for 1, 2, 3, 4 and 10. Rung for the weddings in the Cathedral of Miss Rosemary Longworth, daughter of the Bishop of Hereford, and Miss Sarah Burrows, daughter of the Dean of Hereford.

HUNGERFORD, BERKS.—On Aug. 9th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: Gillian E. Brown 1, Patricia A. Gaunt 2, M. H. Maisey 3, J. E. Daniels 4, F. Tuffley 5, C. J. Castell 6, G. K. Dodd 7, H. P. Reed (cond.) 8. First quarter of Kent for 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6. Rung for the patronal festival of St. Lawrence.

HUNTINGDON.—At All Saints' Church, on Aug. 7th, 1,440 Norwich Surprise Minor: Miss B. Spicer 1, J. R. G. Spicer 2, G. D. Whitehead 3, M. J. Dyer 4, H. S. Peacock 5, S. Gilbert (cond.) 6. For morning service.

LAMBETH, S.E.—At St. Mary's Church, on July 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: N. G. Hollingworth 1, T. H. Taffender 2, W. D. Grainger 3, L. W. Bullock 4, F. R. L. Blewer 5, C. W. Ottley 6, E. D. Smith (cond.) 7, J. Harrold (first quarter) 8. Rung for Evensong, and also birthday compliments to Janet and Andrew, daughter and son of the ringer of the 4th.

LEWKNOR, OXON.—On Aug. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles: W. Fulker 1, J. Godman 2, F. Godden 3, R. Tuckwell 4, F. Absolom (cond.) 5, E. Morris 6. Rung half-muffled in respect and memory of Walter George Smith (younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Smith, of Lewknor, Oxon), who died on August 5th as a result of a motor-cycle accident at Bicester.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.—On Aug. 9th, at the Church of St. Michael, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. Machin 1, J. Henshaw 2, S. Pickford 3, V. Norbury 4, H. Lonyon 5, H. Lomas 6, F. Yates (cond.) 7, G. Morledge 8. Rung for the 21st birthday of the treble ringer.

NORTH PETHERWIN, CORNWALL.—On Aug. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. J. Rich 1, W. C. Boucher 2, C. Sangwin (cond.) 3, H. Stacey 4, J. Rich 5, A. J. H. Sandy (first quarter) 6. A wedding compliment to the ringers of 1 and 5.

NORTH RAUCEBY, Lincs.—On Aug. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Virden 1, D. Mettam 2, P. Harris 3, W. Weston 4, H. Cloxton (cond.) 5. First quarter for 1 and 3. Rung for the wedding that day of Mr. Bill Tomlinson and Miss Anne Roberts, daughter of the Vicar (the Rev. C. D. Roberts) and Mrs. Roberts.

RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.—On July 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Eley 1, W. Ward 2, A. Reed 3, P. Coward 4, E. J. Blower 5, G. Blower 6, A. J. House (cond.) 7, D. Hockley 8. Rung for evening service.

RICHMOND, SURREY.—On Aug. 6th, at the Church of St. Mary Magdeline, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: J. D. Rock 1, R. G. Lay 2, Gillian Neal Smith 3, Dr. D. J. Neal Smith 4, G. W. Morris 5, W. Coles 6, F. Price 7, T. Price (cond.) 8. First of Bob Major for 3 and 4. First quarter on the bells for at least 25 years. Rung to commemorate the 97th dedication festival of the daughter Church of St. Matthias, Richmond, which took place the next day.

WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYS.—On Aug. 3rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: C. Williams, sen., 1, J. Gordon 2, C. Williams, jun., 3, A. Davis 4, G. Simister (cond.) 5, N. Davies 6. First quarter in the method by all the band.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On Aug. 7th, 1,260 Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering, 360 Plain Bob and 900 Grandsire): Susan Jacobs 1, J. Tomsett 2, P. Devenish 3, M. Sinden 4, F. Corfield (cond.) 5, E. Jacobs 6, A. Bishop 7, Margaret Ward 8. Rung to celebrate the arrival of Alan Jeremy Sinden.



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MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD ON TOUR

A Racy Story of Adventures in the South Midlands

IN the early evening of Monday, July 11th, 13 members of the Manchester University Guild assembled at Badby Youth Hostel, near Daventry. Although this was the official start of the tour, several members cycled together from Manchester, staying at Rudyard Lake Hostel and Lichfield. We were made very welcome at St. Mary's, Lichfield, where we rang for Evening-song. On arriving at Badby the party was completed by the arrival of one member and a guest from London University Guild. The inevitable practice night occurred on Monday 'only a mile or two away' and the whole party cycled to Weedon Bec, where we were made to feel at home. The distance proved to be six miles.

On Tuesday, July 12th, the tour got off to a good start both with ringing and with the weather, which was hot and continued to be so for the duration of the tour. The towers visited before lunch were Staverton (6) and Southam (8). After lunch, with frequent stops for tea and ice cream, we continued to Whitnash (6), where we had the last ring of the day. Here we were joined by an old member of the Guild, now doing National Service, who came down by car to be with us for a few days. From Whitnash it was full speed to Leamington Spa and the first stop was a cafe. The night was spent at Leamington Hostel. All the party spent the evening rowing (?) on the river. One expert spent half an hour in drying his trousers.

INTERVIEWED!

Wednesday was started in fine style. Whilst ringing at All Saints', Leamington, we were visited by a newspaper reporter. Several of us tried the Spa water and came to the conclusion that we would rather bathe in it than drink it. The second tower was St. Mary's, Warwick, where we had some fairly good ringing on the ten bells. We made a six miles dash from Warwick to Sherborne, where we had lunch before ringing the six bells of the private church. The last ring of the day was at Smitherfield (6) and after the usual stop for tea we felt fit to ring and proceeded to enjoy ourselves for an hour. A five mile ride brought us to Stratford Youth Hostel, which was like a luxury hotel compared with the small hostels previously encountered. Another pleasant evening was spent on the river and everyone remained dry.

Thursday started well with some good striking on the ten bells at Holy Trinity, Stratford-on-Avon. After partaking of the by now customary ice cream the party proceeded to Mickleton (8) and rang there, after which the usual lunch of cheese and tomato was consumed. A seven mile ride in almost unbearable heat brought us to Blockley (8) followed by Moreton-in-Marsh a further five miles on. The eight bells here were very rough and the ropes were badly placed. One gentleman went to sleep outside, and when he woke up and heard the bells he stayed outside!

After the usual adjournment to the nearest cafe we proceeded to Stow-on-the-Wold only to find that two of our party had been to the Hostel and had a wash, and still got to the church before us. Some good striking was heard on the heavy eight here, and after ringing for one hour we went round the corner to the Youth Hostel and got ready for our evening meal. Our National Service friend left us and returned home at this point, and the following morning another member left us in order to attend his annual T.A. camp.

THE WRONG LYNHAM

After saying goodbye to the departing member on Friday we proceeded to Bledington (6), where we found the bells were off key. The next tower, Kingham (8), proved much better, with the bells of good tone. Lynham provided a puzzle as we couldn't find the church. After doing a little quizzing we discovered that it was Lynham in Wiltshire, 50 miles away, which had bells. The Ringing Master, full of apologies, decided to cycle on to Churchill, the next village, to see if we could have use of the bells. We had lunch at Churchill and sampled the local cider, then asked the Vicar about the bells. We were given permission to ring and found them to be quite a nice six. A cafe in Chipping Norton was the next stop, followed by the Parish Church, where one of the local ringers joined us.

The last tower before reaching the Hostel was Spelsbury (6), which we found after fighting our way through a herd of cows. The six ropes here are hung in one corner with three ropes in a straight line. Charlbury was the Hostel for the night and after our evening meal we went to ring on the six bells at the church. Several local ringers joined us and we were welcomed by the Vicar. After ringing we all went to sample the local cider.

Saturday was a full day. In the morning Stonefield and Yarnton were visited. Unfortunately a rope broke at Yarnton which caused some delay. Lunch was had on the river bank in Oxford, where another member of the Guild joined us for the final week of the tour. Advantage was taken of the Oxford Guild Festival to ring in the many towers available. Saturday and Sunday were spent at Oxford Youth Hostel and the whole party rang at the Cathedral on Sunday morning.

WARDEN WANTED A FRESH TUNE

On Monday we entered a new county as all four towers were in Berkshire. Cumnor (6) was quite fair, and Appleton (a light ten) provided us with some amusement. After ringing we had our lunch and then proceeded in ones and twos to Buckland (8) where two of the party made themselves conspicuous by their late arrival. The last tower of the day was Faringdon (8) but before ringing we went to a snack bar for a drink of coffee. Whilst ringing at Faringdon we had the only rain of the tour, which lasted for five minutes. The bells were dropped at 5.45 p.m. and we all listened to the hymn tune played at 6 p.m. A seven mile dash along fairly flat roads brought us to Inglesham Hostel. After listening to tune ringing on the handbells for two hours the warden asked for a fresh tune! By the end of the evening, however, the grand total of six tunes had been mastered!

Tuesday was cold until about 10 a.m. but warm later. Lechlade's six were fairly good but we had difficulty in persuading six people to enter the tower together. We put it down to

the heat or something (the emphasis being on something). The second tower was Fairford (8), where we rang from the choir stalls. We had lunch in a private park. A large apple pie was provided for one gentleman who had a birthday. The towers for the afternoon were Meysey Hampton and Cirencester. The six bells at Meysey Hampton were spoiled by the fifth, which had a poor tone. The 12 bells at Cirencester were got going after we had quenched our thirst in a cafe, but since we were only 13 in number we rang rounds and call changes only on all 12. From here we had a hard eight-mile ride to the Hostel at Duntisborne Abbots. During supper a birthday cake was carried in and proved to be a great surprise for everyone. It was duly presented to the gentleman concerned and all the candles were blown out. Everyone then got a small fragment of cream sandwich.

FOOD POISONING

During the night three male members of the party suffered from food poisoning and were sick. The dormitory was like a race meeting with three people running backwards and forwards to the washroom!

Wednesday, the last day of the tour, was spoiled to a certain extent by the sickness. Codine tablets settled the trouble but induced a tendency to sleep at the wrong time. The bells at the first tower, Cowley, proved to be unringable so we continued on our way to Chaston Kings (8), where we found the bells difficult to keep up. At St. Mary's, Cheltenham, after lunch, we were joined by one or two local ringers. Our London University friend then left us; he had proved invaluable during the course of the tour. The last tower before reaching the Hostel was Prestbury (8), where a somewhat sleepy band of ringers had a difficult job in trying to ring and keep their eyes open at the same time. The hostel for the night was at Cleeve Hill and was reached after a long climb up a one in four hill. After our evening meal we all went to Bishop's Cleeve, where the best ringing of the tour was heard. Several of the local ringers were present and an excellent touch of Stedman was brought round.

Thursday morning was rather sad as we all went our separate ways. All but four went by train, three cycled to Birmingham and then got a lift to Manchester, while the one left (who surprised us all by buying a comb for himself the previous day) went to Tewkesbury!

Methods rung were:—Plain Bob Doubles, Minor, Major, Royal and Maximus. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Triples, Caters and Cinques, St. Simon's Doubles and April Day, Kent and Oxford Minor and Major (and the two spliced), Cambridge Surprise Minor, Cambridge, Yorkshire, Bristol and Superlative Surprise Major, Little Bob Major and Royal, Double Norwich and the following Minor methods: Single Oxford, Double Oxford, Double Court, Double Bob, London and York Surprise.

May we express our gratitude to all the clergy, local ringers and Youth Hostel Association wardens who aided us in making our tour a great success. Also on behalf of all the members of our party we say thank you to Misses C. Anne Muirhead and Ruth M. Jackson for the excellent way in which they organised the tour. Thanks also to the Ringing Master, Mr. Brian A. Tomlinson, for keeping us at it all the time. We also thank all the visitors who came with us on our tour and helped to make it such a great success.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD

Combined practices are being held during the summer in central eight-bell towers, organised by the Ringing Master, Mr. D. Burnett. On August 6th the practice began at St. Austell, which has the finest-toned eight in Cornwall. It was attended by members of many Cornish towers including the president, Mr. A. Carveth, and a few visitors.

After an hour's ringing the party moved to the tower of St. Stephen-in-Brannel, where they were met by the Rector (Canon Gilbert), and ringing continued for nearly two hours. Everyone was given a chance to ring and to attempt methods they cannot practise in their home towers. A well-struck extent of Grandsire Doubles was struck by the Crantock band with the assistance of some of the visitors, and there were also touches of Minor, Triples and Major methods.

These practices have been most successful and are a great help in advancing change ringing in the Guild. W. H. R. T.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—A. J. Hinde 8s.; Anon 2s.

Peals.—Norton St. Philip 3s.; Boxley 3s.; Brecon 4s.; Wellington 2s. 6d.; Ashford 4s. 6d.; Cumnor 2s. 6d.

Quarter Peals.—Ramsbury 3s.; Hereford 2s. 6d.; Welshpool 2s. 6d.; Bulkington 2s.; North Petherwin 3s.; Wimbeldon 2s. 6d.; Rayleigh 3s.; North Rauceby 2s.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS**North-West Branch at Holsworthy**

The summer meeting of the N.W. Branch took place at Holsworthy on August 6th, when some 40 members and friends, including the president, Prebendary E. V. Cox and many ringers on holiday, spent a happy afternoon with the fine ring of bells. A short service was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Knight, and the Rector (the Rev. A. Warne), who also presided at the organ, gave all a hearty welcome in his inspiring address.

After tea, Mr. F. C. Smale presided at the short business meeting. One non-resident member—Mr. Elliott, of Kelvedon, Essex—was elected. The company stood in silence to the memory of the late chairman, the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill, who for many years had filled that office.

The Rector and Mr. Knight were thanked for their services and the use of the bells. Ringing continued till eight in the evening and the standard methods were practised. F. C. S.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD**Devizes Branch**

The August meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at Great Cheverell on the 6th inst., some 35 members and friends attending, including a number of visitors. The ringers were the guests of Sir C. Chitham for tea, for which thanks were expressed.

After tea Erlestoke tower was open for ringing and was visited by some members. Ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge.

S. C.

AN EVENTFUL SOMERSET BANK HOLIDAY

Seven Somerset ringers from West Buckland, North Petherton and Wembbdon got together at short notice for what proved to be a very eventful day.

Goathurst was visited first where the aim and achievement was some good courses of Cambridge Minor. For our efforts we were offered some excellent cider!

Next came Charlynch, where we rang, we believe, the first quarter on this very rough five. During this, coloured movie shots were taken by Mr. David Callander, of Guelph, Ontario. Mr. and Mrs. Callander are staying with friends at Charlynch House, and are friends and neighbours of Mr. Arnold Summer-ville, carillonneur of St. George's Parish, Guelph, who succeeded Mr. Robert Donnell, present carillonneur of the Peace Tower, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa.

Mr. Callander then took more shots of the ringers, of the bells in action, and of the view from the top of the tower, and requested that a copy of 'The Ringing World' recording the quarter peal be sent to him in Canada.

Before we left, a black kitten came into the tower, but this did not prove to be a lucky omen for two of the party who were joining in a peal attempt at Nempnett Thruwell. (There is such a place and the tower is extremely difficult to find!)

Later we rejoined forces at Holcombe Rogus (Devon) for over an hour's good ringing. This was followed by refreshments and handbell ringing (not so successful) at the home of the West Buckland section of the party. R. S.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

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A wonderful handbell feat was recently performed by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bray and Mr. G. E. Feirn. On August 8th they rang a handbell peal in 106 Minor methods, thus surpassing the peal of 105 methods rung by them 'in hand' in June, 1947, and also rung on tower bells by the Leicestershire band at Copt Oak. Congratulations!

Over 70 bell founders are represented in the 2,000 bells in Essex. About nine per cent. are pre-Reformation, some dating back to the 14th century or earlier.

Best wishes from his many ringing friends to Mr. C. Green and his wife, of Long Buckby, Northants, on the occasion of their golden wedding. The peal at Long Buckby on August 2nd paid due tribute to the oldest member of the local company on this happy occasion.

Mainly through the energy and drive of the Rev. Gilbert Thurlow, the bells of St. George's, Colegate, Bristol, were augmented and hung as a ringing peal. It was appropriate that a peal should be rung at this church in honour of his wedding to Miss Thelda Hook.

The 60th anniversary peal of the first peal at Newcastle-under-Lyme, rung on July 29th and recorded in our last issue, one of Holt's ten-part Grandsire Triples, was the same composition of the peal rung on July 29th, 1895. The first peal was conducted by Mr. H. Page, and it was his son, Mr. C. H. Page, of Stoke-on-Trent, who conducted the anniversary peal. The other members of the band were of the regular Sunday service band at Newcastle-under-Lyme. The jubilee peal was the first on the bells since they were lowered and rehung in a new frame by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd. Mr. Page was warmly congratulated and thanked by the band at the conclusion of the peal.

BELFRY GOSSIP

At a meeting of the General Committee of the Leicester Diocesan Guild held on Thursday, August 11th, it was unanimously decided that the invitation of the Guild to the Central Council to hold its 1956 meeting at Leicester should stand. The vice-presidents, Messrs. Paul L. Taylor and E. C. Turner, are proceeding with arrangements for the meeting.

Ringing takes place at Woburn Abbey at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Sundays. Visitors will be welcome.

Mr. E. Alexander Young, who is now past 90 years of age, read the lesson when the Lewisham District of the Kent County Association held their meeting at Farningham.

After the peal at West Malling for the wedding of Peter C. Wright and Kathleen Higgins the ringers were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. P. Wright, parents of the bridegroom.

The peal at Higher Walton was a golden wedding compliment to one of the Lancashire Association's best servants, Mr. Arthur Tomlinson, who was ringing secretary for many years and vice-president and is still a Central Council representative. Throughout his ringing life he has been a conscientious service ringer. May he and his wife live long to enjoy their retirement.

The Melton Mowbray District of the Leicester Diocesan Guild welcomes as residents to Melton Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Staniforth. Mr. Staniforth (Peter's younger brother) is well known as a ringer in Leicestershire. He has been teaching in Melton for the past year, and now his wife has taken up a teaching appointment in the town. They were married at York at Easter time and Mrs. Staniforth has now relinquished an appointment at Wetherby, Yorkshire.

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OUT AND ABOUT IN NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE

By EWART H. EDGE

(Continued from page 506)

BROUGHTON HALL

RETRACING one's steps along the main Market Drayton-Newcastle Road, a right-hand fork at the Loggerheads turns away towards Eccleshall, running through thickly wooded country. On the left of the road is the beautiful half-timbered Broughton Hall, with its small but equally fine church opposite, originally the chapel to the hall. It is an excellent example of native architecture and among its special treasures are its stained glass, some of Flemish origin brought back by the Delves, returning from Continental wars, some ancient heraldic glass from the now ruined Doddington Castle, and its font built into the west side of the north-east pillar supporting the tower. There are eight bells (tenor 15 cwt.), being augmented from a six, which bear the inscription: 'Pietatis ergo Sr. B: Broughton Bart, 1720.' The bells go and sound extremely well and despite the isolation of the tower (there is no village of Broughton) are rung to methods every Sunday by an enthusiastic band drawn from several miles around.

Standon is a hamlet four miles east of Broughton. The partly-Norman Church has five bells, now unringable. Of the older bells, one (undated) bears the inscription: 'Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis,' and another bears the mark of William Bagley, of Chacombe, 1674.

Swynnerton, home of the Fitzherberts, Lords of Stafford, is quite close too. The church is partly Norman. The ringing chamber is reached by a flight of wooden steps and a trap-door, and for ventilation an unguarded door opens into space high up in the nave wall. John Rudhall cast the six bells (tenor 9 cwt.) at 'Gloicester' in 1812.

RUDHALL BELLS AT ECCLESHALL

Eccleshall, five miles south of Swynnerton, to-day a quiet market town, was for many centuries the home of the Bishops of Lichfield, several of whom are buried here. In keeping with its importance the church is magnificent, both in its proportions and workmanship. Particularly notable is a modern oak chapel reredos and screens. The tower is 100 feet high and its lower stages contain both Saxon and Norman work. The doorway to the tower staircase is approached by a semi-circular flight of steps outside the west end. Four of the six bells (tenor 11 cwt.) are by Rudhall in 1710, and the treble came from the same foundry in 1735. John Taylor and Co. added the second in 1873 and rehung the bells in 1954. The tenor is marked with the names of the churchwardens in office in 1710, when the bells were installed, and among them is one J. Pickstock. The present captain of ringers is of the same name.

It is not far from Eccleshall to Stone, birthplace of John Jervis, Earl St. Vincent, who is buried here, Richard Barnfield, a poet, contemporary and acquaintance of William Shakespeare, and of Peter de Wint, the landscape painter. The present church dates from 1750, being built on the site of the old Priory Church. Six of the eight bells (tenor 12 cwt.)

are older than the present building, being cast in 1710 by Abraham Rudhall and may have come from the old church. The inscription on the treble reads: 'When you mee ring Ile sweetly sing,' and the fifth: 'God save queen Ann and the church of England as by law established.' These were augmented in the last century. The rope circle runs anti-clockwise.

Between Stone and the Potteries the land rises to Barlaston Downs and the pleasant village built round its Green. The church is some distance from the Green and at the end of an avenue of 'immemorial elms' beside the 18th century hall. The small, low tower rises hardly a full storey above the nave roof. Ringing is done from the ground floor and in full view of the congregation through a fine arch which reaches to the nave roof. A lych-

Hinton Bells have been heard in the Seven Seas

The bells of St. Peter's, Hinton-on-the-Green, Worcs, have something in common with the famous bells of Bow, in that they have been heard and cherished in the farthest corners of the earth.

Just back from a foreign commission is the heavy cruiser H.M.S. 'Birmingham.'

Every Sunday morning before Divisions, the bells of Hinton, from a tape recording of Stedman Triples by the Sunday service band, rang out in every part of the ship and over the waters in many harbours into the earshot of peoples of different colours and tongues.

From Kure in Japan to Lourenço Marques in Portuguese East Africa, from Diego Suarez in French Madagascar to Manus and the other Admiralty Islands of the South Pacific, the 'Birmingham' pealed out the bells of Hinton-on-the-Green.

And at sea, too, across 41,000 miles of the Indian Ocean and the South Atlantic, the Sea of Japan and the English Channel, the authentic voice of a little church in the heart of England was heard by all who passed by, calling them to prayer.

The chaplain of the 'Birmingham' during her last commission was the Rev. J. O. C. Champion, R.N., whose father, the Rev. F. C. Champion, is the rector of Hinton-on-the-Green.

gate gives entrance to the churchyard, a memorial to the wife of a former resident in the village, and it is said that a sixth bell was offered as the benefaction but that the effect of the extra metal would have entailed the blocking of part of the archway. Three of the bells are dated 1620, 1638 and 1695 respectively, and these were recast and two tenors added by W. Blews and Sons, of Birmingham, in 1876. They have been rehung since the war by Taylors. The tenor is only six cwt. but the bells are not the easiest to manage owing to the length of unguided rope and the smallness of the circle.

A WARM WELCOME TO VISITORS

This, then, is the area covered by the North Staffordshire Association, but communications are difficult particularly in the isolated moorland districts—it is easier and quicker to travel the 150 miles to London than to cross the 25-odd miles from the Shropshire to the Derbyshire border—and several of the towers are not affiliated. Monthly ringing meetings are held and in this way stimulus and encouragement are brought to different towers each year by the sense of fellowship they engender and the opportunity they offer of advancing one's skill. The Association covers the Archdeaconry of Stoke-on-Trent, but no mention is here made of four other towers with five or more bells within the Archdeaconry—Forton, Gnosall, High Offley and Norbury—since these belong more properly to Central rather than North Staffordshire.

In an area where communications are not easy, it is to be expected that there will be great variations in the standards of ringing, but there are many fine rings of bells to be enjoyed, and any ringers who may visit the district may be sure of being warmly welcomed.

MELTON RINGERS MARRIED AT NOTTINGHAM

Two Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, ringers were married in an inspiring service on Monday, August 8th, at the lovely Church of St. Mary at Nottingham.

The bridegroom was Mr. H. G. Bailey, a native of Scalford, near Melton, and the bride was Miss E. S. Wise, whose home is at Melton. Both have been ringers at Melton for some years.

Nottingham ringers sounded a welcome on their heavy ring of ten as the bride approached the church, and the fully choral service was conducted by Canon Hawkins, Vicar of St. Mary's, assisted by Canon Clarke, Vicar of Melton Mowbray. A Melton ringer, Mr. P. A. Corby, was best man.

As the bridal party left the church the bells pealed out again and were 'fired' several times.

The honeymoon is being spent touring in the south-west and the future home of Mr. and Mrs. Bailey will be at Winsford, Cheshire, where Mr. Bailey is in business, and Mrs. Bailey teaches. They have the very good wishes of the Melton ringers who hope their visits will be frequent. In the meantime Cheshire ringers will have two useful permanent additions to their strength.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

Guildsborough Branch's Gift to Retiring President

The meeting of the Guildsborough Branch at West Haddon on August 6th was the occasion of a presentation to Canon T. W. Long, of an electric table lamp in appreciation of his loyal service as Branch president for 22 years. Canon Long will retire from the living of West Haddon at the end of September.

The holiday month of August prevented several from attending, but members were present from Yelvertoft, Long Buckby, Creaton, Kelmash, Oxendon and West Haddon, with visitors from Northampton, Rugby and Brafield.

It was agreed to hold the next two Branch meetings at Long Buckby on September 3rd, and at Hazelbech on October 10th.

PEAL RINGING IN RUTLANDSHIRE

By The Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

IN the letter from Mr. P. Amos concerning peals in Northants, he also said that several peals in Rutlandshire had never been published. Although this did not make much difference in the larger county, where I had recorded some 2,000-odd peals, if true, it would make a difference in our smallest county, for I have found only just over 100 peals mentioned in the columns of the ringing press. Figures, it should be remembered particularly here, concern peals so published. I shall always be very pleased and grateful to learn of any which have never appeared in print.

A footnote to a peal at Empingham (6) on November 2nd, 1895, says that it is the first in Rutlandshire. I expect that is accurate since it was before the days of the 'quarrels' which caused peals not to be published. There have only been two other peals recorded at this tower—in 1910 and 1933. Actually 16 towers have appeared in the peal columns of 'The Ringing World' and 'Bell News,' and only three of these have reached double figures for numbers of peals.

Oakham (8) has easily the most—33. Three of these were in 1911 and 1912, then there were 15 from 1921 to 1935 and the remaining 15 have come in the last ten years. The only other 8-bell tower is Uppingham. Only six peals have been rung there in the years 1899, 1910, 1930, 1931, 1932 and 1952.

The other two towers with double figures

both have six bells and both have recorded 12 peals. At Belton six were rung from 1911 to 1914 and the remainder from 1920 to 1936. At Langham four were rung between 1901 and 1911, seven from 1920 to 1936 and the final one in 1949. There is room to mention all the towers in the county with bells. Thus, amongst the others with six bells, Exton comes next with nine peals—three from 1896 to 1910 and six from 1935 to 1939. Whissendine has seven—five since the war and the other two in 1914 and 1932.

I have recorded six at Glaston (Mr. Amos mentions this tower specifically as having had an earlier peal than the first published in 1932). The first two were on five bells, the remaining four on the six in 1937, 1939, 1948 and 1952. Cottesmore has five in 1934, 1936, 1950, 1951 and 1954. Greetham and Edith Weston (like Empingham) each have three and all have come since 1951. Ashwell (6) does not appear to have had a peal—none published, at any rate.

Of the fives, seven out of the 12 are still virgin territory as far as 'The Ringing World' peal columns are concerned. They are Great Casterton, Hambleton, Ketton (unringable, I believe), North Luffenham, Lyddington, Preston and Ryhall.

Of those with peals, Market Overton has the most—three—all since 1951. Caldecote's two have likewise been in 1952 and 1953. The

remaining three have one each. They are Barrowden (in 1931), Seaton (1932) and Wing (1931—but a footnote to this says that 'the last peal on these bells was rung in 1903,' so that seems to be another not published).

That appears to be all one can say about the peals in Rutlandshire. As I said above, I should be very grateful for details of peals which have not been published. Perhaps, now that I have mentioned the figures for the different towers, it will enable some sympathetic ringer to compare notes with me about some of them. I hope so. Peal totals include all published up to July 22nd, 1955.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Farnham District at Grayshott

The meeting of the Farnham District at St. Luke's Church, Grayshott, on August 6th can be said to be quite successful. A good number of members turned up during the afternoon and evening and they were able to welcome many visitors to the area.

Mr. E. J. Wells, Ringing Master, was in charge of the ringing. Methods rung ranged from rounds to Superlative.

The ringers' service was conducted by Canon Fielding H. B. Otley. This was followed by tea, served in the Bank House Cafe.

After a very short business meeting Mr. C. W. Denyer, on behalf of the ringers, thanked the Canon for taking the service, and the Grayshott band under their captain, Mr. G. Yarborough, for making the afternoon such a success.

M. A. C.

RINGING BY ROTHERHAM HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS



A unique event took place at Rotherham Parish Church on Tuesday morning, July 19th, when eight girls from Rotherham High School rang the bells to call their 500 colleagues to church to their annual end-of-term service.

A good deal of local interest was focused on the event, which was previously announced by the B.B.C. in their programme 'The Week Ahead.' Photographers from three local newspapers turned up during the ringing.

The girls' ages ranged from 14 to 18 and averaged 15, and their abilities range from rounds to Surprise Minor. Four of the girls are attached to the Parish Church team, three from Thrybergh and one from St. Stephen's.

Six of the girls rang a plain course of Bob Minor, then, assisted by Messrs. F. Fisher, G. Lee and N. Chaddock, touches of Plain Bob and Little Bob Minor were rung on the front six. Ringing concluded with well-struck call

changes on the back eight and on the ten bells the girls ringing on the front seven and the three men on the heavier three bells.

The girls really excelled themselves and received many congratulations from several quarters after this happy and unusual occurrence, which undoubtedly acted as a useful stimulant to their interest.

N. C.

[Photo by courtesy of the 'South Yorkshire and Rotherham Advertiser.']

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LAST PEAL AT ST. DIONIS'

Dear Sir,—The Rev. K. W. H. Felstead is almost certainly correct in supposing that the peal at St. Dionis', Backchurch, in December, 1877, was the last one there. The footnote to the peal in 'Church Bells' (it was 5,200 Kent Treble Bob Royal, conducted by H. W. Haley), says: 'This is the last peal that will be heard from the above tower, as both church and tower are to be taken down in the course of the year.'

The memorial stone to Sir Henry Tulse, both Lord Mayor of London and Master of the College Youths in 1684, is to be found in what remains of St. Dionis' churchyard, and it may be remembered that this was restored by the Society in their tercentenary year. The present senior steward and I located it a year or two ago (not without difficulty—it is in a little courtyard off Lime Street, between Fenchurch and Leadenhall Streets), and we were glad to find the stone in good condition.—Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT

Crayford, Kent.

AN APPEAL FOR CO-OPERATION

Dear Sir,—I feel a letter of congratulation is due to Mr. Amos for his helpful letter in 'The Ringing World' on page 507. The useful information he sends will, no doubt, prove most encouraging to the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead in his researches. I imagine Mr. Amos is now in direct correspondence with Mr. Felstead so that he can tell him which are the five-bell towers which have been conquered.

I am not quite clear why Mr. Amos finds it necessary to condemn the attempt to record all peals. Such records can be of great interest and, if carefully compiled with the co-operation of diligent researchers (such as Mr. Amos), will serve to give a fairly accurate idea of ringing at different times. Old peal records are so easily lost that a permanent record is very necessary.

I can give a good example of the inestimable value of these records. A certain well-known organiser of peal-ringing tours usually tries to arrange to ring the 'first in the method' at each tower. Where, but from Mr. Felstead, can he get accurate information? Thus can progress be made!

Finally, may I presume to remind Mr. Amos that Mr. Felstead's records only claim to be complete in respect of peals published in the various ringing journals. He has never said that any tower was virgin, only that there has been no published peal. Hence it behoves Mr. Amos to pass on his vast supplies of useful information for the good of the Exercise instead of airing it by oblique references. It would be a shame for it to be forgotten with him.—Yours sincerely,

RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

Hampton Wick.

PEAL RINGING IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Dear Sir,—In 'Peal Ringing in Nottinghamshire' ('Ringing World,' July 29th), Thrumpton is mentioned as an eight-bell tower which is still virgin territory but probably Ruddington was meant. Thrumpton is correctly included in the five-bell towers at the end of the article.—Yours sincerely,

C. GLENN.

Nottingham.

FALSE PEAL OF SPLICED CAMBRIDGE, NEW CAMBRIDGE AND SOUTHWELL SURPRISE MAJOR

Dear Sir,—Roger Baldwin's peal of Spliced Cambridge, New Cambridge and Southwell, published on page 445, is false in a few places, due to falseness between New Cambridge and Cambridge or Superlative. This occurs, as in Cambridge, between the first and fifth leads and between the third and sixth leads (f.c.e. 46253), also between the second and sixth leads and between the third and seventh leads (f.c.e. 32546).

For this reason the third lead in each of courses 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 is false against the seventh lead in courses 12, 8, 23, 2, 4, 22, 5, and 6 respectively, the fifth lead in courses 1, 13, 19 and 20 against the first lead in courses 22, 17, 1 and 12 respectively, and the sixth lead in courses 1 and 13 against the third lead in courses 22 and 17, if these leads are rung to Cambridge or Southwell. The falseness can, of course, be remedied by ringing New Cambridge in these leads, but this severely limits the number of leads in which the other two methods may be rung.—Yours sincerely,

JOHN L. MORRIS.

Orpington, Kent.

Dear Sir,—I have checked the composition of Spliced New Cambridge and Southwell and have found Mr. Morris's observations to be correct. I would like to apologise for my oversight in extracting f.c.e.'s and thank Mr. Morris for pointing out the falseness.

This composition will have to be withdrawn, but the calling is still true to Superlative.—Yours sincerely,

ROGER BALDWIN.

Portsmouth.

RINGING DURING SERVICE

Dear Sir,—I have been very interested in the numerous letters that have been received about 'Ringing during Service.' St. Mary's, Rickmansworth, is one of these churches which have a Sung Mass every Sunday morning preceded by Sung Matins. We are thus unable to ring for the 11 a.m. service but we endeavour to ring four times a year for this service in which we have to ring during Matins, these being: Christmas, Easter, Whitsun and Harvest Thanksgiving. We call a band together and approach the Vicar on these occasions, and he has no objection whatsoever.—Yours faithfully,

DOUGLAS C. BARTHOLOMEW

Rickmansworth.

SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Dear Sir,—May I be allowed to warmly congratulate Mr. A. J. Pitman on producing yet another 'masterpiece' in the form of a Spliced Surprise Major composition in seven methods, retaining the standard four, wherein all the bells do all the work of each method.

This achievement marks a new triumph in the advancement of this branch of the art, especially so as the number of methods that can be included on this plan is necessarily limited. Coupled with congratulations must also be thanks for the many hours of patient research that lie behind these highly commendable productions, and I have the greatest possible pleasure in expressing my own.—Yours truly,

L. W. G. MORRIS.

Bradford

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Mr. Fred Williams Leaving Melton Mowbray

Mr. Fred Williams, formerly of Eaton, chairman of the District, has now removed to Blyth, Nottinghamshire, and will be sadly missed by Melton District, where he has been an indefatigable worker for the cause of ringing.

An excellent chairman and a good organiser, Mr. Williams spared no pains in his efforts to attract ringers and friends in an exclusively agricultural area to the meetings and social functions which are always such happy affairs in the District. In particular, Mr. Williams personally organised the annual District dinner at Scalford and these functions were always a very great success.

Apart from his activities for the Diocesan Guild, Mr. Williams is also secretary of the Framland Association, an organisation of ringers in the Framland Deaneries, which was founded 80 years ago at Waltham-on-the-Wolds. Considerable interest was aroused at a meeting of the Association in May this year at Waltham when Mr. Williams had on show a presentation bell on a stand, which had been presented to a former secretary of the Association towards the end of the last century. This bell had been discovered in a secondhand shop far away from the District and Mr. Williams took the initiative in purchasing it for the Framland Association. His action was warmly approved by the members and the bell has since been accepted for safe custody by the Rector of Waltham, having been formally handed over at Evensong by Mr. Williams on behalf of the Association on a subsequent Sunday.

In over 20 years at Eaton, where there is a light ring of six, much good work for the Parish Church has been done by Mr. Williams including a period as secretary of the Parochial Church Council.

Mrs. Williams is also very well known to the ringers of the district and she has usually been with her husband when he has made his frequent visits to other churches to assist in ringing for special services on occasions when local bands have been very glad of outside help and have been much encouraged by the presence and assistance of their Guild chairman.

The Melton District wishes every happiness to its old friends in their new surroundings and hopes that the sadness of parting may be lessened by frequent return visits.

Richmond (Surrey) Have a Quarter After 25 Years

The Church of St. Matthias, Richmond, built as a chapel-of-ease or daughter church of the Parish of Richmond, was designed for a ring of 12 bells, but they were never installed. The commemorative quarter for the 97th dedication festival was, therefore, rung at the Parish Church, and this quarter was the first for at least a quarter of a century, although a peal was rung here about 23 years ago. The ringer of the sixth, Mr. W. Coles, rang in this peal, which was conducted by Mr. J. A. Trollope. Among the band there were two members of the choir of St. Matthias', Dr. G. J. Neal Smith, who is organist of the church, and whose birthday happens to be the same as the dedication festival, and his daughter, Gillian. At least four members of the choir of St. Matthias' are ringers, which must be almost unique for a church without bells.

SCENERY & BELLS—Stories from Outings

ST. AMBROSE, BRISTOL

On July 16th 41 ringers and friends left St. Ambrose, Bristol, for their annual outing. First stop was Monmouth, and whilst the ringers had a pull on the eight bells others took a very welcome cup of coffee. It was here that our party went coach hunting, as the police objected to our shutting out the light from the police station.

Leaving Monmouth somewhat late, our next stop was Abergavenny, where the non-ringing section of our party partook of an excellent lunch and the ringers made good use of the delightful ten bells. After some excellent ringing, including Little Bob Royal, the ringers then hastened to the second lunch sitting, some stopping for the usual!

It was at Abergavenny that we contacted Mr. Stephens, of Ebbw Vale, who promised to guide us to our next tower. Our ringing on the beautiful eight was (as we afterwards found out) the introduction to the annual carnival.

A stop at Pontypool for tea, and then on to Usk for ringing on the lovely eight, and another 'quick one'!

Our last stop was back at Monmouth again for our traditional supper, after which a presentation was made to Mr. F. Skidmore, who had retired from the secretaryship of St. Ambrose Ringing Guild after 28 years' service.

It was nearly midnight when a tired but happy party arrived back in Bristol after a long but enjoyable day. Our thanks are due to incumbents for the use of the bells, and to all others who helped to make this outing successful. J. F. P.

NEWCASTLE AREA

On August Bank Holiday the Northern District of the Durham and Newcastle Association held another very successful outing, this year to four towns or villages at the edge of the Cleveland Hills in North Yorkshire.

A start was made at 9.10 a.m. from Newcastle, the route being through Durham, Sedgfield, Stockton, Stokesley and across the Cleveland Hills to Helmsley. Here we rang at All Saints', with its flat sixth and much swaying tower, the last characteristic making the ringing not up to the standard we would have wished. By then it was time for an excellent lunch in the Yorkshire style at the Crown Hotel. Under low, dark clouds the journey was resumed along the Thirsk road, down Sutton Bank, with its gradient of one in four, to a tiny village about one and a half miles off the main road, called Felixkirk. The Church of St. Felix houses a small German organ, a rarity in this country, and a pretty ring of six (tenor 9 cwt.) and, hidden away under a belfry seat, in a wormeaten box, one of those sets of handbells referred to by C. W. Woolley in a recent leading article, a set of six bells by Warners. However, their tone and condition were good. A variety of methods was rung.

At Thirsk the bells were kept going for 45 minutes in methods up to Double Norwich and by then everybody was ready for tea at Faceby, a 20-mile journey on the northern side of the Cleveland Hills. As the water in this village is cut off at about 6 p.m. every day on account of the long dry spell of weather, it was indeed fortunate that our hostess had laid by a good supply of water to meet our thirsts.

The last tower of the day, and the best bells, were at Carlton-in-Cleveland. Highlights of the ringing on this excellent light eight (tenor 15 cwt.) rung from a gallery, were a course of Yorkshire Surprise Major and a touch of Stedman Triples containing Tittums, Queens and Whittington. After a short adjournment to quench our thirsts we started to wend our way peacefully homeward, but within 20 minutes of leaving Carlton a pellet of paper hit

some unsuspecting maiden's neck and before many minutes had passed, showers of pellets were flying up and down the coach and soon some people started losing shoes. Before we knew where we were we had to start patching up our wounds in readiness to leave the coach, which arrived back in Newcastle at 10 p.m., discharging a very tired but happy cargo.

Thanks are due to Mr. George S. Deas for the excellent way in which he organised this, his first trip as organiser, and especially for discovering two such hospitable hostellers for meals J. A. A.

GAMSTON, NOTTS

It was July 23rd and Gamston outing! At 7.20 a.m. a large coach arrived in Retford Market Place; it had to be large because two 'Lancasters' (although not aircraft) were waiting. Owing to the hot weather one did not have to 'wear' many garments. A 'cook' was also put on board, it was thought he might be useful. Taking the right 'street', the coach set off for the King's Lynn district. Before going far nice fresh 'willows' were put inside to brighten up the coach.

At Gamston a couple of 'pilgrims' were awaiting the pilgrimage, with a fine young 'badger' and a nice 'day.'

At Tuxford a full-grown 'fox' was picked up and put inside for safety. It was at Sutton-on-Trent where the problem of finding room for a 'castle' was overcome—although large, we got her in.

We had a short wait at North Muskham for a 'cop(p)' to get in, but he, being nice, took no names. There was only one more stop before being full, this at Newark, but on opening the door in came 'midwinter,' and we had no 'coat(e)s' with us.

However, all was well, and right away to Long Sutton, a very fine eight; we should have liked to have stayed longer but time did not permit. At Downham Market a broken rope delayed ringing; these bells would be better if they could be heard more distinctly. Magdalen, St. Mary's, was next, with a grand six very much enjoyed. Gaywood (6) was the last tower before tea, and also enjoyed.

St. Margaret's (10), King's Lynn, was the highlight of the day, and touches of Grandsire Caters was the best ringing on this grand ring which is all that can be desired. The last tower of the day was Terrington St. Clement, and ringing ended shortly after 7.30.

Through 'The Ringing World' thanks are given to all the clergy for permission to ring, Mr. E. H. Mastin for his kind assistance, and all the local ringers for a kind welcome.

Although we had a load the coach did not 'reck' one bit, and home was reached at 11 p.m. after 200 miles and a 'day' well spent.

H. D.

MELTON MOWBRAY

On August Bank Holiday Melton Mowbray (Leicestershire) ringers, accompanied by the Rev. E. W. K. Bailey (curate), wives, sweethearts, mothers and other friends visited Higham Ferrers, St. Albans (St. Peter's), Woburn, Olney and Earls Barton. The ringing at Woburn was most appropriate for the 80th birthday of Mrs. Harris, the wife of Mr. H. D. Harris, the well-known Bedfordshire ringer, who celebrated his 80th birthday earlier in the year. He was happy to ring a course of Cambridge with the visitors. Another participant in this course was 'Robbie'—William J. Robinson—lately so well known at Guildford, who has now retired to Bedfordshire and was on a visit to Woburn. A good time was had by all.

HUNTS DISTRICT

Towers in Rutland and North Leicestershire were visited on July 2nd by members of the Hunts District for their annual tour. The coach left St. Neots at 8 a.m. picking up at Brampton, Huntingdon, St. Ives and Yaxley until the full complement of 35 was reached.

A welcome from the Rector was accorded the party at Uppenhams, their first tower, which was reached at 10 a.m., and ringing was enjoyed for an hour. The lively little six at Edith Weston followed and a friendly greeting from the Rector.

After lunch, at Oakham, Mr. S. R. Hoy met the party at the Parish Church and we were delighted with the bells. Crossing into Leicestershire, Mr. Huddleston was waiting at Wyndham. It was here the first mishap occurred, the tenor rope breaking as the bells were being raised. Minor repairs were quickly executed and the bells got going. Nevertheless some of the party found these bells a bit of a handful. Then to tea, a delightful spread, which was quickly despatched. Under the Three Horseshoes sign the party were photographed.

Buckminster, a prettily situated church with a delightful ring of six, provided some good ringing. The last tower of the day was Bottesford, where Mr. Ward welcomed the party, and ringing continued until 8.30 p.m. After a vote of thanks to Mr. H. S. Peacock, tracks were made for home. H. S. P.

OTTERSHAW, SURREY

Ringers and friends of Christ Church, Ottershaw, held their annual outing on June 25th. An early start was made for a tour of Hertfordshire. The first church visited after a run of an hour and a quarter was Abbots Langley, with its unusual ringing chamber. The party then moved on to the charming village of Great Gaddesden, where glorious views of the surrounding country were obtained from the top of the church tower. After a good lunch in a 16th century barn in St. Albans a short visit was paid to the Abbey. Unfortunately time did not permit the tower to be visited.

The route then led via Kimpton and St. Ippolyts (situated high on a hill) to Little Berkhamstead, where tea was taken. The last tower of the day was Aldenham, with its fine ring of eight. To complete the day a short stop was made at Stoke Poges for liquid refreshment.

Several members of local bands joined in the ringing of some of the touches. The ringing this year was not of such high standard as on previous occasions, due mainly to the absence of more experienced ringers.

Thanks are due to the tower secretaries and incumbents who helped to ensure the success of this year's venture. J. R.

Wedding of Mr. Leslie Bournemouth and Miss Bryce

Friendship which started at Leeds University was consummated by the wedding at Torrisholme Ascension Church, Morecambe, Lancs, on August 13th, of Mr. Leslie Bournemouth and Miss Margaret Bryce.

The bridegroom, who was born in Glasgow, is the son of the president of the Scottish Association, and after completing his training at Leeds University recently accepted an appointment in the Manchester area and has been prominent in ringing circles in South Lancashire.

The bride is a native of Lancaster and has done most of her ringing since she left the University at Wakefield, where she held a teaching appointment.

After a honeymoon in North Wales they are to make their home at Hazel Grove, near Stockport.

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS OF THE EXERCISE

The first summer holiday tour by the above (as yet unofficial) Society has at last taken place. Members from Wales, North Bradley, Chippenham, Bristol, Tewkesbury, Swindon, Lancashire and Devon assembled at Keynsham on July 23rd at 9 a.m. and a short service of intercession, was held, conducted by the Vicar, before the start of a ten-day tour of South Devon. Ringing on Saturday continued at Bishop's Lydeard, Rockwell Green (a lovely six), Broadclyst and Clyst Common.

Headquarters for the week was at East Budleigh, where five of the party rang for early service on Sunday, the tenor being 'brought along behind' by Harry Luxton, one of Devon's call change ringers, who is also a member of the Guild.

Morning service was at Littleham with a visit (always a pleasure) to Ottery St. Mary for Evensong.

Monday was spent with a short tour of Clyst St. George, Pinhoe, Topsham, Lymptone and Withercombe Raleigh, but to get full measure we returned to Littleham for an hour in the evening. By this time everyone was getting a nice tan and had had a real taste of the clear blue Atlantic Ocean.

Tuesday was another easy day at Exminster, Powderham, Kingsteignton, where quite a novelty is the stream which runs through the churchyard to work an old waterwheel beyond. The day ended at Dawlish.

Wednesday was perhaps the highlight of the week, and before lunch we had already enjoyed two more of Devon's lovely rings of eight at Chudleigh and Bovey Tracey. At 2.15 p.m. we were at Buckfast Abbey, where we were met and were entertained by Father Oswald Mewan, O.S.B., who also joined us in some rounds. Two and a half hours here seemed a matter of minutes, but before leaving we visited the bell chamber to watch 'Hosannah' being tolled. The slow majestic movement of this giant among bells is truly a sight worth seeing. The day ended at Buckfastleigh.

Thursday was Exeter day; St. Thomas', St. Mark's and St. David's, followed by an hour and a half at the Cathedral and a full evening at Heavitree, where it was a pleasure to renew some old acquaintanceships, including one with a 'younger-than-ever-looking' Mr. Charles Glass.

Friday was a bit of a rush before lunch, and proved once again that if you start out half an hour and ten minutes late you remain late all day. However, we 'got in' Highweek, Ipplepen, Dartmouth (St. Petrox) by lunch time, and, after, St. Clement's and St. Saviour's, followed by an evening at Brixham.

Saturday it was up and over the moors to Moretonhampstead and Plymouth (St. Andrew's and Emmanuel) followed by Plympton (St. Maurice's), while Sunday morning was again a 'local affair' at Sidmouth and Sidbury. Lunch in the Village Hall at East Budleigh was provided by Hawkers, the local caterers, and memories were revived by seeing 'W. E. Pidgeon' on the crockery. The last day 'in residence' ended with visits to Woodbury, Brampford Speke for Evensong, and Upton Pyne.

Monday, the final day, found us at Bath, the dispersal point, after visiting Glastonbury (St. John's and St. Benedict's), Midsomer Norton and Corston. Space (and my 'Devonian modesty') will not allow a full description of the lovely bells we were allowed to ring or the beautiful country through which we passed. To those of you who know Devon, it is unnecessary, anyway. Our best wishes to those members who could not join us, including Enid Lloyd-Roberts in Australia, Bob Stokes in America and Bert Sutton in Yorkshire.

Our grateful thanks, first to Our Father for the glorious weather and health to enjoy it, and then to all incumbents and friends in local ringers who joined us, especially to the Rev. N. F. D. Coleridge, Fred Wreford and Tom Myers for valuable assistance in organising.

We have an afternoon 'do' arranged for September 17th and a full Saturday and Sunday tour for October 8th. C. S.

The Pipeline goes through Melton

Melton Mowbray ringers were standing outside the Crown on a recent Sunday morning enjoying the air when their peace was suddenly disturbed by the passing of a coach at very high speed. As the speeding coach fled by there was a fleeting shout from one of the passengers of 'Hello, Philip!'

Unaccustomed to such excitement, the Melton ringers were slowly collecting their senses when they realised that a car containing the Edwards brothers—Ronald and Ralph—was standing at the kerbside. Evidently they had arrived in the wake of the coach, which it was understood contained Pipe's Pilgrims. There was a rumour abroad that the speed of the coach was due to the fact that it contained a very heavy load; and, in fact, there were stories that a bell of something over a ton in weight was being smuggled from somewhere in East Anglia. This rumour cannot be confirmed, but readers can draw their own conclusions—and smuggling would certainly account for the speed of the coach.

The key to the situation was possibly brought to Melton later in the week when other notable wayfarers—the Locks—passed through the town on their way back home from the dales of Derbyshire. They had news from higher up the pipeline of an uncomplimentary nature to the effect that the Pilgrims thought that some of their old friends were a bit snooty now they have moved to hunting country. There is an answer to that one, of course, but perhaps enough has already been said.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION Lewisham District

All the amenities of an English country village in ideal weather graced the occasion of the quarterly meeting at Farningham.

Ringling during the afternoon, superintended by Mr. H. Hoverd, was followed by the very enjoyable service conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. G. M. Young), who warmly welcomed his congregation in the prelude to his address. The lesson was read by Mr. Alex Young, of Bromley. Mr. Dussex, of Stanstead, kindly acted as organist.

The business meeting followed an al fresco tea at the Lion, Mr. J. Dafters (Lewisham) presiding. Eight ringers were elected into the Association, and the election of two non-resident members was ratified.

Bexley was chosen as the place for the next practice meeting to be held at Saturday, August 27th, and the invitation to visit St. Mary Cray for the annual District meeting, on October 29th, was gratefully accepted.

Cordial votes of thanks to the Vicar, organist and to the local ringers concluded the business.

Further ringing followed under the direction of Mr. P. Brown, Bexley, and the 52 members participating in the meeting had garnered one more memory of a pleasant and successful function.

Norfolk Dedication to be Broadcast

Two new bells were dedicated at Gressenhall Church on August 7th by the Bishop of Norwich in memory of the late Rector, the Rev. Percy Edmund Hall, and his wife, Mrs. Margaret Pollok Hall. Mrs. Hall, who is 81, was in the congregation. The dedication ceremony was filmed and recorded by the B.B.C. and will be included in the Home Service Children's Hour and the Children's Television Newsreel on October 9th. Gressenhall has now a ring of eight bells.

The Bishop, who repeated parts of the ceremony afterwards for the engineers, said in his address that he was glad the B.B.C. had shown the farsightedness to realise that this country parish church was worth putting before vast numbers of viewers and listeners.

'It is a great occasion for people to be on television and broadcast,' he said with a smile. 'You must, quite rightly, feel proud of this publicity. All the same it is not very important. I am glad the vast crowds are not still listening now. We can bring the service back home.'

The Bishop spoke of the high example set by Mr. Hall who was Rector from 1908 to 1953. 'He was the only Rector many of you

had ever known,' he said. 'He was just "the Rector." He was an example of the high tradition of our English Church life which is now not so well kept as in former days, when men of education and position were content to spend their whole life as minister and pastor of one country village.'

'What England owes to such men is quite beyond your powers and mine to compute, but they left an impress on generation after generation of English people and they have been a great factor in making English life and the English way of life what it is.'

After the service, which was attended by a large congregation, the Bishop presented certificates of membership of the Diocesan Association to three Gressenhall bellringers—Mrs. Joyce Callaby, Miss June Nelson and Mr. Roland Fox.

When the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association met at Horsmonden a picnic tea was the order of the day. One member enhanced his popularity by bringing his own kettle. Even those who had brought flasks were observed joining the end of the queue 'just so that none is wasted.'

NEW SOUTH WALES STALWART

The following appreciation of the services to ringing of Mr. William Maldon Rowe, who was recently made a life member of the New South Wales Association of Change Ringers appears in the issue of 'The Ringing Towers' to have this week:—

'It is fitting that the Editorial of this edition of the New South Wales Association of Change Ringers' official organ be devoted to its founder, Bill Rowe. Over a period of 20 years or so he has perhaps done more for the formation of ringing in this State in particular than any other single individual, and for this reason was made an honorary member of the Central Council of Church Bellringers.

'Bill first became interested in ringing in 1933, when he joined St. Jude's tower, Randwick, which was then under the captaincy of Basil Horrocks. At the time Mr. Horrocks was endeavouring to build up that Society, and the ringing consisted mainly of Grandsire Doubles, which was read from cards. A few years later he joined St. Mary's Basilica band, which was under the control of the late Mr. McDonald, sen. There his ringing was advanced to Grandsire Doubles and short touches of Triples.

'During the war, Bill was associated with the English visitors who visited Australia whilst serving with the Royal Navy and this enabled him to receive greater knowledge and experience in his change ringing. It was during his association with one of these men, namely, Alf Williams, that the idea was conceived of incorporating all ringers of the State into one fellowship. In 1946 this suggestion was materialised in the form of the New South Wales Association of Change Ringers, Bill being instrumental in its formation. He was, therefore, a foundation member and became its first secretary, holding this position until his resignation in 1954.

'Whilst holding this position and also that of senior instructor for the Association, he organised and conducted excursions to all towers with ringing bells, city and country, in Australia with the exception of Tasmania and Western Australia. By these visits he has increased the enthusiasm and interest of ringers in this and other States. An example of this was his captaincy of the team which opened the bells of St. Peter's Cathedral, Adelaide, in 1947, and also the organisation of the Victorian tour which sowed the seeds again at Bendigo and at Ballarat, where the bells had not been rung for 37 years. Closer to home he improved the bells at St. Paul's, West Maitland, and with the help of Mr. J. Duncan, was instrumental in St. Clement's, Yass, ringing again.

'At the last annual general meeting of the New South Wales Association of Change Ringers Bill Rowe was made a life member and given full voting rights. In order to confer this distinction upon the man who has given such valuable service for the betterment of good ringing over the years, it was necessary to make a constitutional amendment to this effect, but the decision of the meeting was unanimous.

'It is hoped we may look to Bill Rowe in the future as in the past for his ever-willing guidance.'

In England at the moment is Father John Roche, Parish Priest of St. Benedict's, Broadway, Sydney. St. Benedict's has the only other ringing bells in a Roman Catholic Church in Sydney besides St. Mary's, and so Fr. Roche has a close acquaintance with ringers. He has been recalled temporarily to the Royal Australian Navy to serve as chaplain on board the H.M.A.S. 'Vengeance' and to return to Australia in the new carrier 'Melbourne.' It is hoped that Fr. Roche will meet some English ringers while he is over here.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Ashford District Visit Cheriton After 20 Years

The Church of St. Martin, at Cheriton, was the rendezvous for the Ashford District of the Kent County Association on August 6th for the first time for 20 years. And what a relief after the seething mass of traffic on the roads and in the towns! This delightful church, so beautifully maintained, peeps from its clump of trees over the restful countryside to the sea, as, indeed, it has been doing for more than a thousand years.

Mr. Walter Chandler, the captain of the local band, had made all arrangements for the meeting, with not only the permission of the Rector (the Rev. J. Ellis Robinson), but with his wholehearted co-operation.

Ringing began about 3 p.m. and we had the opportunity to see the progress which Mr. Chandler's team of learners had made. At 4.30 the service was held, the Rector officiating, whilst Mr. Chandler was at the organ (no change for him as he is the organist), and the singing was led by a small but most efficient choir. Mr. John Willis read the lesson and the Rector gave an address in which he welcomed us to the church. A collection was taken for the Association's Belfry Repair Fund and realised £1 1s. 3d. After the service we found that a magnificent tea had been prepared in the Schoolroom. It had been provided by the Rector the local ringers and their friends, and was served by their ladies.

A short business meeting followed at which four non-resident life members were elected, and three practising members (one adult and two juniors). It was announced that the annual District meeting would be held at Ashford on September 24th. Mr. J. Willis thanked all those concerned for their share in the arrangements.

Ringing continued during the evening and the neighbouring tower of Newington was also available. Altogether about 40 members and friends were present from 15 towers.

As I made my way home I pondered upon two things:—

1. The happy state of affairs which exists when clergy and ringers back one another up in all church matters as well as purely ringing ones.

2. The kindness and hospitality which make our meetings such enjoyable functions.

W. P. G.

LATE NOTICES

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bolton Branch.—Festival Service at St. Bartholomew's, Westhoughton, on Sunday, Aug. 21st. Bells at 1.30. Service at 3. Preacher, the Rev. F. F. Rigby, M.A.—J. Thornley, Sec. 6809

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Meeting at Wapley, Saturday, Aug. 27th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.15 p.m. Westerleigh bells (6) after meeting. Names for tea by Tuesday, Aug. 23rd, to W. F. Scudamore, County Police Station, Winterbourne, near Bristol. 6811

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Saturday, Aug. 27th, Denham (8) 3–5 p.m., Chalfont St. Giles (6) 6–8 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—W. Butler, Sec. 6812

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Tewkesbury Branch.—Meeting Chaceley, Sept. 3rd. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names for tea, please, by Aug. 20th.—J. Beech, The Pump House, Berrow, near Malvern. Tel. Birtsmorton 312. 6810

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.

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BIRTH

SCOTT.—On Aug. 6th, 1955, at 44, St. Leonard's Road, Newton Abbot, to Claire (née Isles), wife of the Rev. J. G. M. Scott, a daughter. 6775

ENGAGEMENT

COPE—HEELS. — The engagement is announced between Dorothy, 6, Eady Road, Burton Latimer, only daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Heels, London, and Bryan, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Cope, 181, Station Road, Burton Latimer, Northants. 6774

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin Thorley is now: Padmar, 146, Broadgate Lane, Horsforth, Leeds. 6789

MISCELLANEOUS

MR. and MRS. D. J. TRANTER wish to thank all the ringers who so kindly rang on the occasion of their marriage at St. Paul's Church, Wednesbury, Aug. 6th, 1955. 6808

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PUBLICATION

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MEETINGS

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District. — Meeting, Saturday, Aug. 20th, at Somersham (6). Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. A farewell meeting to our president. Good attendance, please.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 6763

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Lancaster Branch.—There will not be a meeting at Burton-in-Lonsdale on Aug. 20th. The meeting was held on Aug. 13th.—Roland F. Eccles, Hon. Sec. 6807

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Cranford (6), Saturday, Aug. 20th, at 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and business to follow.—J. D. Rock. 6752

SALISBURY GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—Meeting, Preston, Aug. 20th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea and meeting follow.—J. H. Hayne, Sec. 6744

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Keymer, Aug. 20th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. 6737

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Portsmouth District.—Quarterly meeting at Soberton on August 20th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service in Parish Church 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in White Lion Inn. 6792

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, Ecclesfield, Aug. 20th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in the Gatty Hall.—J. J. L. Gilbert. 6734

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Meeting, Saturday, Aug. 27th. Ringing at St. Mary's, Bow Road, E.3, 3.30. Ship, Talbot Court, E.C., 6 p.m.—A. B. Peck. 6802

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester and Crewkerne Branches.—Combined meeting Crewkerne, Saturday, Aug. 27th. Service 4.30. Please notify early for tea.—J. T. Locke, Hon. Sec. 6785

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wirral Branch.—Meeting, St. Mary's, Liscard (Wallasey), Saturday, Aug. 27th. Bells (8) 3.30. Service 4.30. Cups of tea provided; bring own food.—Alexander J. Martin, Hon. Sec. 6803

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Meeting on Aug. 27th at Northallerton (8), 2.30-4, and Kirby Wiske (6), 4.30 onwards. The Thirsk bus leaves Northallerton at 4, and goes via Kirby Wiske. Arrangements will be made to take ringers back to Northallerton to catch the 7.29 or 8.47 trains to Tees-side. Tea (4.30 at Kirby Wiske) will only be provided for those who notify the Hon. Sec. immediately, and at the latest before Aug. 24th.—P. W. B. Semmens, Hon. Sec., 52, Belle Vue Grove, Middlesbrough. 6804

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION and MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Joint meeting, Melbourne (8) Saturday, Aug. 27th. Names for tea to J. W. Cotton, 3, Coronation Street, Overseale, Derbys. 6782

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—West Hartlepool (St. Oswald's) Saturday, Aug. 27th, 3 p.m. Names for tea, by Aug. 25th, to Mr. F. Robson, 13, Grainger Street, West Hartlepool. Method: Stedman Caters. 6787

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Cambridge District.—Meeting at Harston, Saturday, Aug. 27th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 6797

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—Meeting at Gestingthorpe (6), Saturday, Aug. 27th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea by Wednesday, Aug. 24th.—H. A. Pratt, 6, Council Houses, Black Notley, Braintree. 6753

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—Practice meeting, Prestbury, Aug. 27th. Bells (8) available 6 p.m.—Mary Bliss, Branch Sec. 6791

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Graveley, Aug. 27th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Weston also available 7-8 only. Special method: Thelwall T.B.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 6776

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Northchurch (8), Saturday, Aug. 27th. Names for tea, by the 23rd, to Mr. R. Ashby, 38, High Street, Northchurch, Berkhamstead, Herts.—R. L. Shutter, Dis. Sec. 6786

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Meeting on Saturday, Aug. 27th. Crayford bells at 2.45. Service, St. Mary's, Bexley, 5 p.m. Names for tea, by Tuesday, 23rd, to Miss M. Andrews, Crawford, 43, Wansunt Road, Bexley. This is important—no names, no tea.—A. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec. 6786

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—Meeting at Rochester Cathedral on Saturday, Aug. 27th, at 3 p.m. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea at Patricia's Pantry 4.30. Names for tea, not later than Aug. 24th, to Mr. T. Beaumont, 7, Prospect Avenue, Frindsbury, Rochester, Kent. All ladies welcome. Gentlemen cordially invited.—Jill Haffenden, Hon. Sec. 6757

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Monthly meeting, Collingham, Aug. 27th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Please send names for tea, by previous Thursday, to Miss Margaret Barker, Westfield, Harewood Road, Collingham.—J. F. Hodson, Hon. Sec. 6788

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Lincoln District. — Joint meeting with LADIES' GUILD at Blankney (6) on Aug. 27th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify me by Tuesday previous. — C. Brown, 3, Altham Terrace, Lincoln. 6743

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—Practice meeting, Saturday, Aug. 27th, St. John's, South Hackney, E.9 (8), 3.30-5 p.m. Tea own arrangements. St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green (8), 6-8.30 p.m. Short service 7 p.m. Everyone welcome.—L. W. Bullock, Dis. Sec. 6783

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Scarning, Sat., Aug. 27th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 followed by business meeting. Numbers for tea to S. H. Waterfield, 6, Station Road, Holme Hale, Thetford. Look up Hereward.—C. F. T. 6769

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Meeting at Aldermaston on August 27th. Usual arrangements. Names to me by the 24th.—J. Coper, 35, Henwick Lane, Thatcham, Berks. 6771

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will be held on

Saturday, September 3rd, 1955

at the following towers:—

2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	— Crondall	6
	— Bentley	6
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	— Aldershot	8
	— Farnborough	6
	— Frensham	6
2 p.m. to 4.15 p.m.	— Farnham	8

Service and tea at Farnham	— 4.30-6 p.m.	
6.30 p.m. to 9 p.m.	— Worplesdon	8
	— Seale	6
	— Puttenham	6
	— Stoke	6
	— Pirbright	6
	— Ash	6

Names for tea to Mr. C. W. Denyer, 15, Crondall Lane, Farnham, by Wed., Aug. 31st, 1955, or to your District Sec.: Miss W. Oliver, Ladies' Guild, Southern Area; Mr. J. Chesterman, Basingstoke Branch of Winchester and Portsmouth Guild; Mr. B. Castle, Sonning Deanery Branch of Oxford Guild; Mr. G. S. Joyce, Farnham District of Guildford Guild. 6777

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Bicester Deanery Branch. — Quarterly meeting, Brill, Saturday, Aug. 27th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to A. Crozier, Brae Hill Close, Brill, Aylesbury, Bucks.—C. Kinch. 6799

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Rutland Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Cottesmore (6) on Saturday, Aug. 27th. Names for tea by Aug. 23rd.—E. E. Gibson, Hon. Sec., Thistleton Road, Market Overton, Oakham. 6748

SOUTHEAST AND DISTRICT GUILD OF RINGERS. — Meeting at Great Wakering, Saturday, Aug. 27th, at 3 p.m. Bring own tea: cups of tea provided.—B. C. Sadler. 6784

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Quarterly meeting at Waldron on Saturday, Aug. 27th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, Aug. 24th.—R. W. Pankhurst, 11, Salehurst Road, Eastbourne. 6794

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Surprise practice meeting at Horsham, Aug. 27th, 4-5.30, 6.30-8 p.m. 6795

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD. — Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, Gorseinon on Aug. 27th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea to J. A. Hoare, 6, Gendros Crescent, Swansea. 6715

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Chew Deanery.—Corporate Communion, Yatton, August 28th, 8 a.m. Bells 7 a.m. Breakfast for those notifying by August 26th.—H. Marshall, Elborough Avenue, Yatton. 6806

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK. — Sunday, Aug. 28th. A hearty welcome is extended to

all ringers to join with St. Martin-in-the-Fields' ringers and the local company in a short service at 3 p.m. Ringing for all after the service. Light refreshments will be served on the Vicarage lawn; if wet, in the Vicarage Room. Please reply to H. Tooke, The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk. 6790

DEVON GUILD.—Aylesbeare Branch. — Meeting, Aylesbeare, Saturday, Sept. 3rd. Service 4.30 p.m. Number for tea by Aug. 29th.—R. T. Perry, Redcliff, Lymington. 6746

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Wombourne (8), Sept. 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at Old Post Office (1s. 6d. each) 5.30 p.m. Names for tea, by Thursday, September 1st, please, to R. A. Peakman, 47, High Street, Kingswinford. 6796

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting, Bekebourne, Sept. 3rd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 2s. per head. Numbers for tea (cash enclosed, please), to Mrs. Coombs, 2, Station Cottages, Bekebourne, Canterbury, not later than Tuesday, August 30th.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec. 6800

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Tonbridge District.—By-meeting at Sundridge on Saturday, Sept. 3rd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea, by August 31st, to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. 6805

LADIES' GUILD.—South Wales District.—Meeting at Eardisland, Herefordshire, Saturday, Sept. 3rd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business. Gentlemen cordially invited. Names for tea, by Sept. 1st, please, to Miss Rosemary Bray, 14, Green Elms, Eardisland, near Leominster.—Jacqueline Evans. 6732

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The half-yearly ringing meeting and a committee meeting will be held at Lancaster on Sept. 3rd. St. Peter's R.C. Cathedral bells (10) available from 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., and St. Mary's Priory bells (8) available from 6.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Committee meeting commences at 4.30 p.m. in St. Peter's Social Centre. Tea in St. Peter's Social Centre 5.30 p.m. Names for tea before Thursday, Sept. 1st, to Mr. R. Rainford, 23, Golgotha Road, Lancaster.—F. Dunkerley, Hon. Sec. 6790

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Newport Pagnell, Saturday, Sept. 3rd. Bells 2.45. Service 4 p.m. Please notify for tea by Aug. 29th.—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. 6801

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD and ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Joint meeting at St. Mary's, Whittlesey, Sept. 3rd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea most essential by Tuesday, Aug. 30th. No names, no tea.—G. S. Bush, 18, Princes Street, Peterborough. 6780

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Salisbury and North Dorset Branches. — Practice meeting, Donhead St. Mary (bus stop, West End), Sept. 3rd. Bells 2.30. Tea 5, for those who send names, by Aug. 31st, to F. J. Sansom, Quarterley, Donhead St. Mary, Shaftesbury. Ringing at Shaftesbury in evening. 6793

SOUTHWELL GUILD. — Nottingham District.—Meeting at Stapleford Sept. 3rd. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 prompt at Carr Fastener Sports Ground. Names, by previous Monday, to Mr. L. Mabbott, 112, Hickings Lane, Stapleford.—C. W. Towers. 6679

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Preliminary notice of quarterly meeting at Earl Shilton on Oct. 1st and Guild Festival at Leicester on Oct. 2nd. Details later.—W. A. Wood, Gen. Sec. 6798

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Annual dinner. — Preliminary: The annual dinner will be held in the Guildhall, Worcester on Saturday, Oct. 22nd, at 5.45 p.m. Tickets (7s. 6d. each) obtainable from committee or J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Sedgemoor, Evesham. 6759

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