



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

No. 2336 Vol. LII

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1956

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

6d.

OLD BERT

SITTING on a seat with me one evening was a man who often travelled in the same compartment to London with me on weekdays, and although we had not previously spoken he broke the ice by saying: 'Those bells sound nice.' Since then we have both retired from business in town and our meetings are few, but whenever he spots me he immediately plunges into the subject of bells. At first I gained the impression that he had been a ringer in London for he spoke of several well-known rings in various parts, but I was wrong, as I soon found out that Bert was a keen listener to church bells not only in London and Surrey but even as far afield as Devonshire. His knowledge of towers was remarkable, and he found out many of the best vantage points in order that his ears could appreciate the bells at their best; yet he was not one who made himself known in any way, for he only desired to listen and gain a lasting impression of how the bells sounded in that locality.

Of stoutish build, with a ruddy face and a cheerful smile, he would greet me and then tell of his experiences since our last conversation, relating in his own way where he had heard bells and what he thought of their tone. He knew the difference between method and call-changes and when chiming was being done, but though he knew nothing about our technical terms his chief delight was, to use his own words, 'to hear them evenly spaced.' Last year he asked me to name 'some nice old peals of bells,' and he jotted down in his pocket book various towers with the number of bells contained therein, ranging from five to rings of 12, after which he toddled off quite delighted.

One morning last summer he caught sight of me and asked if I could spare an hour to hear of his latest experiences as a listener on the spot. He started with a description of hearing Exeter Cathedral bells at a distance, his gradual approach to the Norman tower, and then his impressions of the grandest ring he had ever heard. Such words coming from the lips of a keen listener were very pleasing to the writer, who was born at Exeter within sound of these bells prior to Queen Victoria's jubilee. Bert had other towers to speak of in Devon, Somerset and Dorset, and it was surprising what a memory he had for details. After he had related the particulars of a certain tower I asked him the name of the vicar, a name he promptly and correctly gave. Our talks together are few and far between, but perhaps it will be possible one of these days to learn a little more about Bert, whether he is

a Londoner by birth and how he first became interested in bells.

We have our share of critics who complain about some of our activities and indifferent striking, but in Bert we have one who does not find fault with any ringing he hears, for he is of the opinion that 'it wants some doing' to get perfection in striking because of the varying circumstances in different towers. He also holds the view that ringers are trying to do their best often under difficult conditions, and their voluntary work should be more widely appreciated. When the subject of bells on the radio was mentioned to Bert he quickly said that the time generally allowed was insufficient and he preferred to listen at his own selected spot in order to get the 'real thing' in actual surroundings.

Undoubtedly some of us in many parts of the country have been ringing when Old Bert was listening, for he would not disclose when or where his 'live listening' would take place, and apparently his one desire was to hear a ring of bells to the best advantage. Bert does not profess to know anything regarding method ringing and it is years since he witnessed a bell in motion, but where there is ringing from the ground floor he would watch for a short while then silently fade from the scene. Not many non-ringers visit towers purposely to hear the bells rung in their local surroundings, coupled with the possible opportunity of having a look at the church; but Bert enjoys walking, especially in the country, where he can see and appreciate nature in various moods. Somehow or another he is different to the average person one meets, and bell-ringers come up for conversation when they declare ringers are a funny lot of folk in the belfry. One such person said we ring what is called rounds for a short while, then somebody shouted 'Go' but nobody went anywhere, and presently one of the band was told to 'dodge,' yet there were no signs of any evasions. After some bobs and singles the order was given to 'stand' although all the ringers had been standing during the whole of the ringing. No, Bert knew better than to say anything about our strange technical terms, for he must have seen and heard ringing in many parts; yet he seemed to understand that the skill and patience needed could not be attained by easy means and that teamwork was an important factor. I am hoping to meet Old Bert again in the near future and hear some more news of his visits to town and country places where church workers strive to give of their best.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

WAKEFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.**A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES**

Tenor 35 cwt. 1 qr.

*PETER WOODWARD .. Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 7
J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 2	†WILFRED L. ROBINSON .. 8
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 3	†REV. C. GORDON GRAHAM .. 9
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 4	LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. 10
†HOWARD SCOTT .. 5	WILFRID F. MORETON .. 11
ROBIN G. TURNER .. 6	JOHN E. KIRBY .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. † First peal on 12 bells.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. NICHOLAS.**A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES**

Tenor 41 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb.

LESTER L. GRAY .. Treble	THOMAS C. LARKEY .. 7
THOMAS R. BUTLER .. 2	DAVID VINCENT .. 8
JOHN E. SPICE .. 3	ERNEST F. BENNETT .. 9
*JOSEPH THORNLEY .. 4	EDWIN C. BIRKETT .. 10
ALAN P. CAVE .. 5	PERCIVAL W. CAVE .. 11
FREDERICK S. ALMOND .. 6	JACK N. BROWN .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques.

A congratulatory peal to the Rector (Canon R. Nelson) on his appointment as Chaplain to H.M. the Queen.

TEN BELL PEALS

GRANTHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WULFRAM,**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL**

Tenor 32 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb. in C sharp.

DENIS A. FRITH .. Treble	PETER E. PARRY .. 6
FREDK. W. PINCHBECK .. 2	*ROY STEPHENSON .. 7
*KENNETH KETTERINGHAM .. 3	*WILLIAM H. DALE .. 8
*W. RUSSELL READ .. 4	*BRIAN BUTTERY .. 9
*BRIAN HUNT .. 5	H. REGINALD WOODS .. Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by DENIS A. FRITH.

* First peal on ten bells.

A 62nd birthday compliment to William H. Dale.

SLOUGH, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL**

Tenor 17½ cwt. in E.

MRS. PAT LEWINGTON .. Treble	EDWARD S. T. FARR .. 6
WILLIAM F. BUTLER .. 2	FREDERICK R. SCOTT .. 7
ARTHUR D. BARKER .. 3	JEFFREY C. BIRT .. 8
WALTER LEE .. 4	WILLIAM HIBBERT .. 9
THOMAS J. LOCK .. 5	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

Non-conducted and silent.

The first non-conducted peal of Royal by all and for the Guild.

CHESTER, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST AND THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,**A PEAL OF 5040 PUDSEY SURPRISE ROYAL**

Tenor 29 cwt.

MARGARET E. RIDYARD .. Treble	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN .. 6
DOREEN DUTTON .. 2	JACK ASHCROFT .. 7
JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. 3	RONALD KENRICK .. 8
GORDON HALLS .. 4	PERCY SWINDLEY .. 9
BRIAN HARRIS .. 5	JOSEPH RIDYARD .. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

First peal in the method by all the band and on the bells.

PRESTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.**A PEAL OF 5000 OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL**

Tenor 24½ cwt.

CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE .. Treble	ARTHUR HATCH .. 6
ERNEST J. GOWER .. 2	E. ROGER MARTIN .. 7
JOHN CHARNOCK .. 3	G. ALEC DIMMOCK .. 8
THOMAS BARKER .. 4	VICTOR J. C. WOOD .. 9
STANLEY WALMSLEY .. 5	FRANK STEAD .. Tenor

Composed by C. CHARGE.

Conducted by CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE.

First peal of Oxford Royal by all the band and on the bells.
Rung to welcome Victor J. C. Wood back to Lancashire after being in New Zealand for two-and-a-half years.**EIGHT BELL PEALS**

GREAT GRIMSBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.**A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in E.

NORAH M. BIBBY .. Treble	*GEORGE H. RANGLES .. 5
GWEN I. RUSBY .. 2	FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD .. 6
GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. 3	ARTHUR PASHLEY .. 7
JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 4	JOHN WALDEN .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD.

* 200th peal.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE.**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 18 cwt.

BRIAN WOODRUFFE .. Treble	IVOR JENKINS .. 5
SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN. .. 2	SYDNEY SAGE .. 6
*COLIN DEWSNAP .. 3	ALEXANDER RICHARDSON .. 7
ERIC SIMPSON .. 4	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON.

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

* First peal.

Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. D. Baird.

LONG ASHTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 30 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

*MONICA E. FRAY .. Treble	HERBERT W. KNIGHT .. 5
†JOHN WATERS .. 2	LEONARD F. DERRICK .. 6
†IAIN H. ORAM .. 3	DAVID G. YEO .. 7
MICHAEL J. HORSMAN .. 4	CYRIL E. LEWINGTON .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID G. YEO.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Grandsire Triples. First peal as conductor.

Rung as a welcome to the Rev. S. H. Cooke, B.A., who was inducted to the above church on December 12th.

NORTH BRADLEY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES**

Dexter's Eight-part.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING .. Treble	HARRY HEATH .. 5
LAURENCE E. HITCHINS .. 2	GILBERT H. HARDING .. 6
FREDERICK S. SLATFORD .. 3	CHARLES F. ANDREWS .. 7
WILLIAM C. WEST .. 4	*STANLEY S. COCKELL .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES F. ANDREWS.

* First peal of Stedman.

OVERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW.**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES**

F. H. Dexter's No. 1 Variation.

Tenor 10 cwt.

MRS. PHYLLIS POOLE .. Treble	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. 5
MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 2	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY .. 6
E. CHARLES TURNER .. 3	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 7
WILLIAM F. WOODWARD .. 4	PERCIVAL W. GRICE .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

Rung as a welcome to the Rev. N. K. Brownsell, M.A., who was inducted to the benefice of Seale the previous day.

RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

FRED BROWNLOW Treble	JAMES GROUNDS 5
PETER CROOK, SEN... .. 2	JOSEPH THORNLEY 6
ALBERT GREENHALGH 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 7
*JAMES CUNLIFFE 4	SYDNEY LEATHERBARROW Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

* First peal in the method.

Rung as a birthday tribute to the Rev. Philip Arthur Wrigley, Parish Priest of St. John's, Farnworth and Kearsley, and Mrs. G. Annie Paine, daughter of the ringer of the 2nd.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5184 BEDFORD SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. in E flat.

EDMUND MALIN... .. Treble	DENNIS BERESFORD 5
ANN BARR 2	JEFFREY B. WEBB 6
JOAN BERESFORD 3	PETER BERESFORD 7
J. EDWARD CAWSE 4	GEORGE E. OLIVER Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells and for the Society. A birthday compliment to Miss Ann Barr.

PONTEFRAC, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (seventh observation). Tenor 12½ cwt.

*MARTIN CUBITT Treble	WILFRID F. MORETON 5
†MICHAEL STEPHENSON 2	DAVID CUBITT 6
PETER WOODWARD 3	J. MARTIN THORLEY 7
HOWARD SCOTT 4	KENNETH PARK Tenor

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal.

Rung as a compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. Norman Haigh, on the 25th anniversary of his ordination.

GRESSENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 20, 1955, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Pritchard's Four-part. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

SIDNEY MARSHALL Treble	*MRS. JOYCE M. CALLABY 5
ARTHUR F. LEWRY 2	GEORGE T. BUNNING 6
JOHN S. BARNES 3	†ROBERT C. BUNNING 7
WILLIAM A. THEOBALD 4	GEORGE P. ADAMS Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. THEOBALD.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells.

First peal on the bells since rehangng and the adding of two new trebles.

HERSHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 23, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. in G sharp.

JAMES F. DODSON Treble	JOHN KING 5
*EUNICE A. HILEY 2	ROLAND W. MORANT 6
A. PATRICK CANNON 3	DUGALD M. MACPHERSON 7
*PAM. A. COLLIS 4	E. JOHN WELLS Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Major 'inside.'

This composition contains the minimum number of calls (57) in a 5040.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of 2nd and 4th. and the daughter of the treble ringer. Also in honour of Mr. J. F. Dodson's 22nd wedding anniversary. Mr. Dodson has now 'completed the circle' on these bells.

HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Sheffield District Society.)

On Sat., Dec. 24, 1955, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

*JOHN CHETTLEBURG Treble	H. DAVID HOLLAND 5
DENNIS HOLLAND 2	IAN M. HOLLAND 6
HERBERT O. CHADDOCK 3	CYRIL RUSBY 7
BARRY HOLLAND 4	JOHN E. TURLEY Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by JOHN E. TURLEY.

* First peal on eight bells.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. J. J. L. Gilbert.

SEVENOAKS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 24, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt.

*MARGARET A. LADD Treble	†DORIS E. COLGATE 5
†ROBERT COLLINS 2	BERNARD V. COLLISON 6
ARTHUR G. MASON 3	†THOMAS E. SONE 7
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 4	ERNEST J. LADD Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by ERNEST J. LADD.

* First attempt for a peal. † 150th peal together. ‡ 550th peal.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Collison, wife of the ringer of the 6th.

ALDENHAM, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5184 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Heywood's Variation. Tenor 15 cwt. in E.

JOHN R. MAYNE Treble	D. KAY ADKINS 5
*WILLIAM WENBAN 2	†ALBERT C. WENBAN 6
†JOAN M. WILCOCKSON 3	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 7
†KENNETH R. DUNSTAN 4	GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN Tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

* 50th peal for the Association. † First peal of Cambridge Major 'inside.'

CLARE, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

PETER MAYLE Treble	ROBERT E. LESTER 5
SAM J. TWITCHETT 2	TOM BIRD 6
ROSEMARY SEABROOK 3	URBAN W. WILDNEY 7
OWEN BALLARD 4	RONALD W. STEWARD Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS (C.C.C. 31). Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 27 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb.

CHARLES MCGUINNESS Treble	ERIC N. HARRISON 5
ROLAND PARK 2	J. ALAN AINSWORTH 6
*CHARLES N. LEA 3	DENIS A. BAYLES 7
KENNETH ARTHUR 4	W. NORMAN PARK Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORZLEY. Conducted by DENIS A. BAYLES.

* First peal in the method.

Rung on St. Stephen's Day.

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PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,
 AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
 Tenor 25½ cwt. in E flat.

S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT .. Treble	E. WINIFRED KEYS 5
*PAULINE M. SAXTON .. 2	ROBIN G. LEALE 6
†MARION J. PARKER 3	FREDK. W. BURNETT 7
RUSSELL H. R. PARKER .. 4	ROGER BALDWIN Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by ROGER BALDWIN.

* First peal of Major on an 'inside' bell. † First peal in the method on an 'inside' bell.

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. .. Treble	Tenor 15 cwt. 4 lb.
*ROBERT C. HALL 2	*HARRY J. WHEATLEY .. 5
†ANTHONY J. BRAZIER .. 2	W. ARCHIBALD REED .. 6
‡COLIN B. LONGMORE .. 3	R. ROGER SAVORY 7
GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 4	*PATRICK L. HATCHER .. Tenor

Conducted by R. ROGER SAVORY.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal of Triples. The 50th recorded peal in this tower.

WESTBOURNE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES
 Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.

FREDK. W. BURNETT .. Treble	HAROLD A. NOBES 5
PAULINE M. SAXTON .. 2	ROBIN G. LEALE 6
E. WINIFRED KEYS 3	ROGER BALDWIN 7
S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT .. 4	RICHARD H. SMITH .. Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by ROGER BALDWIN.

First peal in the method by all the band except the ringer of the 6th. First peal of Triples of conductor.

Rung as a 40th wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Tower R. Taylor, of St. Mary's Church, Portsmouth.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

STANDLAKE, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
 (The Oxford Society.)

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 840 Clifford Pleasure, 840 Reverse Canterbury, 840 April Day, 840 Plain Bob, 840 Reverse St. Bartholomew and 840 Grandsire.
 Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. in F. sharp.

ALEC GAMMON Treble	MALCOLM JOURNEAUX .. 4
ROBIN TREBILCOCK 2	CLIVE HOLLOWAY 5
VERNON GREEN 3	ROY H. JONES Tenor

Conducted by CLIVE HOLLOWAY.

First peal as conductor. A birthday compliment to the father of Alec Gammon.

MARSTON, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
 (The Oxford Society.)

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 720 each of Clifford Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury, April Day, Plain Bob, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Grandsire and Southrepps.
 Tenor 6 cwt., approx.

*FRANCIS A. BARRETT .. Treble	VERNON GREEN 3
CHRISTINE M. WOODWARD .. 2	ALEC GAMMON 4
CLIVE HOLLOWAY Tenor	

Conducted by CLIVE HOLLOWAY.

* First peal. Rung on the eve of the Patronal Festival.

BIDDENHAM, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Consisting of seven different extents. .. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.	
*BEAVAN HARRIS .. Treble	BRYAN PATTISON 4
ANN FUNDREY 2	PETER J. SHIPTON 5
ROY A. WARD 3	JOHN B. LONG Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

* First peal at first attempt (age 13).

First peal to be rung by past and present members of the Dame Alice Harpur School for Girls, Bedford Modern and Bedford schools.

LYMINSTER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Single Oxford and five extents of Plain Bob.
 Tenor 10 cwt.

*GEOFFREY LEE .. Treble	JUNE M. CLEMENTS 4
*SYLVIA STREATER 2	ERNEST TREAGUS 5
*BETTY MCKANE 3	†GEORGE FRANCIS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST TREAGUS.

* First peal in two methods. † 25th peal for the Association.
 Rung as a compliment to Mr. R. D. Isted and Miss Betty McKane on their engagement.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 14, 1955, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 15 methods, viz.: 1. London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Sandal Treble Bob; 2. College Exercise, Norbury and Duke of Norfolk Treble Bob; 3. Oxford and Kent T.B.; 4. St. Clement's and Double Oxford; 5. Childwall and Thelwall Bob; 6. Plain Bob and Double Bob; 7. Cambridge Surprise.
 Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

ALBERT SAUNDERS .. Treble	*JOHN WARNER 4
ALAN R. SYDER 2	*HILDA G. SNOWDEN .. 5
*WALTER ARNOLD 3	TERRY EARLE Tenor

Conducted by TERRY EARLE.

* First peal in 15 methods.

BUCKERELL, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND GILES,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 17 240's and eight 120's. .. Tenor 8½ cwt.	
FRANCIS PARR .. Treble	JOSEPH BROADHURST .. 4
CHRISTOPHER WEBB .. 2	WILLIAM WEBB 5
ALAN HODGE 3	JOHN REAL Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM WEBB.

COPEL, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 39½ Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of three extents of St. Clement's Bob Minor, one extent of St. Clement's and Plain Bob, and three extents of Plain Bob.
 Tenor 8½ cwt. in G.

NORMAN F. HULL .. Treble	MALCOLM G. HOOTON .. 4
*ALEX SIMPSON 2	*MAX W. UNDERWOOD .. 5
PETER J. SHIPTON 3	BRYAN PATTISON Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

* First peal 'inside.'

CROSSTHWAITE, WESTMORLAND.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. .. Tenor 10½ cwt.	
*BARBARA LAWSON .. Treble	ROLAND F. ECCLES 4
JAMES DICKINSON 2	GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE .. 5
ALAN CAPSTICK 3	FRANK BIRKETT Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE.

* First peal.

EARDISLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 40 six-scores (ten callings). one 240 Morris' arrangement.
 Tenor 8½ cwt.

ALLEN COLCOMBE .. Treble	THOMAS J. GUNDY 4
LESLIE H. COLCOMBE .. 2	AUBREY J. PROBERT 5
REGINALD G. POWELL .. 3	CHARLES PHILLIPS Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD G. POWELL.

GAMSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents.

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.

KATHERINE BURCHNALL .. Treble	SYDNEY CARNALL .. 4
*RICHARD HOBBS .. 2	JOHN NEWBERT .. 5
GRACE BURCHNALL .. 3	HAROLD DENMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD DENMAN.

* First peal.

Rung to mark 20 years as Rector of Gamston by the Rev. S. M. I. Salt.

SULGRAVE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE SHELLARD .. Treble	MONTAGUE SAUNDERS .. 4
WILLIAM J. CHESTER .. 2	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. 5
*KATHLEEN I. BALLARD .. 3	WILLIAM A. YATES .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. YATES.

* First peal.

WATERINGBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

LUTHER HONESS .. Treble	WILLIAM R. MANSEY .. 4
STANLEY A. HAYZELDEN .. 2	STANLEY G. PONTING .. 5
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. 3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE.

A birthday compliment to Mr. T. Saunders, of East Peckham.

WHETSTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different 720's.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

FREDERICK WATSON .. Treble	ALFRED E. HINMAN .. 4
ROWLAND COOK .. 2	J. HARRY COOK .. 5
ERNEST MORRIS .. 3	*GEOFFREY A. BOWCUTT .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal of Minor.

Rung to mark the retirement of Mr. Maurice Pawley, ringer and chorister at this church for over 50 years; also a 21st birthday compliment to David Bishop, of Croft.

WILLINGHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being two extents each of Ipswich and Norwich, and three of Cambridge.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

KEITH F. BONUS .. Treble	GEORGE E. CRISP .. 4
STANLEY SHIPP .. 2	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. 5
DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. 3	GEOFFREY A. LUCAS .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

BARROWBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 20, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 extents each of St. Simon's and St. Martin's, six of Plain Bob, and en extents and a 12-score of Grandsire.

Tenor 11 cwt.

*JOHN E. COOK .. Treble	†BRIAN HUNT .. 4
†W. RUSSELL READ .. 2	DENIS A. FRITH .. 5
†ROY STEPHENSON .. 3	ALBERT O. NICHOLLS .. Tenor

Conducted by DENIS A. FRITH.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles.

SCULTHORPE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 20, 1955, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 8 cwt.

B. G. MOORE .. Treble	G. GREEVES .. 4
S. H. WATERFIELD .. 2	J. COUZENS .. 5
T. OWEN .. 3	G. R. DREW .. Tenor

Conducted by T. OWEN.

The conductor has now 'circled the tower' to peals.



GILLETT AND JOHNSTON

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

BELL FOUNDERS

AND

CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 21, 1955, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising seven extents in 14 methods with 90 changes of method, viz.: (1) Cambridge and Primrose Surprise, (2) College Exercise and Norbury Treble Bob, (3) Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, (4) Fulbeck and Canterbury Pleasure, (5) Double Oxford and St. Clement's, (6) Thelwall and Childwall, (7) Plain and Double Bob.

*DAPHNE CASTELL .. Treble	*DONALD H. NIBLETT .. 4
DOUGLAS O. WILKS .. 2	HARRY P. FLOYD .. 5
*MALCOLM S. CLOKE .. 3	ALAN R. PINK .. Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in 14 Minor methods.

Rung on the Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle and Martyr.

DOULTING, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 24, 1955, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALDHELM.

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 24 cwt.

RONALD G. BECK .. Treble	ERNEST E. BRAY .. 4
W. JOHN PHIPPEN .. 2	GEORGE W. MASSEY .. 5
EUNICE D. OVEREND .. 3	DAVID HOARE .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID HOARE.

First peal of Kent Minor by all the band.

HOLYWELL, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 24, 1955, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. Treble	E. JACK PARISH .. 4
*WALTER PAPWORTH .. 2	DONALD PEACOCK .. 5
FRANK ELSOM .. 3	STANLEY SHIPP .. Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY SHIPP.

* First peal of Treble Bob.

BRAMPTON, HUNTINGDON.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (ten callings). Tenor 14 cwt.

R. F. BAKER .. Treble	*MAUREEN ALLEN .. 3
LUCY ALLEN .. 2	E. J. WHITING .. 4

*J. W. ALLEN .. Tenor

Conducted by R. F. BAKER.

* First peal.

First known peal by all-Brampton service ringers.

HOCKWOLD-CUM-WILTON, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7 cwt.

WILFRED BOWERS .. Treble	HARRY FULLER .. 4
DORA REEVE .. 2	WALTER PAUL .. 5
RICHARD ROSE .. 3	JAMES PAUL .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES PAUL.

A golden wedding compliment to the parents of the ringer of the second.

RADSTOCK, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge, St. Clement's, Hereward, Double Court, Single Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in G.

ADRIAN P. BECK .. Treble	*W. JOHN PHIPPEN .. 4
*ROBERT E. BECK .. 2	RONALD G. BECK .. 5
DAVID HOARE .. 3	GEORGE W. MASSEY .. Tenor

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

* First peal in seven methods of Minor.

ROADE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of 12 extents of April Day, six extents of Kennington and eight extents each of Norfolk, Old and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in F.

WALTER RICHARDSON .. Treble	IVOR J. DICKIN .. 3
*JOHN KING .. 2	KENNETH D. PERKINS .. 4

ALAN C. COZENS .. Tenor

Conducted by ALAN C. COZENS.

* First peal 'inside.'

Rung for the festival of Christmas.

SUTTON-IN-THE-ISLE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

*KATHLEEN MATHESON .. Treble	LESLIE LIGHTFOOT .. 4
DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. 2	STANLEY SHIPP .. 5
CLAUD GIMBERT .. 3	ARTHUR YARROW .. Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY SHIPP.

* First peal.

ARDELEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

Tenor 9 cwt.

*ROBERT E. DAY (14 yrs.) .. Treble	JACK S. DEAR .. 4
GEORGE CHERRY .. 2	FRANK W. CROFT .. 5
WALTER J. HOUGHTON .. 3	DAVID L. GULLICK .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID L. GULLICK.

* First peal.

A farewell peal to the Vicar, the Rev. J. E. Hardy, who is retiring in the New Year.

ASHWICK, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7 cwt.

FREDERICK G. LEAKER .. Treble	RONALD G. BECK .. 4
MRS. D. G. MAYELL .. 2	ALAN A. HILLIAR .. 5
FRANCIS C. MOGFORD .. 3	DESMOND G. MAYELL .. Tenor

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

Rung to the memory of Capt. J. W. Hilliar, and also an appreciation to Mrs. E. L. Hilliar, by whose untiring efforts these bells were rehung.

STRETTON GRANDISON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 10½ cwt.

CHARLES PHILLIPS .. Treble	AUBREY J. PROBERT .. 4
REGINALD G. POWELL .. 2	THOMAS J. GUNDY .. 5
*LESLIE H. COLCOMBE .. 3	RICHARD A. COLCOMBE .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE H. COLCOMBE.

* 25th peal.

HANDBELL PEAL

CLEATHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT CLEATHAM HOUSE FARM,

A PEAL OF 5068 SPLICED KENT TREBLE BOB AND KENT LITTLE COURT ROYAL

Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. J. BRAY .. 1-2	*JACK BRAY .. 5-6
GEORGE E. FEIRN .. 3-4	PHILIP BARNES .. 7-8
C. AUBREY HARRISON .. 9-10	

Adapted from F. DENCH.

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

* 600th peal. First peal of Royal in these methods by all.

75th ANNIVERSARY OF BALDOCK GUILD

On December 10th the Baldock and Norton ringers and friends enjoyed their annual dinner at the Rose and Crown. After a superb Christmas meal, Canon Smith proposed the loyal toast, and also expressed his appreciation of the happy spirit which exists among the ringers of his own tower and at Norton.

In proposing 'St. Mary's Guild,' Mr. H. V. Frost (general secretary of the Hertfordshire Association) mentioned that although the Guild was officially established in 1880 (which made it older than the Hertfordshire Association itself), there was a board in the tower which recorded a touch of 720 Bob Minor in 1737.

Mr. E. G. Buck (the captain) said that the best sign of the Guild's health was the number of learners. They were trying to keep the bells ringing Sunday by Sunday and, in achieving this, he did value the regular practices. Apologies for absence, and best wishes, had been received from several friends. All stood in silence in remembrance of Mr. A. Bray, who was the last of the pre-1914 band who had continued to take interest in the present one.

Mr. H. S. Bonnett, in proposing 'The Ladies,' said how gratified he was to discover how much they enjoyed the dinner; and Mrs. Critchley, in a witty reply, said that ringing was one of the few occupations where standards for men and women were comparable, and elaborated upon the two groups of ringers' wives, those who do and those who don't ring.

Peal attempts during the afternoon at both Baldock and Norton came to grief, but in spite of these disappointments the dinner was most successful. J. S.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION

The quarterly meeting of the Northern District, which was well attended, was held at St. Mary's, Leyton, on December 17th.

Ringling was enjoyed on this light eight until 4.45, when tea, kindly provided by the Vicar (the Rev. Frank Food), was enjoyed in the Church Hall.

A lively business meeting followed, with the Vicar as chairman. Four ringers were duly elected members of the Association.

It was decided to hold a learners' practice in 1956, starting in January; further details will appear in 'The Ringing World' in due course.

More ringing took place under the direction of the District Master, Mr. C. A. Hughes.

L. W. B

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—J. Collins 2s. 6d., A. Hill 2s. 6d., H. G. Fretwell 4s., R. C. Heazel 3s. 6d., L. Evans 4s., Anonymous 10s., Miss E. E. Emm 2s. 6d., W. A. Osborn 5s., J. Merrett 4s., Anon. 4s., J. Wood 4s.

Peals.—Great Grimsby 5s., Buckereil 2s. 6d., North Bradley 4s., Overseale 4s., Long Ashton 4s., Standlake 3s., Marston 2s. 6d.

Quarter Peals. — Willoughby-on-the-Wolds 2s. 6d., Marlow 1s. 6d., Swinton, Lancs, 2s., Buckland Newton 3s., Epsom 5s., Bolton 2s., Plymouth 4s.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION

Festive Tea for Cheltenham Branch

Some 40 ringers, including visitors from Bristol. Gloucester and Ross, were present at the annual meeting of the Cheltenham Branch held at Leckhampton on December 17th.

The service was conducted by the Rector of Leckhampton, the Rev. E. J. White, who afterwards joined the ringers at a festive tea, provided by Miss Davidson, of Cheltenham Ladies' College. The tables were tastefully decorated with evergreens and golden bells, and pride of place was given to iced Christmas cakes, which were also adorned with bells.

The Branch chairman, Mr. C. Rouse, welcomed the Rector to the Branch, as it was the first opportunity the ringers had had of meeting him officially since he came to Leckhampton. A special welcome was also accorded to Mr. F. Skidmore, the general secretary of the Association.

At the business meeting the Branch chairman, Mr. C. Rouse, and the Branch secretary, Miss E. M. Bliss, were unanimously re-elected. Mr. W. A. Farmer was elected as the Branch representative on the Management Committee. It was agreed that during 1956 all Branch meetings should be held on the fourth Saturday of each month at 3 p.m. The next three monthly meetings are to be held at Prestbury; St. Mark's, Cheltenham; and Badgeworth.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

EDITORIAL OFFICE: c/o Woodbridge Press,
Ltd., Guildford, Surrey.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

	One copy	2 copies	3 copies	4 copies
3 months	7/-	—	—	—
6 months	13/6	£1/5/-	£1/4/6	£2/5/-
12 months	£1/6/-	£2/7/-	£3/8/-	£4/9/-

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

The peal at Preston was arranged for Mr. Victor J. C. Wood, who has just returned to Clitheroe, Lancs, with his wife and family, after living in New Zealand for two and a half years. It was purely coincidental that the composition was put together by Mr. Cornelius Charge, of New Zealand, and published in 'The Ringing World' in 1937.

Six ringers scored their first peal on ten bells with the peal of Plain Bob Royal at Grantham on December 17th.

We are pleased to hear from Mr. Albert Walker that Mr. F. E. Pervin has returned home to 68, Newfield Road, Radford, Coventry, from hospital and can now sit out. His speech has returned and he looks very much better.

It is with pleasure we note St. Matthew's, Overseale, again appears in our peal columns, following the tragic occurrence on April 3rd, 1954. A well-struck peal of Stedman Triples (reported in our peal columns) was rung on December 17th to welcome the new Rector of Seale (the Rev. N. K. Brownsell) who met the ringers after the peal. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. P. J. Staniforth and Mr. J. W. Cotton.

Bedford has a world-wide reputation for its Public Schools, two for boys and two for girls, and it is interesting to note that several peals have been rung by separate schools' and combined schools' bands—Bedford Modern and Bedford Schools have both rung peals without outside help, and peals have been rung by the following combined bands: Bedford Modern and Dame Alice Harpur Schools, Bedford Modern and Bedford Schools, and last week Bedford Modern, Bedford and Dame Alice Harpur Schools took part in a peal. It is hoped to ring a peal incorporating all four schools in the near future.

BELFRY GOSSIP

It is not given to many to ring a peal of Stedman Cinques as their very first touch (of Cinques). That, however, was accomplished by Joseph Thornley, of Farnworth, Bolton, when he rang the fourth in the peal at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, recorded elsewhere in this issue. None of the others in the band had the slightest inkling that this was the first time he had rung Cinques. Later he was congratulated on his excellent performance.

Double Norwich was the method chosen for the peal attempt at Sevenoaks, Kent, on Christmas Eve. Alas, during the morning one of the band dropped out through illness, and as a substitute for Double Norwich could not be found the conductor (Mr. E. J. Ladd) decided to take his daughter and go for Plain Bob, with the result that Margaret scored a peal at the first attempt.

Hollywood, Co. Down, band had an unfortunate experience in their Christmas Day broadcast, and although the announcer said eight, only seven bells sounded. Just before the bells went on the air the rope of the third jammed and jumped off, leaving the bell completely wedged. There was a hurried switch to seven bells.

Because of the demand of National Service, Aldrington (Sussex) have been recruiting to their tower girls instead of boys. During the last eight months three ringers have moved from the district due to their careers and four young ladies have married, and all made homes in other counties! The tower is fortunate in having a waiting list of people anxious to learn the art and three more have thus been given the opportunity. It is encouraging to learn that Aldrington has provided seven other counties with ringers, for all are ringing in their new home towns.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED



1570

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REDEDICATIONS

POLSTEAD, SUFFOLK

Reader, have you been to Polstead Church? It not, don't miss the opportunity—not only to see the church, but also the view from the churchyard southwards across the valley of the little River Box to Stoke-by-Nayland's imposing tower standing high on the other side. Yes, it's some of Suffolk's best scenery, away from main roads, and St. Mary's Church stands at the top of a ridge with a lake at the bottom on the north side.

St. Mary's is one of the ancients, even as churches go. I doubt if you'll see anything like it anywhere else. Here, Mr. Historian and Mr. Antiquary, you will find much interest. The tower has a stone spire and six bells, and the congregation which filled the church in the late afternoon of Sunday, December 18th, assembled to join in a service of praise and thanksgiving when the Lord Bishop of Dunwich rededicated the bells after their overhaul. They have been retuned, quarter-turned and rehung in a modern metal frame, with ball bearings and new fittings, by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

The tower has been reinforced to the design of Mr. Robert Potter, F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. Richard Hare, B.A. (Arch.), A.R.I.B.A.

The tenor is about 10 cwt. and is inscribed: 'Revd. John Whitmore, Rector, John Corder, Isaac Strutt, Churchwardens.' All six bells are inscribed: 'T. Mears of London, fecit 1825.'

The Rector of Polstead, the Rev. P. H. Biddecombe, conducted the service, and Mr. George Pipe (Grundisburgh) read the lesson. Hymns 'Hark the Glad Sound!', 'Unchanging God Who Livest,' 'Angel Voices Ever Singing' and 'Ring Forth, Holy Bells' were sung and the choir sang the bell carol 'In Every Town and Village the Bells Do Ring.'

One of the churchwardens who led the procession to the tower was a lady, Mrs. W. A. Stirling, and in clear voice she asked the Bishop to rededicate the bells. Rounds were rung and then came the 25-minute sermon.

The Bishop reminded the congregation of the goodwill of all and the skill of architects, builders and bellfounders which make these restorations possible.

He quoted from a report he had some time ago by Messrs. Taylor regarding the bells in a church in the Pennines. It ran: 'The peal, as is only too well realised, is of very poor tone and distressingly unmusical.' This became the core of his sermon—we, like bells, must be in good order and receive attention sometimes. When we are in good order, we should go forth and witness. Five points he put forward:—1 Daily prayer; 2 Bible reading; 3 Church on Sundays; 4 If confirmed, communicate, and then 5 Ring out the message to the world. He went on: 'The tower points to Heaven—the eternal. It speaks of stability in an ever-changing scene and a world of conflict . . . The bells say, "Come to church, come to church . . ." but some go off in buses, some dig gardens and some take no notice at all. But some day there is the passing bell . . . pity they didn't listen before.'

Bellringing, he said, is a very important ministry in the life of the church, but bell-ringers can fail in their ministry so that the message does not go forth, or they can refuse to answer the call they have passed on to other people. 'No wonder people don't come to church if they see the ringers going home directly after ringing. . . . They are just ringing for fun and their skill on the ropes—not as ministers on the bells. The ministry of bellringing is the ringers' way of proclaiming.

The service over, the bells rang out and there were many ringers from Suffolk and Essex to try them, while others went to tea at the W.I. Hall.

Coming out of church, it was a perfect evening; the tower and spire were silhouetted against



The oak bookcase for the Ringers' Roll of Honour at St. Paul's Cathedral, which was designed by Mr. C. Cullen, of Farnborough, Kent. Mr. Cullen also generously wrote the roll free of charge.

a clear sky, the air had a clear, cold sting, it was starlight and the silvery new moon lay on its back away to the south-west, light streamed from the church windows and porch and, down in the road below the hill, the Salvation Army band from the Suffolk town of Hadleigh were playing carols.

Reader, don't forget what I said, go to Polstead if you have the chance. Before you come away you can think of Maria Marten and The Red Barn Murder, and there is a little left of the famous 1,000-years-old Gospel Oak.

C. R.

PEAL RINGERS OF 1955

In an endeavour to make this annual review more comprehensive, we propose to publish a list of those who rang 25 or more peals during 1955.

Details required: Number of peals rung (in brackets conducted) for both tower- and handbells.

CHIPPING, LANCs

The six bells of Chipping Parish Church, Lancs, were rededicated on December 11th. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. H. K. Nye, and was fully choral. The act of dedication was performed by the Suffragan Bishop of Burnley (the Right Rev. G. E. Holderness), who also preached the sermon.

Ringers were present from Broughton, Leyland, Preston, Penwortham and Clitheroe. The Lancashire Association was represented by the vice-president (Mr. E. R. Martin) and the Preston Branch secretary (Mr. L. Walmsley).

After the dedication, rounds were rung by the local company, and at the close of service touches of Bob Minor and Cambridge Surprise were rung by mixed bands.

The bells have been quarter turned and fitted with ball bearings and new fittings. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have carried out the work, and the 'go' is now all that can be desired.

WREXHAM

On December 8th the Archbishop of Wales, the Rt. Rev. John Morgan, rededicated the bells of Wrexham Parish Church, which during the past seven months have been undergoing renovations and retuning in Loughborough.

During the service, the Archbishop and the Vicar of Wrexham, the Rev. D. E. M. Glynne Jones, and other clergy, churchwardens and the crossbearer went to the foot of the tower, where the Archbishop led the congregation in prayer. There was later an address, which was followed by the Blessing.

Outside, the church and 16th century tower were illuminated by floodlights.

It was in May that all but two of the eleven bells were taken down and transported to Messrs. John Taylor and Co. at Loughborough. Now, after seven months of silence, they will ring again.

Other fittings in the tower have also been overhauled to make the belfry one of the most up to date in the country. The clock has been restored to working order so that the chimes and hourly striking may be heard again.

MORE BELFRY GOSSIP

A much-admired ring when the Central Council visited Newcastle was the eight of St. Stephen's. These bells are not often available—in fact, including one on December 26th, only three peals have been rung in the last seven years. Mr. Denis A. Bayles is the only ringer fortunate enough to ring in all three peals.

The peal of Stedman Triples at North Bradley, on December 17th, was rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Clive Barber to Miss June Parker. Clive is a member of the local band, and is leaving to reside in Chipping Sodbury. He was presented with an inscribed barometer in honour of his wedding and his valued services as a ringer and as a faithful churchman. Mr. P. Harding, the local captain, by ringing the treble in this peal, has now 'completed the circle' three times.

ST. MARGARET'S, WOLSTANTON

By E. H. EDGE

(Continued from page 826)

THE date of the first peal on the bells is not known, although the first peal for the Stoke-on-Trent Archidiaconal Association (now the North Staffs Association) was rung on these bells on Tuesday, February 19th, 1884, and is stated to have been the first peal on the bells. The ringers were:—

Samuel Walker	1	Samuel Wootton	4
Levi Miller	2	Wm. Priestman	5
Wm. Miller	3	Samuel Spencer	6

The peal consisted of two 720's of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and one 720 each of Court Bob, Grandsire and Plain Bob Minor. This may have been the first peal on the bells but it is more likely to have been the first peal in five methods on them.

Before the formation of the Archidiaconal Association, many 720's had been rung and in 1879, on May 25th, the longest peal of Plain Bob was rung fully-muffled to the memory of Wm. Miller, senior, ringer at the church from 1846 to 1879. Mrs. Miller (recently deceased), daughter-in-law of that Wm. Miller, and at that time fiancée of the conductor, remembered the occasion very clearly for the length of time it took—much longer than any other ringing she heard at the time. It is described as a full peal and is the only early peal for which the time and number of changes are not given, and it is very probable that it was 5,040. The claim is supported by the fact that the method was Plain Bob, and the band, who were all accustomed to ringing extents of a great number of Minor methods, attempted the peal every evening in the week until it was finally brought round on the Saturday.

A further example of the band's enthusiasm is contained in an extract from 'The Bell News,' describing a peal-ringing expedition to Uttoxeter. The peal was Taylor's Bob and Single Variation and was conducted by Samuel Spencer. The ringers were James Baddeley, Levi Miller, Samuel Walker, Fred Martin, Wm. Greenleaf, Samuel Spencer, William Miller and G. Hodgkins.

FOURTH TIME LUCKY

'On Monday, November 10th (1884), a band of ringers from Wolstanton, with Mr. W. Greenleaf, bell-hanger of Stoke-on-Trent, paid a visit to the tower of Uttoxeter Church to attempt a peal of 5,040 Grandsire Triples. They were met at the station by members of the Uttoxeter Society, who had everything in readiness for the start. The band were soon uncoated and "go" called, but ill-luck attended them, for after three attempts it was decided to retire for refreshments, and to make another effort for the peal; so in the afternoon another start was made, but unfortunately without success. The last train for the Potteries returns early in the evening, so by mutual agreement it was decided to stay in Uttoxeter the night, which enabled them to make another start for the peal, which they had the satisfaction of completing in 2 hours 55 minutes, particulars of which appear in the peal columns of this paper. Messrs. Coulson and Bunting (Churchwardens) kindly provided a capital dinner for the ringers, which was well put upon the table by host Kent of the "Spread Eagle" Inn, and the ringers take the opportunity of thanking these gentlemen for their liberality and the vicar also, for his good wishes and permission for the use of the bells. 'Ringers from Leek, Ellastone, Norton and Stoke were present, as also was the Rev. H. W. Howe, Secretary of the Stoke-on-Trent Archidiaconal Association, who takes a great interest in change ringing. This is the first 5,040 ever rung in Uttoxeter. On Tuesday a visit was made

to the village of Doveridge: the tower contains a pleasant peal of five bells, the use of which was kindly granted by the Vicar, who met the ringers. Some 120's of Doubles were rung and, before leaving, the Vicar had thoughtfully provided refreshments at the Vicarage, for which, and other kindnesses shown them, the ringers return him their sincere thanks. On the return to Uttoxeter, the party spent a pleasant hour with host Kent, and the ringers returned to the Potteries delighted with their outing which had been made so pleasant by their many friends.'

FORTY-SEVEN PEALS RECORDED

The records of the Stoke-on-Trent Archidiaconal and North Staffs Association show 47 peals as having been rung on Wolstanton bells, almost entirely by the Sunday service bands, between the foundation of the Association in 1884 and 1954, and these include the first peal for the Association, and the first peals of Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples for the Association. Only two peals, both Grandsire Triples, have been rung since 1926—one in 1939 and the other in 1954. The heyday of peal ringing was the three-year period 1905-1907 when 21 peals were brought round and many more must have been attempted. Of the peals rung since the augmentation, 29 have been of Grandsire Triples, nine of Stedman Triples, four of Kent Treble Bob Major, three of Plain Bob and one Double Norwich Court Bob Major. Among the visiting conductors are numbered J. W. Washbrook, senior, the Rev. F. E. Robinson and the Rev. E. V. Cox, curate for a time at Fenton.

For some years after the first world war the tower severed its connections with the Association (and ceased to subscribe to the ringing journals), but it is unlikely that any startling performances were achieved during that period. There are no minutes for these years but it is known that the effects of the war and internal dissensions in the Society reduced the bands available, and sometimes only six bells were rung for services.

By 1939 the bells were in need of considerable attention, and deterioration during the last war rendered them almost unringable. An appeal was launched and the bells were rehung in a metal frame in 1948 by Taylors. Ringing since that time has fluctuated considerably through old members leaving and the disruption caused by National Service. Considerable progress is now being made and the band is strengthened by the presence of younger ringers of ability and promise. Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major are regularly rung for Sunday services and an attempt is being made to introduce Surprise ringing. Quarter peals for Evensong are attempted and brought round almost every month.

It would be wrong to conclude without paying tribute to Mr. W. A. Fitchford, who passed away in 1954. He rang at the tower for Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887, for the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, and for all the Church and State occasions in the intervening years. He was Ringing Master at the tower for 49 years. He rang in some 64 peals for the Association, of which 40 were Grandsire Triples and nine Stedman Triples. He conducted 35 peals, among which were ten of Holt's Original, which he called from every bell in the tower. Mr. Fitchford was not a prolific peal-ringer and considered always that his first duties were in service ringing and the teaching of the art, and it is for these qualities that he will be remembered and looked up to as an example for those who follow him in the tower.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Melton Mowbray District Annual Dinner

It has been said that you cannot get a quart into a pint pot. Mrs. Seagrave, of the King's Arms, Scaford, did her best on December 3rd to disprove this contention. She likes to restrict her numbers to 50; last year she was persuaded to allow 60; this time, no doubt under the persuasive charm of the District secretary, Mr. J. H. Cook, she very kindly conceded 70.

That number sat down to an excellent meal under the watchful eye of Mr. District Chairman Williams, who was presiding, alas, for the last time—unless he can be persuaded to return from his distant Nottinghamshire retreat to the Melton District. He was supported by Canon C. M. S. and Mrs. Clarke, of Melton Mowbray, Messrs. Paul L. Taylor and E. Charles Turner, vice-presidents of the Guild, and Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Turner, Mr. Shirley Burton, peal secretary, and Mrs. Burton. Other visitors from outside the District included Mrs. Phyllis Poole, Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Staniforth, of Leicester, and Mr. A. S. Richards, of West Wickham, Kent.

The toast of 'The Leicester Diocesan Guild' was proposed by Mr. P. A. Corby, and Mr. P. L. Taylor replied. Mr. J. H. Cook proposed the health of Mr. F. J. Williams, the retiring District chairman, and Mrs. Williams, and in doing so expressed the gratitude of the District for all that Mr. and Mrs. Williams had done. An alarm clock and a fountain pen had been subscribed for by the District, and Mr. Cook called upon Canon Clarke to present these gifts to Mr. Williams. Canon Clarke added his own sincere tribute to Mr. Williams and made the presentation.

In his reply Mr. Williams said that despite the 100 mile return journey he and Mrs. Williams hoped frequently to attend the future meetings and functions of the District. Anything he had done had given him the greatest possible pleasure and he was greatly moved to know that his efforts had been appreciated. He asked the District to support their new officers and urged all to make an effort to attend the annual District meeting at Melton on Saturday, January 21st, when the meeting would have the considerable responsibility of electing not only a District chairman and District secretary, but also of making nominations for a new president of the Guild. Absentee members often had a great deal to say about what they would have done at a meeting had they been there. This sort of thing would be avoided if all were present at the meeting and had their say at the time.

The health of the visitors, who were mentioned by name, was proposed by Mr. Williams, and Mr. A. S. Richards was called upon to respond. He recalled that this was the third successive Scaford dinner he had attended and each one had been most enjoyable.

The entertainment after dinner was organised and led by the 'Kirby Twins'—Arthur Wheeler, churchwarden, superintendent of the 'Specials' constabulary, chief tormentor of Harry Cook, bellringer, reserve chairman, builder of belfry floors and author of all sorts of good works at Kirby Bellars and the life and soul of any party, ably assisted by his partner, Albert Bailey, who seems to specialise in making a piano talk. Unfortunately your correspondent was from time to time engaged elsewhere and did not witness all the indignities to which the guests were subjected, but he did see Jack Day on bended knee demonstrating how he would make a proposal to a charming young lady.

The first Saturday in December, 1956, has been provisionally reserved for a repeat performance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PEALS IN WARWICKSHIRE

Dear Sir,—I am grateful to several correspondents for pointing out two errors in my article on 'Peals in Warwickshire.' Firstly, with regard to Emscote, which I said had been 'silent' since 1905. I find I had the peals in this tower in two places in my card index—one under Emscote and the other under Warwick. All Saints', Emscote. I did not look at the former card, only the latter, where I had recorded the last peal in 1905. On the other card I have six more peals ending with three in 1910 (August 29th, October 3rd and October 12th). This last was the last peal on the bells and it was conducted by my friend Canon C. C. Cox, who was one of the people who kindly pointed out the error. I expect the original use of two cards for the tower was due to the way it appeared in 'Bell News'—sometimes as 'Emscote,' sometimes as Warwick, All Saints'. However, the mistake has been rectified.

The second concerns mention of Knowle. This is purely my own fault. In preparing the list of peals for each tower, I did not put numbers quite by the side of the name, and the peal total of 80 has been credited to Knowle, the next name on the list. It should have been Harborne, and the remarks apply to that tower (silent since 1937). At Knowle there have been 14 peals, the last in 1954. I apologise for the mistakes.—Yours faithfully,

K. W. H. FELSTEAD.

Southampton.

Dear Sir,—As a ringer residing in Warwick for a good number of years, I was interested to read 'Peal Ringing in Warwickshire.' I can quite understand the tremendous amount of work involved in compiling such a survey, and how very difficult it must be to obtain full particulars of each individual tower. I would like to make a correction concerning the tower of All Saints', Emscote. The article states that it is the longest tower 'silent' and that the last of its two peals was rung in 1905, which is not correct. As I read it, it seems to imply that there have been only two peals rung there. I know of at least seven peals rung there from 1902 onwards, and by what I have heard, I think there was one rung by members of the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, previous to that. Perhaps one of our respected friends of St. Martin's could say if that is correct.

The peals rung from 1902 are:—

November 16th, 1902. Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), conducted by the late John D. Matthews.

March 9th, 1903. Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), conducted by Edward H. Adams.

June 15th, 1903. Bob Major, conducted by John D. Matthews.

January 7th, 1905. Grandsire Triples (Holt's Ten-Part), conducted by W. Collett.

August 29th, 1910. Stedman Triples.

October 3rd, 1910. Stedman Triples, conducted by the Rev. C. C. Cox.

October 10th, 1910. Stedman Triples.

This was the last peal rung in this tower. I myself took part in five of these peals.—Yours sincerely,

W. COLLETT.

Warwick.

ST. MARY'S, PENZANCE

Dear Sir,—If Mr. E. T. P. Field will refer to Shipway's 'Campanologia' (1816) he will find the following remark under Cornwall, page xxiii. 'The account of a peal of ten bells at Penzance, in the Clavis, is erroneous; the parish church having only five.'—Yours faithfully,

C. CAREW COX.

Bridport, Dorset.

A BACHELORS' PEAL 65 YEARS AGO

Dear Sir,—Prospective members of the band of bachelors for a peal of Stedman Cinques, mentioned in 'Belfry Gossip' recently, may be interested in the following extract from the 'Bell News' of February 14th, 1891:—

'THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. BACHELORS' PEAL

On Saturday, February 7th, 1891, in 3 hours and 50 minutes

At the Church of St. Bride, Fleet Street

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES

5,019 CHANGES

Tenor 28 cwt.

Richard French	Treble
William Cecil	2
William Burkin	3
George J. Smith	4
Francis L. Davies	5
Challis F. Winney	6
Arthur S. Barrell	7
Samuel E. Joyce	8
Henry G. Fruin	9
George T. McLaughlin	10
Arthur W. Barkus	11
Francis E. Dawe	Tenor

Composed and conducted by Francis Edward Dawe

First peal on 12 bells by Messrs. Davies and Barrell. All the above band, who are in the category of "Bachelors," belong to London, and the novelty of achieving a peal at St. Bride's by twelve Bachelors has been in contemplation for a long time, although only one previous attempt has been made. Their ages, which range from 20 to 40 years, show an average of about 27. This is the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever accomplished in which the conductor has also been the tenor-man.

Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT.

Crayford, Kent.

PARKER'S 12-PART

Dear Sir,—As I am a poor hand at figures I should be glad to know whether any of your more capable readers could inform me whether it is possible to transpose Parker's 12-Part peal of Grandsire Triples so as to make the third, fourth and fifth the observation bell.

One of the most musical touches of Grandsire is the 504, No. 26, on page 35 of the current edition of 'Grandsire' in the Snowdon series. This touch also appears on page 59 of the old 1905 edition. Many years ago my old friend, Mr. A. N. Wood, of Northampton, pointed out to me that it is false. — Yours faithfully,

E. J. TAYLOR.

Tiverton.

DEREHAM, NORFOLK, BELLS

Dear Sir,—Dereham, Norfolk, bells are to be restored in a new steel frame, and with belfry repairs will cost something in the region of £3,000.

Dereham, birthplace of J. Armiger Trollope, had its ring of eight, 24 cwt. in E flat, hung in 1753 in a detached bell tower and the first peal was rung in 1756.

Apart from a rehanging on ball bearings little has been done. An appeal has been launched in the town and in just over two months over £500 has come in.

I would appreciate very much if you could find space in your columns to ask for donations. —Yours sincerely,

GEORGE P. ADAMS.

37, Sandy Lane,

Dereham, Norfolk.

ST. MICHAEL'S, GLOUCESTER

Dear Sir,—The site on which the Church of St. Michael, Gloucester, stands, together with the disused burial ground, has been sold recently for £52,000.

The tower, however, is to remain and £12,000 of the purchase price has been reserved to ensure its safety when it is severed from the nave, and to provide a fund for its future maintenance, but there is no mention that anything is to be done about the bells, a ring of ten, which have been unringable for many years.

It was at this church during the incumbency of their father that the Rev. H. Law and E. Bankes James helped to make considerable ringing history in the 1890's by forming the Society known as 'The St. Michael's Juniors,' and with John Austin as their principal conductor, rang many peals in the area, including what was then thought to be the first of Cambridge Surprise Royal.

Can someone from the Gloucester and Bristol Association say what is to happen to the bells?

—Yours truly,

E. BARNETT.

10, King's Close, Crayford.

Another Aldrington Bride

On December 17th the secretary of the Aldrington band, Miss Ann Law, was married to Mr. Bob Jones at All Saints' Church, Crawley Down. As there is but one bell in the church, handbells were rung by eight members of the Aldrington band at the church gate and later at the reception. Another member of the band, the bride's sister, Pam, was bridesmaid.

Evidence of the good send-off from Gatwick Station was seen on Southover belfry floor at the Southern Division meeting later in the day! Apologies to the Southover ringers for all the confetti.

The honeymoon was spent at Bournemouth, and the happy couple are making their home in Northern Ireland, Bob at present serving in the Royal Navy.

The local ringers presented them with a water set and pyrex ware.

On the previous Sunday a quarter peal of 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles was rung in appreciation of Ann's work as secretary by the following: Ann Law 1, June Grieson 2, Diana Gough 3, R. D. Brown 4, H. W. Brown (conductor) 5, D. H. Paine 6.

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Analysis of Handbell Peals rung during 1954

The 1,260 Grandsire Triples rung at St. Mary's, Stafford, on November 25th, was a compliment to A. B. Garbett on attaining his majority. Before leaving Stafford to take an appointment in Glasgow he was a regular ringer at St. Mary's Church. He now 'looks in' at St. Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, when able. The ringer of the treble was the son of R. J. Warrilow, the head ringer, and grandfather Warrilow was in the belfry to see him ring in his first quarter peal.

QUARTER PEALS

ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTS.—On Dec. 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. K. Adkins (cond.) 1, J. M. Seabrook 2, K. M. Glenister 3, J. E. F. Easley 4, M. Chapple 5, L. Seabrook 6. Rung to mark the dedication of the new organ by the Lord Bishop of St. Albans.

ALBERTON, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Hall 1, G. Webb 2, F. Hall 3, C. Hall 4, G. Atkins (cond.) 5.

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 25th, at 7.15 a.m., 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Pamela R. Gough 1, Diana M. Gough's 2, S. W. Brown (cond.) 3, R. D. Brown 4, H. W. Brown 5, D. H. Paine 6. Also at 5.45 p.m., 1,260 Reverse St. Bartholomew Doubles: June Grieveson 1, D. H. Paine 2, Valerie Mephram 3, R. D. Brown 4, H. W. Brown (cond.) 5, S. W. Brown 6. First in the method by all. Rung for the Christmas festival.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: A. R. Guy 1, F. W. Perrens (cond.) 2, L. M. Callow 3, J. W. T. Taylor 4, H. G. Summers 5, G. Gardner 6, J. L. Garner-Hayward 7, P. K. Williamson 8. Rung half-muffled as a last tribute to Neville Vincent Gorton, Lord Bishop of Coventry, who was interred in the ruins of Coventry Cathedral this day.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, LANCs.—On Dec. 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor, with tenor covering: P. Tyson 1, H. Barnes 2, R. Wilton 3, J. Bagnall 4, F. H. Crawley 5, J. E. Burles 6, G. Richins 7. Rung to herald Christmas.

BATHAMPTON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. E. Naylor 1, E. Naylor 2, Miss J. Coward 3, S. A. Read (cond.) 4, D. Hoare 5, F. Gooding 6.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Dec. 24th, 1,299 Stedman Caters (from Washbrook's alternate course peal): M. V. Chilcott 1, A. Clayton 2, F. E. Darby (cond.) 3, Miss J. M. Winchester 4, Miss K. A. Wells 5, R. D. Tomlin 6, D. E. Parsons 7, E. G. Talbot 8, S. F. W. Kimber 9, L. A. Reece 10.

BOLTON, LANCs.—At the Church of the Holy Trinity on Dec. 23rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Tomlinson (cond.) 1, P. Crook, sen., 2, B. A. Tomlinson 3, J. Grounds 4, A. Greenhalgh 5, A. Pendlebury 6, S. Leatherbarrow 7, J. Thornley 8. Rung as birthday compliments to Mrs. Peter Corok, wife of the second ringer, and grand-daughter Jacqueline, now in Toronto, Canada.

BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS.—On Dec. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, on handbells: Mrs. F. J. Marshall 1, 2, Miss K. E. Fletcher 3-4, D. T. Matkin (cond.) 5-6, P. N. Tubbs 7-8. First quarter peal 'in hand' by P. N. Tubbs.

BUCKLAND NEWTON, DORSET.—On Dec. 22nd, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of Old April Day, Plain Bob and Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and 300 Grandsire): B. Cheeseman 1, D. Sweet 2, R. J. Vardy (first in five methods 'inside') 3, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 4, A. Callow (first in five methods) 5, A. J. Goodfellow 6. Rung as a compliment to the Vicar of Buckland Newton (the Rev. F. Fitzpatrick) on the 55th anniversary of his ordination.

BULWELL, NOTTS.—On Dec. 8th, 1,259 Grandsire Triples: D. R. Boden 1, F. Dakin 2, Mrs. A. Simpson 3, Miss M. Patrick 4, P. E. Ball 5, B. M. Buswell (cond.) 6, P. H. Whitaker 7, A. Simpson 8. First quarter for 1 and 4.

CAMBERWELL, S.E.—At the Church of St. George, on Dec. 18th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (tenor covering): E. R. Iveson 1, L. V. Roberts 2, J. Chilcott (cond.) 3, B. Danbury 4, E. G. Webb 5, F. R. L. Blewer 6, W. W. Shorter tenor. Rung for Evensong, and as a welcome to the Rev. Alan G. Fagg, his wife and family. The Rev. Fagg was ordained deacon earlier in the day.

CHARLTON-ON-OTMOOR, OXON.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Doubles (960 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 300 Plain Bob): H. Haynes 1, Miss C. M. Woodward 2, D. J. Roaf 3, F. Barrett 4, P. R. Sanders (cond.) 5. A birthday compliment to Miss C. M. Woodward.

CHELFORD, CHESHIRE.—On Nov. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Forrester 1, H. Callwood 2, R. Barratt 3, E. Pimlott (cond.) 4, A. Campbell 5, D. Briscall (first quarter) 6.

DERBY.—On Dec. 24th, at the Cathedral, 1,287 Grandsire Caters: A. E. Thompson 1, Miss E. G. Gime 2, J. B. Stennitt 3, A. Taylor 4, D. Shakespeare 5, D. R. Carlisle 6, H. Taylor (cond.) 7, Miss V. M. Horton 8, S. Walklate 9, R. Marsden 10. First on 10 bells for 2 and 5. For the service of carols and nine lessons.

EPSOM, SURREY.—On Dec. 21st, at Christ Church, 1,302 Grandsire Triples: G. A. Cockman 1, F. Oakshott (cond.) 2, Ann Howells 3, W. Robinson 4, N. D. J. Webb 5, W. Parrott 6, D. Astridge 7, D. J. Evans 8.

GAYWOOD, NORFOLK.—On Dec. 4th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. E. M. Bray 1, Miss M. A. Higdon (first as cond.) 2, H. Tovell (first quarter) 3, E. Greenacre 4, C. Tovell 5, E. A. Shipp 6. Rung for Confirmation service.

HARESFIELD, GLOS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: T. Price (cond.) 1, B. Williams 2, E. Chamberlayne 3, D. Friday 4, F. Brookings 5, H. Mathews 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of the late Mr. Herbert B. Jones, who died December 16th, aged 65. He was a ringer at this church for 43 years.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 24th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: Miss C. M. Jupp 1, Mrs. C. A. Cruttenden 2, F. E. Cruttenden 3, D. J. Parsons 4, F. W. Parsons 5, E. F. Packham 6, B. W. White (cond.) 7, R. Langridge 8.

HENLOW, BEDS.—On Dec. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss A. Bywaters 1, G. Mayes 2, A. W. Dilley 3, Miss D. J. Hare 4, L. H. Bywater 5, A. Gentle 6. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. F. Waylett, a loyal church worker of Henlow, interred this day.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.—On Dec. 18th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: Miss E. Lomas 1, J. Salway 2, W. D. Ashdown 3, D. Callard 4, E. E. Retter 5, A. Holway 6, G. E. Retter (cond.) 7, E. Morgan 8. Rung before the carol service.

HUISH EPISCOPI, SOMERSET.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Jeanes 1, P. Cox 2, L. M. Clark 3, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 4, F. J. Locke 5, H. Wetherell 6. For Evensong.

HUNTSPELL, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Hobbs (first as cond.) 1, E. Hooper (first quarter, 15) 2, D. Holley 3, M. Farthing 4, A. Turner 5, S. Chedzey 6. For the festival of Christmas.

IXWORTH, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 18th, 1,320 Reverse St. Bartholomew Bob Doubles: L. Melton 1, L. Pierce 2, E. Bishop 3, H. King 4, K. G. Brown (cond.) 5, H. Ivings 6. Rung on the birth of a grand-daughter (Julie Parsons) to the ringer of the second.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—On Dec. 18th, 1,320 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Papworth 1, C. Button 2, Miss W. M. Elliott 3, J. Elliott 4, R. Pye 5, C. Burton (cond.) 6. Rung for Evensong.

KEYMER, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. S. Eaton 1, P. N. O. Robinson 2, Miss E. Everest 3, D. Fagg 4, P. C. Hollingdale (cond.) 5, F. Cox 6. Also on Dec. 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. S. Eaton 1, Miss E. Everest 2, Miss M. Carnochan 3, P. N. O. Robinson 4, P. C. Hollingdale (cond.) 5, F. Cox 6.

KINGSTONE, HEREFORDS.—On Dec. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: I. G. Jones 1, T. J. Gundy 2, L. H. Colcombe (cond.) 3, R. G. Powell 4, A. Colcombe 5, R. A. Colcombe 6. For Christmas morning service.

MARLOW, BUCKS.—On Dec. 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. E. Dean (cond.) 1, Miss J. Cook 2, Miss H. Bonner 3, J. T. Clay 4, E. D. Poole 5, E. Silvey 6, Miss E. Gibson 7, L. J. Young 8. Also on Dec. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss H. Bonner 1, Miss J. Cook 2, E. D. Poole 3, E. Silvey 4, Miss E. Gibson 5, J. T. Clay 6, R. E. Dean (cond.) 7, L. J. Young 8. On Christmas morning.

NORTHAM, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Barnes 1, Mrs. G. Reece 2, H. Collings 3, Miss M. Miller 4, W. Button (cond.) 5, F. Tedham 6. First quarter by all except the conductor, and first attempt; also first quarter since the war by a local band.

NORTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On Dec. 17th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: F. Whitley 1, Miss W. Bowack 2, T. Cordell 3, W. Wheeler 4, S. Rochester 5, W. Wedlock (cond.) 6. Rung as a token of esteem to the captain of the tower, Mr. Harry Kinz, also to commemorate his 50 years' service as a ringer at this church.

NUNNEY, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Pearce 1, W. Whippet 2, E. Bray 3, P. Bray 4, D. Robertson (first quarter as cond.) 5, H. Vennell 6.

OATLANDS PARK, SURREY.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Acey (first quarter) 1, R. Lathbury 2, Mrs. V. Lathbury 3, Miss J. Smith 4, P. Fells (first in method) 5, A. Weise (first 'inside') 6, F. E. Collins (cond.) 7, V. Smith 8. On the occasion of the birth of a son to the ringer of the 5th.

PAKENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 24th, 1,260 Doubles (360 Reverse St. Bartholomew, 360 Grandsire, 540 Plain Bob): L. Melton (first in three methods) 1, L. Pierce 2, K. G. Brown (cond.) 3, H. King 4, E. Bishop 5.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.—On Dec. 22nd, at Emmanuel Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Baldry (first quarter) 1, J. P. Sims 2, R. Perkins (first of Triples 'inside') 3, G. Goddard 4, A. Weatherly 5, H. H. Thomas 6, F. E. Day (first of Triples as cond.) 7, F. R. Hocking 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Dec. 25th, at the Church of St. Mary, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: J. D. Harris 1, T. R. Taylor 2, Marion J. Parker 3, R. H. R. Parker 4, L. G. Duguid 5, F. W. Burnett 6, R. G. Leale (cond.) 7, R. Baldwin, 8. Rung for Christmas Day Evensong.

R.A.F. ST. EVAL, CORNWALL.—On Dec. 16th, at the Church of St. Eval, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. H. Eplett 1, R. A. Southwood (cond.) 2, Rev. A. S. Roberts 3, D. N. Penrose 4, H. Stacey 5, C. Sangwin 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to the wife of the fifth ringer.

ROTHLEY, LEICS.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: N. Bishop 1, G. Brewin (cond.) 2, M. Bishop 3, R. Brewin 4, P. Plowright 5, M. Westbury 6. For Matins.

RUSHALL, STAFFS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: K. Williams (first of Minor) 1, Samela R. P. Thomas 2, J. Allen 3, Stella Hughes 4, G. W. Hughes (cond.) 5, E. Stitch 6. Rung to welcome the new Vicar (the Rev. T. B. Simister, B.A.).

SANDHURST, BERKS.—On Dec. 18th, 1,272 Treble Bob Minor (552 Oxford, 720 Kent): W. J. Parker 1, W. J. Paice (cond.) 2, L. W. Paice 3, J. E. Wightman 4, C. Fennell 5, W. Collins 6. For carol service.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—At St. Thomas' Church, on Dec. 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Smith (cond.) 1, Jill Tombs 2, Elizabeth Yield (first quarter 'inside') 3, F. V. Nicholls 4, F. B. Cookson 5, P. W. Webb 6, J. N. Lindon 7, R. Cooper 8. Rung for Holy Eucharist and as a farewell to D. J. Midgley, who has left for Newcastle, Staffs. Also 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. W. Webb 1, D. N. Layton 2, R. Smith (has now 'circled the tower' as cond.) 3, J. R. Niblett 4, R. Cooper 5, A. L. Dunn 6, D. H. Watson 7, Jill Tombs 8. First in the method for 1 and 4. Rung for Evensong and as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Dunn.

STRADBROKE, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 27th, 1,360 Kent Treble Bob Royal: Margot R. Blythe 1, E. A. Head 2, J. B. Morley (first on 10 as cond.) 3, Mrs. O. L. Rogers 4, C. R. Catchpole 5, G. A. Sutherland 6, R. J. Darch 7, J. W. Blythe 8, L. E. Etheridge 9, H. W. Rogers 10. First quarter on 10 for 2, 5 and 7, and first of Kent Treble Bob Royal for 1, 3, 6 and 9.

WANDSWORTH, SURREY.—At the Church of the Holy Trinity, on Dec. 18th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Belcher 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, James Phillips 3, H. Ellis 4, B. K. Lunn 5, T. Setter 6, John Phillips (cond.) 7, H. M. Page 8. For Evensong, and as a birthday compliment to Mr. Belcher.

WANLIP, LEICS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Yates (first quarter) 1, D. H. Baker 2, G. C. J. Wakefield 3, T. A. Yates 4, O. T. Northwood (cond.) 5, P. H. Morris (first quarter) 6. Rung to commemorate the third anniversary of the dedication of the bells.

WELLS, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 27th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters, at the Cathedral: J. Badman 1, A. J. Sanger 2, F. Savage 3, V. Roberts 4, G. Prescott 5, G. Salmon 6, V. Savage 7, D. Hoare 8, T. J. Setter (cond.) 9, A. G. Clare 10. In memory Stephen H. Wood.

WILLOUGHBY-ON-THE-WOLDS, LEICS.—On Dec. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. A. Bartlam 1, W. Dakin 2, Miss M. Hill 3, J. Butler 4, S. Adams (cond.) 5.

WOOLWICH, S.E.—On Dec. 11th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: T. H. Culver 1, Miss C. Wakefield (first 'inside') 2, A. Grove, sen., 3, R. A. Johnson 4, M. Parry (cond.) 5, B. W. Aldridge 6. Rung for Evensong and in farewell to B. W. Aldridge; also a welcome return to A. Grove, jun., after completing his National Service.

NOTICES

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ENGAGEMENT

WILLIAMSON-SMITH.—The engagement is announced between Paul Kenyon Williamson, of 15, Mosely Avenue, Coventry, and Gillian Anderson Smith, of 12, Wellington Square, Oxford. 7562

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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MISCELLANEOUS

PILTON, SOMERSET.—There will be no more ringing at Pilton until further notice as the bells are being dismantled for retuning. Donations to the appeal will be welcomed by the Rev. M. Hurst-Banister, Pilton Vicarage, Shepton Mallet. 7556

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

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MEETINGS

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Annual meeting at Cambridge, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells: St. Andrew-the-Great (8), 3 to 4.30 p.m.; service 4.30; R.C. (8), 2 to 3 p.m.; St. Benet's (6), 2.30 to 4 p.m. and 6.30 to 8 p.m.; St. Mary-the-Great, 7 to 8 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. in St. Andrew's Parish Room, Emmanuel Road.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 7503

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Great Waltham (8) on Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea to A. Everett, Cornerway, Plantation Road, Boreham. 7443

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, January 7th, at Barking. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. 7473

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—Saturday, Jan. 7th, St. Stephen's (10), 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Please attend.—A. Bennett, Hon. Sec. 7560

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Annual district meeting at Hertford St. Andrew, Saturday, Jan. 7th, 3 p.m. All Saints' after tea. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—T. J. Southam, District Sec. 7439

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting on Saturday, Jan. 7th, at Tunbridge Wells. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. 7441

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Wye (8) on January 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—W. P. Garner. 7467

LINCOLN GUILD.—Northern Branch (Lincoln District).—Annual meeting, Metheringham. Jan. 7th.—C. Brown, 3, Altham Terrace, Lincoln. 7476

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, Jan. 7th, St. George's, Camberwell, 3 to 4.15. Service 4.15. Tea 5, in Church Hall. Business—six nominations; St. Giles', Camberwell, 7.30 to 8.30. Names for tea, please. Saturday, Feb. 4th, A.G.M., Southwark Cathedral, St. John's, Waterloo, etc. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. 7442

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Stony Stratford, Saturday, Jan. 7th. Bells (8) 5 p.m. All welcome.—R. H. Howson. 7515

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Annual meeting at 6 o'clock at the St. Martin's Hotel, Jamaica Row, on January 7th. Bells available—Cathedral (12) 4 to 5 p.m., St. Martin's (12) 5 to 6 p.m.—G. E. Fearn, Hon. Sec. Phone: SPR 1025. 7481

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Ecclesfield, January 7th. 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. L. Smith, 3, Park Crescent, Ecclesfield.—J. Scager, Sec. 7513

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Cuckfield (8), Jan. 7th. Names for tea, please, to I. Butcher, East Bungalow, Paddockhurst, near Crawley. 7492

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Hursley, Jan. 7th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. The King's Head Hotel. Names to R. F. Brewer, Dean, Spars-holt, Winchester. 7519

HAMPSTEAD.—Ringers' Evensong on Sunday, Jan. 8th, at St. Stephen's, Pond Street, Hampstead. Ringing from 5.15 p.m. Refreshments in Church Hall after service.—T. Bevan. 7510

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Practice meeting, All Saints', West Ham (10), Wednesday, Jan. 11th, 6.30 to 8 p.m. Annual district meeting, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Details next week. Everyone welcome.—L. W. Bullock, Dis. Sec. 7546

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Jan. 14th, St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, 3.30 p.m. Tea in Hall behind Church, 5. Meeting, 'Ship,' Talbot Court, 6. Special business, revision of rules. Names for tea by Jan. 10th, please, to A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate. 7532

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD.—Annual meeting at Marsden (10), Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Bells until 9 p.m. Names for tea, please, by Thursday previous, to Mr. D. B. Cater, Newlands, 7, Lane Ings, Marsden, Huddersfield. 7490

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Midsomer Norton, Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. It is essential that names for tea be sent by the 11th. The Master of the Association will give the address.—E. J. Chivers, Wingles, Chilcompton. 7495

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 14th, Bath Abbey. Bells 3 to 4.30 p.m. Service at St. Michael's with St. Paul, 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Bells available after the meeting. Names for tea essential, to Mr. G. Hawkins, 29, Coronation Avenue, Bath. 7529

BARNSELEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual meeting, Barnsley, Jan. 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., Rectory Rooms. For tea, notify me not later than Jan. 10th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 18, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley. 7561

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Branch.—Annual meeting, Jan. 14th, at Minehead. Tea provided for number notified by Jan. 10th. Bells 3 p.m.—A. R. Tudball. 7549

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—Annual meeting at Biggleswade on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) 3. Tea at 5, followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—L. H. Bywaters, Hon. Sec. 7527

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETY.—Meeting, Hull, on Saturday, Jan. 14th. St. Mary's, Lowgate (6), available 2 p.m. Service, 4. Tea in Y.P.A. 4.30 p.m. Holy Trinity (10) available after tea. Names for tea to Mr. F. G. Reed, 127, Holmgarth Road, Bellfield Avenue, Hull. 7539

CHESTER GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Annual meeting at St. Michael's Church, Macclesfield, Jan. 14th. Bells (12) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Meeting 6 p.m. 7565

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly general meeting at Ripley (8) on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells from 3 p.m. Own tea arrangements—cafés nearby.—M. Bailey. 7516

DEVON GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—St. Michael's, Teignmouth, Saturday, Jan. 14th. Usual arrangements.—A. L. Bennett, Cornerways, Buckfastleigh. 7531

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Annual dinner, Culverden Arms, Tunbridge Wells, Jan. 14th, 6.30. Ringing 4.30 to 5.30 at St. Peter's. Tickets, 10s. 6d.—only a few left.—C. A. Bassett, 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst, Sussex. 7523

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Annual meeting at Soham on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Fordham bells (6) available after tea. Names for tea, please, by Jan. 7th, to R. J. Housden, 20, Carter Road, Burwell, Cambs.—R. J. Housden, Dis. Sec. 7463

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—Annual meeting at St. Peter's, Colchester, on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and business in St. Peter's Hall. St. Leonard's (6) also available except during service and meeting. Names for tea by the 11th, please, to H. J. Millatt, 301, Harwich Road, Colchester. 7486

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Annual social and dance at St. Werburgh's Parish Hall, Bristol, Saturday, Jan. 14th. Tickets 5s., from W. F. Scudamore, County Police Station, Winterbourne, Bristol. 7540

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—St. Mark's, Swindon (8), Jan. 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Own tea arrangements.—W. B. Kynaston. 7524

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Meeting at Barming cancelled. Saturday, Jan. 14th, quarterly meeting now at East Farleigh (6). Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—R. L. Sills, The Square, Wrotham. 7553

LADIES' GUILD.—North-Eastern District.—Annual meeting at Houghton-le-Spring on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells available 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. W. Sheraton, 27, St. Aidan's Terrace, New Herrington, Houghton-le-Spring, by Thursday, Jan. 12th. 7502

LADIES' GUILD.—Sussex Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes (10), on Jan. 14th. Ringing 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5, followed by business meeting, election of officers. Ladies, please support: gentlemen cordially invited. Names for tea, please, to Mr. R. C. Hide, 1, Priory Place, Southover, Lewes, by Wednesday, Jan. 11th.—Kathleen Yeoh, Hon. Sec. 7474

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 14th, at St. Nicholas', Pier Head. Bells available 2.30. Tea at 4, followed by meeting. Service 5.30. Ringing after service until 8 p.m. Tea will be provided free of charge only to those who send in their names before Wed., Jan. 11th, to me.—P. W. Cave, Hon. Sec., 3, The Rooley, Huyton, near Liverpool. 7522

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Practice meeting at Flookburgh on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to A. Edgar, Holker, Grange-over-Sands.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec. 7557

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting at St. Leonard's, Middleton, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided.—F. Pritchard. 7521

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—Meeting at Preston Parish Church (Branch annual meeting), Saturday, Jan. 14th. Tea in Church School, Avenham Lane, 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, 11th, to Mr. C. Cross-thwaite, 45, Herschell Street, Preston.—L. Walmsley. 7558

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District.—Annual meeting, Jan. 14th, Anstey (8). Tea at 4.30 p.m. in the 'Hare and Hounds,' and business meeting at approx. 5.30 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 12th to Mr. R. Elkington, 24, High Street, Anstey. 7555

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at St. Mary's, Church End, Finchley, on Saturday, Jan. 14th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, by invitation, and business to follow. Names for tea must be sent in.—T. J. Lock, 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts. 7520

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Overseale, on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify J. W. Cotton, Overseale (264), Burton-on-Trent. 7491

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Norwich on Saturday, Jan. 14th. St. George's bells from 2.30 to 4 p.m. and 6.30 to 8 p.m. St. Peter Mancroft, 3.45 to 4.15 and in evening. Service at St. Peter Mancroft 4.15. Tea in Chantry Hall, 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. F. Nolan Golden, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich, by Wednesday, Jan. 11th, please.—H. Tooke, Branch Sec. 7501

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Bodicote (5), Jan. 14th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please notify E. C. Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury, Oxon. 7485

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Practice, Jan. 14th. Henley-on-Thames 1.30 to 4.30. Shiplake 6 to 8.30. Annual meeting, Feb. 11th, at St. Mary's, Reading.—R. G. Burton. 7547

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Rothwell (8) on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Service 4.15 p.m. If you require tea please send names by Tuesday previous.—H. Baxter, 21, Charles Street, Rothwell. 7528

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oundle Branch.—Annual meeting, Oundle (8), Jan. 14th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, by Tuesday previous, to Mrs. P. E. Clarke, 7, Bassett Place, Oundle. 7536

PULHAM MARKET, NORFOLK.—A. R. Todd, Esq., of The Hall, Pulham Market, invites Norfolk and Suffolk ringers as his guests to tea in the Village Hall on Saturday, Jan. 14th, at 5 p.m. The Parish Church bells (8) will be available from 2 p.m. Names for tea not later than Jan. 10th, please, to Mr. A. Roope, Church Croft, Pulham Market, Diss. 7549

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts District.—Annual meeting at Retford, Saturday, Jan. 14th. East Retford (10), West Retford (6) and Ordsall (6) from 2.30. Service in East Retford Church at 4.30. Plenty of cafes in town. Meeting in East Retford belfry at 6 p.m.—H. Denman. 7494

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Practice meeting, Lymminster (6), Jan. 14th. Names for tea, please, by previous Tuesday to W. L. Weller, Sunnyside, Itchingfield, Horsham. Surprise practice, Jan. 21st, and not 28th, at Arundel. 7542

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Southampton District.—Annual meeting at St. Michael's, Southampton, on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Names for tea by Jan. 11th to M. J. Butler, 8, St. Peter's Rd., Southampton. 7543

WINDSOR.—Surprise practice. Windsor Parish Church (8), on Saturday, Jan. 14th, at 6 p.m. All welcome.—F. R. Scott. 7525

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Cotleigh, Jan. 21st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea and business after. Names for tea by Jan. 17th to W. Webb, Oakwell, Millhead Road, Honiton. 7548

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.-W. District.—Annual meeting at Harlow Town (8) on Saturday, Jan. 21st, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. at the Queen's Head, followed by business meeting. Names, please, to G. Blake, Dis. Sec., Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow, Essex. 7534

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, Ash, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea, 2s. per head. Names for tea, with cash, please, to Mrs. M. E. Peattie, 74, Molland Lea, Ash, Canterbury, not later than Wednesday, Jan. 18th.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 7541

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—Annual general meeting at St. John's, Erith, on Saturday, Jan. 21st, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. F. Cullum, 78, West Street, Erith, by Jan. 19th, please. All ladies welcome. Gentlemen cordially invited.—Jill Haffenden. 7526

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Melton District.—Annual district meeting at Melton Mowbray on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells (10) 2.30 to 4.15 and 6.30 to 8.15. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5. Names, please, by the 17th, to Mr. H. Clayton, 17, Bayswater Road.—J. H. Cook. 7517

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Gainsborough District.—The annual meeting will be held at Gainsborough on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells, afternoon and evening. Service 5.15. Tea (Cleveland Hotel) 5 p.m. Names by Tuesday previous to Geo. L. R. Lunn, Hon. Sec., Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. Tel. 2623. 7552

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Culworth Branch.—Annual meeting at Brackley, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Names for tea by Tuesday previous.—A. E. R. Walker, Eydon. Rugby. 7530

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Annual meeting, Jan. 21st. St. Martin's and St. Paul's bells from 2.30. Service, St. Paul's, 4 p.m. Tea and meeting. Assembly Rooms, 5 p.m. St. Martin's and St. Thomas' bells, evening. Names for tea by 17th to Miss Eloit, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury. 7551

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Winter meeting. Bloxwich, Jan. 21st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, Jan. 18th.—Fred Bennett, Pool House Road, Wombourne. 7533

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual general meeting. Saturday, Jan. 21st, at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Bells available: St. James', Clerkenwell (8), 2.30 to 4 p.m.; St. Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield (5), if required, 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.; St. Martin's (12), 3.30 to 5 p.m. Tea in St. Martin's Canteen 5.15, followed by business meeting in Vestry Hall. Names for tea by Tuesday, Jan. 17th, please, to P. N. Bond, Hon. Sec., Gaywood, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent. 7544

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Annual general meeting at Redhill, Jan. 21st. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15, at Greyhound Hotel. Names for tea, by Jan. 17th, to H. Comber, 2, Woodlands Avenue, Redhill. 7537

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Quarterly meeting. Halesowen, Saturday, Jan. 21st, 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business. Names for tea by Wednesday, Jan. 18th, please.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Lane, Stourbridge, Worcs. 7550

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Next general meeting at Sheffield on Jan. 21st. Bells available: St. Marie's, Norfolk Row (8), 2.30 to 5 p.m.; Cathedral (12), after meeting till 9 p.m. Committee meet in Cathedral belfry at 3.15 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. O. Chaddock, 1, Hemsworth Road, Sheffield, 8, by 19th. Venue for tea and meeting to be announced later.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Bradford, 9. 7559

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.—Annual ringing day and dinner will be held on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Ringing arrangements later. Dinner in University Refectory at 7 p.m. for 7.15 p.m. Tickets now available from C. T. Blundell, 124, Richmond Road, Bristol, 6. 7535

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Annual district meeting, Alverstoke, Jan. 28th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., in Brodric Hall. Names by 24th to H. A. Nobes, 26, Peel Road, Gosport. 7545

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