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A NEW YEAR EVE'S TALE

OR

HOW GIANTS ARE MADE

ONCE upon a time there were two giants—a Big Giant and a Little Giant. In actual fact some less kind persons referred to them as two lunatics, but in our story we shall give them the benefit of the doubt. Now these two giants lived in different lands, but it was the custom of the Big Giant to visit the land of the Little Giant at Christmas time.

One year, the Big Giant informed the Little Giant that he would be arriving two days before Christmas so, naturally, a peal was arranged to begin within a few minutes of his arrival. This being successfully accomplished, the giants both looked at their notebooks; the Big Giant discovered that he had just rung his 97th peal for the year whilst the Little Giant had just rung his 48th. Since for some years the relationship between their peal ringing numbers had always been of a geometric nature involving the factor two, it was decided that the former must ring 100 whilst the latter must ring 50.

The Little Giant was therefore detailed to arrange a peal on Christmas Eve, in fact the following afternoon. This was no light task and caused great consternation in his household since he had already promised to set aside the morning of Christmas Eve for the purpose of transporting his family to the local town for Christmas shopping, an operation which had already been postponed many times owing to abortive attempts for peals numbers 47 and 48. However, five ringers were found easily, but there the matter was allowed to rest until the middle of the night when the Little Giant awoke with sudden intuition and, shaking the Little Giantess into consciousness, instructed her to remind him to ring up the local Vicar and borrow his five bells.

As might be expected, the Little Giant was awakened early the next morning with the good news that the Vicar had agreed to the peal attempt but, unfortunately, no sooner had he arisen than the Vicar re-appeared on the telephone to say that although he didn't mind them ringing the peal, he would like them to break off for half-an-hour in the middle while he conducted a funeral.

Thus you can imagine the predicament; the peal must start in four hours' time if the bells were not to be confused with Father Christmas' sleigh bells and, as all readers know, even giants have a very healthy respect for Father Christmas. Therefore, much feverish activity commenced and eventually a nice melodious six were procured, the six ringers found (the sixth being forcibly removed from a pigeon-shoot) and the Christmas shopping disposed of. The peal got away to a good start but in the middle of the fourth extent, the Big Giant, who was conducting, got excited and missed a bob. But, there being another week before the end of the year, no one was worried and all went quite happily about their own particular Christmas activities.

On St. Stephen's Day the Big Giant departed into another land to ring a peal of Yorkshire Royal, but met one short. However, this was a day when the fairies were kind to our heroes and provided a native of that land, which enabled a peal of Plain Bob Royal (B. G.'s 98th) to be rung. At the same time the Little Giant rang a peal of Cambridge Major (his 49th) on bells with a long draught and no guides, and the fairies ensured that the more rotund members missed their sallies with much less frequency than usual.

By St. John's Day, however, the fairies had departed; both giants joined forces to attempt a peal of Stedman Cinques, the Big Giant having obtained a composition from an even bigger giant. Unfortunately, the latter had not realised that 'A' as a description of the 'going-off' course is inadequate for lesser giants or even for ordinary mortals

so, after calling the 'turning' course as a 'going-off' course and then various 'going-off' courses described as 'A' in other members' note-books, it was decided that the figures and the composition bore little relation to each other. Consequently, ringing had to be abandoned and a quieter and less strenuous recreation followed in a nearby still-room. No one need worry at this stage as there were still four days left before the end of the year.

On the following day the Big Giant had to return to his own land for three days to assist in the manufacture of rockets, presumably for Guy Fawkes, while the Little Giant should have rung a peal of Major but this was unfortunately cancelled owing to a lack of mortals in the vicinity. The Big Giant rang his 99th peal the next day but the Little Giant, confidently conducting an attempt for Ipswich Minor fell asleep in the fourth extent and on waking said 'bob' when he should have said something quite different.

Thus December 30th was a great day of preparation, the Big Giant travelling to the land of the Little Giant, whilst the latter, so be safe, so he thought, arranged two attempts for the last day of the year, the peal totals now being 99 and 49 respectively. The last day dawned bright, but this never augurs well in Little Giant land, and the first attempt started late owing to the vagaries of a number of internal combustion machines. This attempt was for seven minor methods, but the first went badly and the second looked like doing the same, which would never do for such an important peal, so the order 'stand' was given. It was decided that since the two badly-rung methods were named after the School of Magic attended by the Big Giant, they had better be left out. The new attempt settled down immediately to a really worthy beat and it looked as if the peal would be completed in two hours and fifteen minutes, but in the middle of the fourth extent, a method named after the School of Magic attended by the Little Giant, the latter got so excited and confident that he would grow into a big giant that he pulled too hard, whereupon his rope broke and descended on his head.

After repairing the rope, the party dispersed to reassemble two hours later at another tower with a view to ringing a peal of Ealing. Here they were delayed by many things. First the Big Giant was delayed by the peculiarities of the infernal machine which he was wont to ride. Then on raising the second bell it was found to cavort in a most unfriendly manner. Fortunately the band included a highly skilled and most respected automobile engineer, who soon diagnosed the trouble as a 'too long' stay, wherefore he sent another member to fetch his complete tool-kit from the back of his car. As soon as this member arrived with the four-and-a-half-pound hammer, it was used to good effect and they were ready to raise the third. This bell swung very well but, unfortunately, continued to swing beyond top-centre so that the whole rope disappeared into the room above. This unusual behaviour was soon found to be due to a nut being missing from the end of the Hastings stay, and was soon remedied by treating the end of the bolt with the heavy hammer.

The remaining six bells were raised without mishap and they 'went Ealing' as directed by the Big Giant. The composition started with wrong and three, and the first course went well, but at the start of the second course a little unevenness caused the Big Giant to get excited and tell the fifth that he had just run in. By the time the latter gentleman had reminded the conductor of the general rules of transposition 'Stand' was the only possible call. The whole episode was then repeated only this time the Big Giant told the fifth that he should have made the bob. Another start, a couple of courses, and then the sixth place bell ran straight to the front in spite of instructions to the contrary. 'Stand,' and the Big Giant was heard to say: 'This time it's not my fault.' It was then decided that they must ring something that they really knew, so 'Go Cambridge.' After one hour and twenty minutes (almost exactly half-way) of good and undisturbed ringing, the automobile engineer

suddenly aspired to become a giant, pulled too hard and was seen festooned with his descending rope.

By this time it was 5.30 p.m., with only six-and-a-half hours of the year remaining, and the last four of these were already booked by a party and a performance for the B.B.C. Offers of a six-bell tower were forthcoming but they dare not chance another broken rope. The giants therefore carried off one mortal (leaving the others to clear up the mess) to the Little Giant's house and, after a quick tea, carried out a very thorough inspection of the straps and clappers of L. G.'s handbells, put the next generation of little giants to bed, locked the Little Giantess in her own room, took the telephone off the hook and the striking weights off the grandfather clock, and settled down to a peal of Bob Minor 'in hand.' This was completed without mishap so that we can now record that they can all live happily ever after.

On hearing this story the next day, the five-year-old member of the next generation of little giants remarked that she knew all along which was the Big Giant because he had eaten most tea.

W. J. R.

TEN BELL PEALS

SOUTHAMPTON.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

*PETER NASH Treble	REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD .. 6
NELIA M. LEAHY 2	*JOHN H. GILBERT 7
*ROBERT C. KIPPIN 3	MAURICE J. BUTLER 8
*ADRIAN TUMBER 4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS .. 9
REGINALD W. REX 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN .. . Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY.

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Yorkshire Royal.

READING, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF 5079 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 23½ cwt.

NOEL J. DISERENS .. . Treble	BRYAN C. STIRLAND 6
ALBERT DISERENS 2	WILLIAM HIBBERT 7
MRS. P. LEWINGTON 3	RONALD F. DISERENS .. 8
JOHN N. DISERENS 4	CYRIL E. LEWINGTON .. 9
STANLEY G. DAY 5	VINCENT T. CHERILL .. . Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by NOEL J. DISERENS.

Rung as a diamond wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Osborne.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 31, 1955, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 24 cwt.

PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING .. Treble	*GRAHAM R. EYLES 6
MRS. F. A. PENN 2	*LAURENCE E. HITCHINS .. 7
MISS E. BROWN 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE 8
FREDERICK S. SLATFORD .. 4	GILBERT H. HARDING .. 9
FRANK A. PENN 5	† JACK LUCAS Tenor

Composed by G. R. FARDON.

Conducted by GILBERT H. HARDING.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. † First peal on ten bells.

Rung for the christening of Anthony John, son of Mr. and Mrs. Newton.

YEovil, SOMERSET.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Dec. 31, 1955, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 40 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

HENRY G. KEELEY .. . Treble	HARRY J. GAYLARD 6
RICHARD J. CRAGO 2	HENRY J. SANGER 7
ANTHONY J. SANGER 3	G. STEDMAN MORRIS .. 8
TREVOR E. MARKS 4	THOMAS J. SETTER 9
ROGER KEELEY 5	WILLIAM E. TURNER .. . Tenor

Composed by E. C. SHEPHERD.

Conducted by G. STEDMAN MORRIS.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 7, 1955, in 1 Hour and 45 Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

ERNEST MORRIS .. . Treble	BRIAN S. CHAPMAN 5
BRIAN G. WARWICK 2	WILLIAM THORNLEY 6
JOHN A. ACRES 3	JOHN M. JELLEY 7
ERNEST J. JELLEY 4	JOHN E. COOKE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM THORNLEY.

The quickest tower-bell peal yet rung.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 21, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

A variation of the Rev. H. Law James's composition.

Tenor 7 cwt. 99 lb. in A flat.

STANLEY W. COPLING .. Treble	*DAVID HEIGHTON 5
ARTHUR G. BASON 2	NOLAN GOLDEN 6
GEORGE SAYER 3	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 7
*JOHN S. BARNES 4	BERT GOGLE Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. Rung as a compliment to Mr. David Heighton on the eve of his coming-of-age.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 21, 1955, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in F.

E. CHARLES TURNER .. . Treble	BRIAN G. WARWICK 5
MRS. B. G. WARWICK 2	JOHN M. JELLEY 6
JOHN A. ACRES 3	PETER J. STANFORTH .. 7
MRS. H. J. POOLE 4	ERNEST J. JELLEY .. . Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER (No. 5).

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

Rung for the Feast of St. Thomas, A. and M., Patron Saint; also a welcome to the Rev. A. E. Taylor, made deacon by the Bishop of Leicester on December 18th and licensed as curate to this parish.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Dec. 22, 1955, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5088 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILFRED J. NEWMAN .. Treble	RALPH HARRIS 5
MRS. J. THOMAS 2	*HENRY PLUMB 6
JOHN THOMAS 3	PATRICK HARRIS 7
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 4	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN .. . Tenor

Composed by H. POYNER.

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

* First peal of Major. First peal in the method by all the band.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 24, 1955, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor 16 cwt.
WALTER W. MILLER .. . Treble	WILLIAM J. BUTTON 5
PATRICIA M. CLARKE 2	GEORGE W. PIPE 6
GEORGE A. FLEMING 3	WALTER RUFFLES 7
FRANK RUFFLES 4	LESLIE G. BRETT Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to P. M. Clarke, L. G. Brett and Leslie C. Wightman.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 24, 1955, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF EMMAUEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 12 cwt.

LESTER GRAY .. . Treble	DOREEN DUTTON 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 2	EDWIN BIRKETT 6
JIM GROUNDS 3	RONALD KENRICK 7
*PETER COXALL 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD .. . Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by RONALD KENRICK.

* First peal of Stedman.

ALREWAS, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt.

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

Composed by W. P. WHITEHEAD.

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

* First peal in the method.

BERKHAMSTED, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5184 ST. CLEMENT'S BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

GEORGE W. DEBENHAM .. Treble	ERIC EDMONSON 5
*DEREK E. LATCHFORD .. 2	*STANLEY HUCKLE 6
*OLIVE M. JOHNSON 3	WALTER AYRE 7
*PAMELA A. MARTIN 4	BERTRAM C. JOHNSON .. Tenor

Composed by J. A. Trollope.

Conducted by BERTRAM C. JOHNSON.

* First peal in the method. Walter Ayre has now 'circled the tower.'

CAMBRIDGE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND THE ENGLISH MARTYRS.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's Variation. Tenor 32 cwt. in D.

ARTHUR G. MASON .. Treble	JOHN G. GIPSON 5
ERNEST G. HIBBINS 2	JAMES W. R. QUINNEY .. 6
JOHN W. WARD 3	HARRY L. MARTIN 7
T. REGINALD DENNIS 4	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, HAMPTON.

A PEAL OF 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. Treble	WILFRED J. NEWMAN .. 5
*COLIN B. LONGMORE .. 2	GERALD C. HEMMING .. 6
*HAROLD E. RAXTER 3	*EDMUND MALIN 7
*ANTHONY J. BRAZIER .. 4	R. ROGER SAVORY Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

* First peal of Kent Major.

HEREFORD.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (seventh observation). Tenor 17½ cwt.

LESLIE EVANS Treble	AUSTIN T. WINGATE 5
*ROSEMARY JARRETT 2	WILFRID F. MORETON .. 6
MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 3	ARTHUR W. DAVIS 7
GEORGE DAVIS 4	LESLIE L. QUARTERMAIN .. Tenor

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Triples 'inside.'

A farewell peal to the Rev. Preb. S. G. Chance, for 26 years vicar of this parish.

KNIGHTON, RADNORSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD.

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

DONALD G. CLIFT .. Treble	LESLIE EVANS 5
WILFRED WILLIAMS 2	DAVID G. KING 6
JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. 3	ROGER O. FRY 7
MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Composed by G. LEWIS.

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

The first peal in the method on the bells.

ST. HELENS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN.

A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 25 cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY .. Treble	*PETER COXALL 5
MARGARET E. RIDYARD .. 2	JACK ASHCROFT 6
DOREEN DUTTON 3	RONALD KENRICK 7
GORDON HALLS 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

* 50th peal.

Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Coxall, of Parbold.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

MARGARET LEWIS .. Treble	JEFFREY B. WEBB 5
JOAN BERESFORD 2	RICHARD J. WARRILLOW .. 6
ANN BARR 3	PETER BERESFORD 7
DENNIS BERESFORD 4	GEORGE E. OLIVER Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

LODDON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

ARTHUR G. BASON .. Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN 5
STANLEY W. COPLING .. 2	*GODFREY G. WALPOLE .. 6
*JAMES W. FORDER 3	GEORGE SAYER 7
*EDWIN T. CHAPMAN .. 4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

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

Rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Browne, two highly respected members of the parish.

MANSFIELD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 11 lb. in F.

CYRIL WRIGHT .. Treble	ARNOLD HILL 5
GEORGE CHALLANS 2	DOUGLAS H. ROOKE 6
HAROLD WAGSTAFF 3	JOSEPH SAXTON 7
WILLIAM DICKINSON 4	HERBERT T. ROOKE Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

First peal of Major on the bells since being recast and rehung.

NORTHOWRAM, HALIFAX, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW.

A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, comprising 1,344 Superlative and 1,248 each of Cambridge, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, with 119 changes of method and 'all the work.'

Tenor 16 cwt.

GORDON TURNER .. Treble	*COLIN SWEENEY 5
M. VIVIAN COPPING .. 2	J. HENRY FIELDEN 6
GEOFFREY F. BRYANT .. 3	*JOHN PEARSON 7
JOHN F. BRYANT 4	VERNON BOTTOMLEY Tenor

Arranged by E. A. BARNEIT.

Conducted by VERNON BOTTOMLEY.

* First peal. † First peal of Spliced Surprise. First peal of four spliced by the remainder of the band.



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PRIVETT, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
 Tenor 12 cwt. 15 lb. in G.

*BARWELL B. DIBBEN .. Treble	ERIC T. LEE 5
GEORGE FRANCIS 2	*W. LESLIE WELLER 6
ERNEST TREAGUS 3	BRIAN J. LUFF 7
*JUNE M. CLEMENTS 4	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.
 *First peal of Double Norwich. Presumed to be the fastest peal of Major for the above Guild.

BICKER, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD,
On Wed., Dec. 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
 Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in A.

J. W. Washbrook's Variation.	Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in A.
STANLEY E. BENNETT .. Treble	ALBERT E. BENNETT 5
*RONALD C. NOON 2	GWEN I. RUSBY 6
WILLIAM B. DAWSON 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE 7
†JOHN E. COOK 4	ROBERT HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.
 *First peal of Stedman Triples. †First peal of Stedman Triples 'inside.'
 A wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Bennett.

SOWTON, DEVON.
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.
On Wed., Dec. 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES
 C.C.C. No. 25. Tenor 9½ cwt.

ARTHUR TAPLEY Treble	†KENNETH DAWE 5
GEORGE E. RETTER 2	*FREDERICK WRE福德 6
ERNEST E. RETTER 3	*JOHN QUICK 7
*SIDNEY SKINNER 4	*WILLIAM REEKS Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER. Conducted by GEORGE E. RETTER.
 *First peal in the method. †First peal of Triples. First peal in the method on the bells.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Dec. 29, 1955, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR
 In three methods: 3,392 Rutland, 768 Superlative, 928 Cambridge;
 106 changes of method. Tenor 10 cwt.

CHARLES H. HARDING .. Treble	ANDREW C. SINFIELD 5
*JOHN W. V. SINFIELD .. . 2	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES 6
*DEREK P. JONES 3	*PHILIP MEHEW 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	STEPHEN IVIN Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.
 *First peal of Spliced Surprise Major.
 An 18th birthday compliment to the conductor.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 30, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
 Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in G.

MONICA E. COLLINS .. Treble	W. LESLIE WELLER 5
JUNE M. CLEMENTS 2	GEORGE FRANCIS 6
SHELAGH R. COLLINS 3	TREVOR A. CROSS 7
LEONARD STILWELL 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.
 The conductor's 70th peal of Double Norwich, conducted 50, and rung in 70 different towers. Quickest peal of Major on the bells.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 31, 1955, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
 Tenor 21½ cwt.

*RUSSELL G. PARKER .. Treble	WILLIAM J. BUTTON 5
*FRANK RUFFLES 2	*WALTER RUFFLES 6
*PATRICIA M. CLARKE .. . 3	*WALTER W. MILLER 7
GEORGE A. FLEMING 4	LESLIE G. BRETT Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.
 *First peal in the method.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

CUCKNEY, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
 Tenor 10½ cwt.

Being seven different extents.

JOAN SMITH Treble	A. EDWARD DOBB 4
ARNOLD HILL 2	GEORGE CHALLANS 5
*BARBARA PAYNE 3	HERBERT T. ROOKE Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT T. ROOKE.
 *First peal, rung at first attempt.

SOUTH COLLINGHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES
 Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb. in A.

Being 42 extents (ten different callings).

*STUART L. HUBBARD (14) Treble	WILLIAM L. EXTON 3
MARK W. LEWIS (15) .. . 2	DENNIS SIMPSON (14) .. . 4

F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. Tenor
 Conducted by WILLIAM L. EXTON.
 *First peal, at first attempt. First peal of Doubles as conductor.
 Rung for Advent.

SPONDON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES
 Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.

Being 11 Morris's 240's, three of Pitman's, two of Heywood's and ten 120's.

*KENNETH TUNNICLIFF .. Treble	PETER J. SKINNER 4
JOHN F. MURFIN 2	DAVID K. WALKLATE 5
†ERNEST H. JOHNSON .. . 3	†BARRY BRADLEY Tenor

Conducted by DAVID K. WALKLATE.
 *First peal in the method. †First peal at first attempt.

TREGARE, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES
 Tenor 10 cwt.

Being 12 extents of Plain Bob (four callings), 20 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles (ten callings), five 240's of Grandsire Doubles (Morris's Arrangement).

GEORGE WARD Treble	JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. . 3
ROBERT E. R. SMITH .. . 2	REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS .. 4

DAVID J. KING Tenor
 Conducted by ROBERT E. R. SMITH.
 Rung to mark the golden anniversary of the ordination of Rev. William Phillips (81), who has been Vicar of Tregare since 1934; also as a compliment to the Rev. Ivor J. Richards, who has completed 25 years in the ministry; and a birthday compliment to Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, on his 90th birthday.

WHAPLODE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR
 Tenor 12 cwt. 14 lb.

Being seven different extents.

HORACE BENNETT Treble	FRANK TAYLOR 4
*GEORGE R. G. BUTLER .. . 2	JOHN G. AMES 5
STANLEY E. BENNETT .. . 3	RONALD C. NOON Tenor

Conducted by RONALD C. NOON.
 *First peal in the method.

MELDRETH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 23, 1955, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR
 Tenor 12 cwt.

Being seven extents.

JOHN G. GIPSON Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS .. . 4
GILES C. GALLEY 2	DENNIS E. PEPPER 5
WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. . 3	PETER BORDER Tenor

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

BAWTRY, YORKSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 14 cwt. 14 lb. in F sharp.
*TESSA LOVELL Treble | DENNIS SMEDLEY 4
HERBERT T. ROOKE 2 | FREDERICK JACKSON 5
ALEC WILSON 3 | DOUGLAS H. ROOKE Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS H. ROOKE.

* First peal, rung at first attempt. 25th peal as conductor.

ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

Tenor 11 cwt.

D. KAY ADKINS Treble | KENNETH R. DUNSTAN 4
*MADELEINE CHAPPLE 2 | CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 5
WILLIAM WENBAN 3 | JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Conducted by D. KAY ADKINS.

* First peal in seven methods.

BRAYWOOD, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 SPICED DOUBLES

Being 42 extents in 30 regular individual plain course methods, viz.:
(1) Reverse Bob, St. Sebastian Bob, St. Bartholomew Bob and Reverse All Saints' Bob; (2) Reverse Bob, Coxwell Pl. and Canterbury Pl. Bob; (3) New Bob and Itchingfield S.C.; (4) New Bob and Fornsett Bob; (5) New Bob, Itchingfield S.C. and Fornsett Bob; (6) Huntspill Bob, New Bob, Itchingfield S.C. and Fornsett Bob; (7) Huntspill Bob and Oakley S.C.; (8) Huntspill Bob and Ellingham Bob; (9) Huntspill Bob, Oakley S.C. and Ellingham Bob; (10) Huntspill Bob, New Bob and Oakley S.C.; (11) Huntspill Bob, New Bob and Ellingham Bob; (12) Huntspill Bob, New Bob, Oakley S.C. and Thornborough S.C.; (13) Plain Bob and Candlesby S.C.; (14) Plain Bob and Boxford Bob; (15) Plain Bob, Candlesby S.C. and Boxford Bob; (16) St. Simon's Bob and Rugby S.C.; (17) St. Simon's Bob and Braywood Bob; (18) St. Simon's Bob, Rugby S.C. and Braywood Bob; (19) St. Martin's Bob, St. Simon's Bob and Rugby S.C.; (20) St. Martin's Bob, St. Simon's Bob and Braywood Bob; (21) St. Martin's Bob, St. Simon's Bob, Rugby S.C. and Braywood Bob; (22) St. Martin's Bob and Slapton S.C.; (23) St. Martin's Bob and Welford Bob; (24) St. Martin's Bob, Slapton S.C. and Welford Bob; (25) St. Simon's Bob, St. Martin's Bob and Slapton S.C.; (26) St. Simon's Bob, St. Martin's Bob and Welford Bob; (27) St. Simon's Bob, St. Martin's Bob, Slapton S.C. and Welford Bob; (28) Reverse Canterbury Pl. Bob and Raveningham S.C.; (29) Reverse Canterbury Pl. Bob and Dorton Bob; (30) Reverse Canterbury Pl. Bob, Raveningham S.C. and Dorton Bob; (31) St. Nicholas' Bob and Longford S.C.; (32) St. Nicholas' Bob and Fundenhall Bob; (33) St. Nicholas' Bob, Longford S.C. and Fundenhall Bob; (34) Winchendon Pl., St. Nicholas' Bob and Longford S.C.; (35) Winchendon Pl., St. Nicholas' Bob and Fundenhall Bob; (36) Winchendon Pl., St. Nicholas' Bob, Longford S.C. and Fundenhall Bob; (37) Winchendon Pl. and Thornborough S.C.; (38) Winchendon Pl. and Haddiscoe Bob; (39) Winchendon Pl., Thornborough S.C. and Haddiscoe Bob; (40) St. Nicholas' Bob, Winchendon Pl. and Thornborough S.C.; (41) St. Nicholas' Bob, Winchendon Pl., Haddiscoe Bob and Fundenhall Bob; (42) St. Nicholas' Bob, Winchendon Pl., Haddiscoe Bob and Thornborough S.C., with 339 changes of methods and no bobs throughout.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in G.

GEORGE MITCHELL Treble | JOHN SCHOFIELD 3
FREDERICK R. SCOTT 2 | WILLIAM BUTLER 4
FRANK T. BLAGROVE Tenor

Conducted by FRANK T. BLAGROVE.

First peal in 30 individual plain course Doubles methods.

BREEDON-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND HARDULPH.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 9½ cwt.
JAMES A. ROBINSON Treble | ARTHUR E. ROWLEY 4
*JAMES A. LORD 2 | JOHN A. UNDERWOOD 5
*JOHN W. RAWSON 3 | ROLAND BENISTON Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

* First peal of Minor.



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AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



DANBURY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in five plain methods: (1) Double Court, (2) and (3) Oxford Bob, (4) Double Oxford, (5) St. Clement's, (6) and (7) Plain Bob.

DAVID J. TEMPLE .. Treble	ERNEST E. S. JOHNSON .. 4
MARY DOWSETT 2	*JOE E. G. ROAST .. 5
IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS .. 3	PETER J. EVES Tenor

* 100th peal. Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.

EAST HARLING, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.	Tenor 11 cwt.
WILFRED E. GARRARD .. Treble	JOHN R. SMITH 4
*LEONARD W. KING 2	CEDRIC F. W. PHILLIPPO .. 5
WILFRED G. SAUNDERS .. 3	FRANK C. J. ARNOLD Tenor

Conducted by CEDRIC F. W. PHILLIPPO.

* First peal 'inside.'

HELMDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents (four different callings).	Tenor 10½ cwt.
GEORGE SHELLARD Treble	MONTAGUE SAUNDERS .. 4
WILLIAM J. CHESTER .. 2	WILLIAM A. YATES 5
BARRY E. SAUNDERS .. 3	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE W. HOLLAND.

First peal in the method as conductor.

KINGSBURY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 extents of April Day, ten of Reverse St. Bartholomew (three callings), ten of Plain Bob (four callings), ten of Grandsire (ten callings).

Tenor 18 cwt. (approx.) in E flat.

WALTER G. LANE Treble	*TERENCE H. SMITH .. 3
ROGER L. NUTT 2	GORDON H. LANE 4

D. KEITH LANE Tenor

Conducted by GORDON H. LANE.

* First peal 'inside.'

LANGLEYBURY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being composed of seven different combined extents, with 5-6 the right way throughout.

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

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

* First peal on six bells.

First peal of Kent and Oxford by all the band except the conductor.

LEAMINGTON HASTINGS, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (ten callings).	Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 2½ lb.
HUGH M. JOHNSON .. Treble	*ROGER N. CLARKE .. 3
MICHAEL R. BENNETT .. 2	*ROBIN V. BAKER .. 4

VICTOR A. PERRY Tenor

Conducted by VICTOR A. PERRY.

* First peal. Rung for the Festival of St. John.

THORINGTON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 27, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being extents of Cambridge Surprise, Single Court, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. 22 lb.

*DONALD B. MUNRO .. Treble	†H. FRANK PIKE .. 4
ANNE V. LEWIS 2	ARTHUR G. BUTTON .. 5
ROY DUESBURY 3	ALAN R. ANDREWS .. Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

* First peal. † First peal in seven methods.

TIBSHELF, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION,

(Chesterfield District.)

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

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Single Oxford Bob, two of Plain Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and two of Oxford Treble Bob.

J. PHILLIP EASTLAND .. Treble	DOREEN ARMSTRONG .. 4
GEORGE HANCOCK 2	FRANK BRADLEY 5
WALTER DAVIS 3	ALBERT WHEELER .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BRADLEY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the fourth on her 21st birthday that day.

STANTON LACY, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Wed., Dec. 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob (three methods).

LESLIE EVANS Treble	*JOHN J. G. ELLAMS .. 4
MOLLIE TILBURY 2	MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 5
F. ERIC ROBERTS 3	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Minor.

BRANSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 31, 1955—Sun., Jan. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents, viz.: Ipswich, Beverley, Surfleet, Netherseale, Norwich, Bourne and Cambridge.

*ALLAN BRUMMITT .. Treble	RONALD APPLEWHITE .. 4
JOHN F. PEARSON 2	JOHN E. COOK 5
AMOS INGALL 3	LOUIS WILLIERS .. Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS WILLIERS.

* First peal in seven Surprise methods. First in seven Surprise as conductor. First in seven Surprise on the bells by a Sunday service band.

Rung to mark the 60th anniversary of the first peal on the bells (December 7th, 1895), and with the clappers half-muffled for the passing of the Old Year.

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 31, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, CHAPEL ALLERTON.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob, two extents of Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

SHEILA M. SCHOFIELD .. Treble	J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 4
JOHN THORLEY 2	IRVIN SLACK 5
MARGARET S. RHODES .. 3	RONALD H. DOVE .. Tenor

Conducted by J. MARTIN THORLEY.

The first peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS

JULIANSTOWN, COUNTY MEATH, IRELAND.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION

On Sun., Feb. 6, 1955, in 1 Hour and 39 Minutes,

AT MEADOW COTTAGE, JULIANSTOWN.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores. Tenor size 12 in F.

JAMES TAYLOR 1—2	FRED E. DUKES .. 3—4
------------------------	----------------------

JOHN HUBER 5—6

Conducted by FRED E. DUKES.

Rung as a farewell to Jim Taylor, who has joined the R.A.F. (now serving in Cyprus, December, 1955).

JULIANSTOWN, COUNTY MEATH, IRELAND.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT MEADOW COTTAGE, JULIANSTOWN.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores. Tenor size 8 in C.

MRS. F. E. DUKES 1—2	FRED E. DUKES .. 3—4
----------------------------	----------------------

SIDNEY G. LEWIS 5—6

Conducted by FRED E. DUKES.

Rung in honour of the birth of a son to Cyril Galbraith, assistant secretary, Southern District.

HOW CHANGE RINGING STARTED AT EAST BUDLEIGH

A peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at East Budleigh on December 31st was rung in memory of the Rev. Herbert William Gardiner, vicar from 1928 to 1948, and it is interesting to recall that it was during his early days that the tower switched from call changes to method ringing. He never failed to call on practice nights, and one night while we were happily striking some Stedman from cards on the 'music desk' and changing every whole pull, he brought along the late Rev. E. S. Powell and Mrs. Powell.

At that time there were nine old hands and eight of us youngsters, and it was the start of a very embarrassing period for Mr. Gardiner. While we youngsters were 'all for it,' the old hands 'didn't want nart to do wi' this 'new-fangled' stuff.' A serious 'tiff in the tower' started and went on for some weeks until Mr. Gardiner wisely withdrew and asked the late Rear-Admiral (later Rev.) Pallot to handle the situation. He brought about a compromise whereby we each had separate practice nights and rang on alternate Sundays. One by one the old hands died or gave up and so the 'new-fangled stuff' took over completely until, as in recent years, East Budleigh became the only tower in Devon where one could walk in on a practice and ask for a touch of London Minor.

The 'young uns,' however, will always be grateful to the Littleham ringers who came once a week to instruct them in Grandsire Doubles. One of these, Jack West, will celebrate his 80th birthday this month and his 60th year as a ringer at Littleham, and he's still ringing.

C. S.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION Wintry Weather at Drighlington Meeting

Approximately 30 members were present at the quarterly meeting of the Western District, held at St. Paul's Drighlington, on December 17th. Weather conditions being somewhat wintry, it was a most welcome sight, upon entering the spacious ringing room, to find an electric fire burning in one corner—a very popular corner for those not participating in any particular touch. Once more a wide variety of methods was rung, and it was encouraging to see some of the company trying their hand at new methods.

Ringing was discontinued at 4.30 p.m. and a short service held, conducted by the Vicar of Drighlington. Tea was taken in a nearby café, after which the business meeting was held in the tower.

The thanks of the meeting were expressed to the Vicar, churchwardens and local company for their hospitality, and the Vicar, in his reply, formally welcomed the Western District to Drighlington. He subsequently became involved in a somewhat lengthy discourse on the origin of change ringing as a result of certain remarks made during the course of his address having reached the attentive ear of the vice-president.

Five new members were elected, viz.: Miss Barbara Morton and Messrs. Michael Stephenson, Colin Sweeney, John Pogson and W. T. Cook.

The next meeting is to be held on March 17th at Halifax, with ringing at both St. John's, Halifax, and All Souls', Haley Hill.

5184 Xavier Surprise Major

BY JOHN R. MAYNE

23456 M W H

34256			2
32546	—		2
63425	2	—	2
64235	—		2
53246	—	—	—
23645	—		

2 × repeated

Contains all the combinations of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6 at the course ends.

Rung at Stanmore, December 17th, 1955, conducted by the composer.

5088 Spliced Rutland, New Cambridge, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Surprise Major

BY ROGER BALDWIN

23456 M W H

45236	—	—	RRRRRRYNY
24536	—	—	YYYYYYY
52436	—	—	LYRLN
34625	—	—	LNLNLLL
64523	—	—	LLLNR
54326	—	—	RLLR
62345	—	—	NNNNR
36245	—	—	NNNNNNN
23645	—	—	RLLYL

Twice repeated

All the work of the four methods for every bell.

R, Rutland, 1,152; N, New Cambridge, 1,344; Y, Yorkshire, 1,248; L, Lincolnshire, 1,344; 87 changes of method.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

For the first time in its history the University of Bristol Society sent out two bands to attempt peals, one of Cambridge Minor and one of Grandsire Doubles, on December 15th. Unfortunately Cambridge was lost in the second extent and the Doubles band met one short owing to an overfull bus at 5 p.m. The local tower captain, Mr. W. M. Malpass, very kindly agreed to stand in for a quarter peal at Stone to enable the Doubles band to achieve some success.

Mr. G. C. Goodman, of Wimbledon, late Master of All Saints', Kingston-on-Thames, has returned to this country.

By a peal of Triples at Bicker, Mr. R. C. Noon, of Spalding, has now rung Stedman from Doubles to Cinques. Success came after very many attempts.

Congratulations to Joe Roast, of Danbury, Essex, who, having just celebrated his 20th birthday, rang his 100th peal on December 27th. Of these he conducted 61.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Browne, of Loddon, Norfolk, were 'at home' to the ringers and their wives after the peal of Double Oxford Bob Major on the local bells in honour of their golden wedding.

The peal at Branstons, Lines, was rung in two days, two weeks, two months and two years. 'Go' was called at 9.30 p.m. on Saturday, December 31st, 1955, and 'That's all' at 12.28 a.m. on Sunday, January 1st, 1956.

The peal at Dunkerton rung by the Twerton-on-Avon band with Mr. Leslie R. G. Taylor was followed by an excellent tea kindly provided by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Butt. With two exceptions it was a teen-age band, and through 'The Ringing World' they desire to express thanks to their hosts.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

Thorpe-le-Soken has had a good year with five of the new band formed in 1953 ringing their first peal. Three were recorded in a peal on April 16th and two more on December 28th. The latter included Mr. Ivan Cooper, who had his first lesson on June 28th and rang the third faultlessly throughout the peal.

Errata.—The peal at Hersham, Surrey (see page 3), should read 5040 Plain Bob Major, and not as printed.

Itchingfield, Sussex, band have rung a quarter peal of 10 methods of Spliced Doubles. This is the most methods yet rung to a quarter peal.

We regret to hear of the death of Mr. Leslie C. Wightman, the well-known Suffolk ringer, on January 4th.

Mr. Walter Allwood, an old member of the Chesterfield band, is in a very serious condition in Scarsdale Hospital, Chesterfield. We trust he may soon be restored to health.

The ringers of the third and fifth in the peal at Locking, Somerset (see page 821), should read John Schofield and Ian H. Oram respectively and not as printed.

News only reached the Editor this week-end that there was an unsuccessful attempt for London Surprise Maximus at Southwark Cathedral last summer.

Mr. J. R. Dennis, of 33, Clarendon Street, Cambridge, asks us to inform our Bath correspondent that he would like to represent the Cambridge District in the bachelors' peal attempt of Stedman Cinques.

Mr. Joseph Burgess, of Friezland, writes expressing the hope that the many young aspirants to ringing will pay more attention to their striking than 'tower snatching.' In his opinion 'tower snatching' is more competitive than the competitions for striking.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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SALISBURY CATHEDRAL AND ITS BELLS

THE present Cathedral actually replaced an older one of Norman origin which was situated on the high and windy uplands of Old Sarum, about two miles north of the city, and it was in 1220 that Bishop Poore came down to the water meadows and laid the foundations on this site. It was partly completed and brought into use five years after.

As one views the exterior, standing in the Close, it is upwards that the eye is drawn, right to the cross at the top of England's highest spire—soaring 404 feet skywards, balanced and blended in true proportion upon the great central tower (which itself follows the usual pattern of so many Wiltshire towers).

But the real cause for amazement is that this marvellous spire was not originally planned by the early builders at all, but was not begun until long after the completion of the tower, and was really erected between the years 1310 and 1335, a hundred years or so after the foundations were laid. That it was, in a way, an afterthought, is borne out by the fact that the thickness of the four great piers which carry the entire weight is a mere seven feet each—and the placing of the spire alone added an extra estimated weight of 6,470 tons on them. The four great columns which carry the Bell Harry Tower at Canterbury are each 12 feet in thickness, whilst the massive tower at St. Albans Cathedral is spread comfortably upon 64 feet of base—16 feet at each corner! The massive scaffolding which was used in building the spire at Salisbury is still in place, whilst at its base there still remains the treadmill, and this is still used in work carried out in hauling up stone and materials for repairs, etc.

NOTICEABLE BULGE

Looking up inside the Cathedral at the columns there is a noticeable bulge outwards, as with the weight, whilst the spire itself leans nearly 28 inches to the south-west, but it is still considered safe. It is said that should the underground springs dry up hereabouts disaster would soon follow!

The great Sir Christopher Wren (himself Wiltshire born) placed two mighty cross-beams with an outward thrust in the central tower. Adjoining the main part of the building are the lovely Cloisters and the Chapter House. Various legends and tales are woven around the story of the building of the Cathedral, one being that the foundations were literally placed on bales of wool owing to the watery state of the locality.

To see the exterior at its best one should stand at the north-east corner of the Green, near the Deanery, where the form of the double cross may best be seen. As one observer put it, 'Salisbury is all glorious without, but Exeter is all glorious within.' Both must be seen to be fully appreciated.

Foremost among the traditions of this great church, and amongst its chief glories, are the music and singing. The lovely treble voices are drawn from the boys of the Choristers' School, in the Close, whilst the harmonious whole choir is supported and led by the magnificent Wallis organ, considered to be one of the finest in the country.

THE RESTORER

But now, to music of another kind—and many people are surprised to learn that Salisbury Cathedral once possessed a noble and heavy ring of bells, which, with the great campanile containing them, were nearly all destroyed and swept away by our restorer friend, Wyatt. We know for sure that there were eight heavy bells in the campanile, but whilst recently making my investigations I was more than surprised to learn that there were certainly ten bells, and probably twelve, in the Cathedral's possession at some time! Some of

the bells hung in the central tower, and may even have been brought down from the old cathedral at Old Sarum. But then came the building of the spire, about 1310 onwards, so, for safety's sake, the bells were removed and rehung in the campanile, which was built for them at the same time.

The campanile was taken down by Wyatt in 1789 and the details concerning it are as follows:—

It was constructed on the most massive scale, the walls being eight feet thick, and the interior of the tower 33 feet square. This stone part was 80 feet high to the top of the parapet. The ringing chamber was 37 feet above the ground, and the belfry 32 feet above this. Rising up from the top of the stonework there was an octagonal battlemented lantern which had a lead-covered spire rising from it, and on the top of that a cross and a weathercock. The entire structure was about 200 feet high.

SALE OF BELLS

Both the campanile and the bells were the victims of negligence, and from 1740 the bells could not be rung in peal because of the dilapidated state of the frame. In the year 1777, numbers two, three, five, seven and eight, which were all cracked, were sold at 10s. 6d. a stone, and of the remaining three bells, the treble and number four were sold for £105, whilst number 6 was hung in the central tower in 1793, where it remains to this day doing duty as the service bell and the hour bell for the clock.

As one approaches the north porch of the Cathedral, coming in from the High Street gate, the actual site of the bell tower is just on the Green on one's left, and the exact mark-

ings of the old foundations may be traced after a dry spell of summer weather such as we experienced last year, for, as they still exist only a little way under the surface of the turf, the grass turns off brown first owing to the rubble and drainage underneath.

A visit to the spot should be preceded or followed by a visit to the Salisbury and Blackmore Museum in St. Anne's Street, where there are, fortunately, two large engravings of the Cathedral exterior showing the campanile itself (and a third giving the interior before 'restoration'). The whole Close must have presented a vastly different appearance in those days—for one thing even the old pony-drawn mowing machines had not then been invented, so the grass appears much longer, suitable for the sheep which grazed there.

A PURDUE BELL

And now a brief word about the only existing bell may be of interest. It was cast by William Purdue in 1661 (which, if my memory is correct, is two years before the casting of 'Purdue's Masterpiece,' which is Queen Camel tenor). Its weight is 24 cwt. 2 qr.; diameter of mouth 57½ in.; its note is D; and the inscription is as follows: 'Fusa Anno Regis Caroli 2di. XIIo. Aoa. Dni. 1661. Impensis Ecclesiae. William Purdue.'

The bell now carries no wheel and is hung dead, fastened to its original headstock with the old style cannons. The clapper strikes the bell by means of a balanced wooden lever arrangement just underneath it, the rope descending to the Cathedral floor by the north-west pier. It is altogether a lovely bell and worthy in every way of the tower that carries it, and of its founder.

It is unfortunate that, of all the other bells belonging to the ring, no record appears to exist regarding their history, and no knowledge remains as to their founders, and if any of the early bells really had come down from Old Sarum that is all the more regrettable. Did the great campanile once resound to the music of ten, or perhaps even twelve? I myself can scarcely credit that—and would love to know for sure.

This, then, is the incomplete story of the bells of Salisbury Cathedral, and to us of this age an outstanding example of the consequences of neglect and apathy against which we are so rightly warned from time to time in our journal. A popular local impression in Salisbury is that the bells of St. Thomas' Church came from the Cathedral, but this is definitely not so.

SILENT FOR 20 OR MORE YEARS

The city now possesses four rings of eight, with a ring of six pending, and it is, maybe, a somewhat ironical coincidence that the finest of them all—eight, tenor 28 cwt.—has now remained silent for 20 years or more, for various reasons—deterioration, lack of interest, money and ringers!

For those who may be fortunate enough to have the opportunity and the wish to pass a quiet hour or so in the Close with the Cathedral chimes and the voice of Purdue's bell for company, there is still much to meditate upon, for though the Cathedral cannot claim such royal and historical associations as Winchester and Canterbury, it still has an interesting story of its own to tell.

Note.—I would like to record my indebtedness to Mr. B. C. Parsons, Clerk of the Works to the Dean and Chapter, for his help in certain details, and his kindness in arranging for me to be shown up into the tower. Also to the book 'Bells in England,' by Tom Ingram, which gave me the details of the campanile and the disposal of its bells.—J. B. P.

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING

LEICESTER — WHITSUN, 1956

Preliminary Notice

Headquarters will be the Bell Hotel, Humberstone Gate (Phone: Leicester 22086). Terms:—Bed and Breakfast 21s. plus 10 per cent. service charge. The management have reserved a **limited number** of rooms, and members must mention the Council when booking.

Other Hotels (B. and B. Terms)

Stag and Pheasant, Humberstone Gate. 21s. Early booking advisable.

Grand, Granby Street. 22s. 6d. Bookings must be at least one month before rooms required.

George, Haymarket. 20s.

White Hart, Haymarket. 21s. No advance bookings. Inquiries should be made about two weeks before rooms required.

Heathfield (unlicensed), London Road. 21s. single; 40s. double. One month's notice required.

Notes. — (1) The Council meeting should be mentioned in all cases. Early booking is strongly recommended. (2) Prices quoted are existing ones, and increases of 2s. to 3s. appear to be expected shortly. (3) All the above hotels are near Headquarters except the Heathfield. There is a good bus service between London Road and the Clock Tower, the nearest point for the Bell.

E. A. BARNETT.

Hon. Secretary.

THE QUICKEST TOWER-BELL PEAL

On Wednesday evening, December 7th, the South Wigston ringers had arranged to meet at the Loughborough Bell Foundry for their customary Wednesday evening peal attempt.

This was William Thornley's 'turn' to be in charge of the arrangements, and he had specially 'laid on' a peal of Bristol and included in the band a famous ringing character from Lincolnshire, who is making his presence felt in Leicestershire for a few months.

At the last moment, one of the band was indisposed and as the 'first reserve' had not had enough time to get shaved even (let alone learn Bristol!) a peal of Double Oxford was started. It was soon obvious that several people did not know the blue line and after 20 minutes 'Stand' was called.

This caused great disappointment to the younger members and also to Ernest Morris, who wanted as many peals as possible to equal his 1922 record.

'Let's go for a quick peal of Plain Bob,' said the gentleman from Lincolnshire. 'Yes,' replied six others. (The writer did not reply as he had left his wife in bed.)

Ropes were shortened and the band rearranged. It was 7 p.m. when the bells went into changes—how many people have started for a tower-bell peal at that time?—and it was exactly 8.45 p.m. when rounds came up.

Every change was rung correctly—there is no doubt about that, but there was no enjoyment in ringing at that speed as the sound of the bells merged into one continuous hum. It was obvious that the limit had been reached when the tenor sally at handstroke only just managed to bob up and down again. Nevertheless it was a true peal with every one of the 5,024 changes struck correctly. B. G. W.

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.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—London County Association 2s., 6d., G. H. Williams 10s. 6d., P. K. W. 1s. 6d., St. Mary's, Baldock, £1 15s., Anon 2s., G. Baker 4s., E. W. Morey 2s. 6d., A. P. Knights 5s., Anon. 4s., G. H. Harding 4s., G. Moorhouse 4s., G. Seth 4s., H. Irwin 4s., W. A. Wooler £1.

Peals.—Hockwold 3s., Ashwick 6s., Ardeley 2s., Holywell 3s., Sutton-in-the-Isle 3s., Douling 3s., Radstock 3s., Brampton 2s. 6d., South Collingham 2s. 6d., Dunkerton 3s., Trowbridge 5s., Yeovil 5s., Rowberrow 2s., Arundel 5s., Shipley 2s.

Quarter Peals.—Huish Episcopi 3s., Stradbroke 2s. 6d., Stourbridge 2s., Haresfield 3s., Henfield 2s., Charlton-on-Otmoor 2s. 6d., Huntpill 2s., North Weald 3s., Thorley 2s., Halesowen 2s. 6d., Barrow-in-Furness 3s. 6d., Wells 5s., Alderton 2s. 6d., Marlow 1s. 6d., Whitechurch Canoniconic 2s., Upper Clapton 2s., Margate 2s., Wolstanton 4s., Pilton 1s. 6d., Naseby 5s., Wimbeldon 2s. 6d., Halesowen 2s. 6d., Heckington 2s. 6d., Congresbury 2s., Leatherhead 2s. 6d., Croydon 4s., Caversham 4s., Walthamstow 4s., Chelsfield 3s., Lyme Regis 2s., Itchingfield 3s., Cirencester 2s. 6d., Longney 2s., Bridgetule 2s., Marhamchurch 2s.

CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS BROADCAST

The last evening of 1955 was a joyful one for members of the Cambridge Youths, for invitations had gone out from their popular secretary, Mr. J. Quinney, to dine and wine with him at his home.

The party, including the Vicar and Curate of Great St. Mary's, began to assemble at 8 p.m. to partake of the good things provided. Tales were told of the past, records of previous broadcasts from Cambridge were heard on the radio-gram, and with courses of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples on handbells time passed all too quickly, and we were reminded of one more job we had to do—an half-hour broadcast on the B.B.C.'s overseas programme, 11.45 p.m. to 12.15 a.m. So after expressing our thanks and appreciation to our hosts, off to the tower of St. Mary's, and on the air went 748 Grandsire Cinques.

The ringers were: P. H. Pigg 1, P. Border 2, C. A. Hurst 3, H. Brown 4, E. G. Hibbins (conductor) 5, T. R. Dennis 6, W. J. Ridgman 7, B. Pratt 8, C. W. Smith 9, H. Martin 10, W. J. Quinney 11, A. Rayner 12. E. G. H.

A BOXING DAY OUTING

To many ringers Boxing Day each year is the highlight of the Christmas holidays, for this is the day on which Wilf Panter arranges one of his grand ringing tours together, usually, with a short reliability trial.

Although part of the area chosen for the 1955 outing should have provided at least one excellent trials section, surprisingly none was included!

At 11 a.m. a mixed band of ringers met at Burkescombe (Devon) to ring on the heavy six (tenor 17 cwt.) before travelling to Holcombe Rogus (6, 17 cwt.) for half-an-hour's ringing. Over the Somerset border to Ashbrittle (6, 8-0-21) where the bells go like tops. Hot pasties and mincepies at the 'local' strengthened the party for the afternoon's programme which started at Milverton (8, 18 cwt.); here the band were pleased to meet Claude Tarr and Mrs. E. S. Powell.

At Oake (5, 10 cwt.) the entry to the ringing chamber is by way of a vertical ladder and a trap door, which caused some difficulty to the less slim members of the party. Those excellent young ringers, Pam and Jean Stevens, 'bagged' this tower with the other visitors, but unfortunately the ropes are very bad and in the middle of a touch of 'mixed' Doubles the writer was suddenly left holding about one foot of the tenor rope. However, a temporary repair was made to enable all the band to have a ring.

Halse (6, 11 cwt.) was soon reached, and after a short ring a move was made to Thurloxton (5, 7 cwt.) with its long draught and very stiff ropes. Unfortunately the organiser's car had increasingly developed a terrific thirst for water owing to a choked radiator, and the programme now being far behind schedule, it was decided to miss the next tower on the list (Goathurst) and go direct to North Petherton (6, 21 cwt.). Here the party were met by Messrs. Major and Miller, of the local band, and were rejoined by Pam and Jean, this time with their father as well. Good use was made of these fine toned bells till about 7 p.m., which concluded the day's outing.

All the band are grateful to Wilf for his fine organisation, and to all incumbents and local ringers for the use of their bells. E. T. P. F.

Because of the early Easter, the Peals Analysis Committee have to expedite their work on the Analysis Tables in time for the Whitsun Central Council meeting. They cannot complete their work until all 1955 peals have been published. Will conductors please send to the Editor any outstanding 1955 peals without delay.

CHRISTMAS IN SOUTH CORNWALL

Cornwall at Christmastime is a totally different place from what it is in summer with its throngs of holiday-makers. At the present time one can go miles without seeing a soul. However, the friendliness and hospitality of its people remain unchanged, none the less by the ringers. Ringing is just one of the activities in this area. Everyone seems to belong to something—church or chapel choir, male voice choir, village band etc., often to more than one organisation.

Good humour and talking with friends on Christmas Eve till after midnight left some doubt as to whether the writer would be up for early ringing. However, an alarm clock and some bumping on the wall from the next room at 5.20 a.m. had the desired effect, and after a quick snack, a dash up the steep one-mile hill (by car!) to the Square at St. Keverne found 15 more had arrived right on time.

The tower with spire, which can be seen many miles in either direction up and down the Channel, contains a fine Taylor eight, the most southerly in the country. These were set going promptly at 6 a.m. into rounds, 'Queens' and call changes with wonderful precision. At 7 a.m. coats were put on and footsteps directed to the Vicarage, where as usual on this day, breakfast was waiting by a roaring fire and brightly-lit Christmas tree. (I wonder how many places have such a custom as this?) Afterwards, back to the tower for another half-hour's 'peal' for early service, and later for Matins and Evensong, the writer not being allowed to stand out once!

Boxing Day brought further ringing in a tour organised by friends at Kenwyn, Truro, when towers were visited at Fowey, Lanlivery, Luxulyan, Blisland, Cardynham, St. Breward and St. Mabyn.

Plenty of ringing, listening to carols under the Christmas tree in the Square, good friends and good food! What more could a ringer want at this season? Thank you, Cornwall!

R. D. S.

CHRISTMAS AT BRISTOL

Enthusiasm for the ancient art in Bristol is not on the wane.

On Christmas morning at 6 o'clock 17 12-bell ringers turned up at St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, Cinques being enjoyed from the outset.

No transport, other than that possessed by some of them, made the conditions of travel the usual 'hoof it.'

The average distance from the church was three miles, and Alfred Pearce, now 85½ years young, was there at 6 a.m., having travelled seven miles. He rang Cinques as well as the rest.

The St. Mary Guild is indeed grateful for the support of the visitors.

KIMPTON BELLS

Dear Sir,—A Restoration Fund opened a year ago with a target of £600 to have the Kimpton bells tuned and rehung has already reached £200 through the keen efforts of the young band and the support of the village organisations.

The oldest bell, the fifth, is reputed to have been cast by one William Burford, whose last will dates from the year 1390, and on this evidence the bell appears to be more than 500 years old. (This information abstracted from an article, 'Ancient Bells at Kimpton,' 'The Ringing World,' November 22nd, 1929.)

Any contributions or ideas to assist in raising the remainder of the money required would be very gratefully received by me.—Yours faithfully, J. G. CULL, Hon. Sec.

5, The Green,
Kimpton, Hitchin, Herts.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HE MET JASPER SNOWDON

Dear Sir,—I read your leading article of November 18th regarding the famous names of men in the ringing world, and I was most interested in the description of Snowdon. I think I may be the only one living who ever met him: also Robert Tuke, the great friend of Snowdon.

He was my first instructor in bell ringing, although my father was the conductor of the band at Bradford Parish Church when I learnt to ring. Perhaps it was because I was an apprentice at the same firm where he was manager and he had enough bother with me there! He soon took me in hand and told me I had to be a treble ringer because there were not many good treble ringers and that I had to be one. I might say I made good at both jobs under his instruction.

I have also been a photographer, played bowls, billiards, snooker and, of course, dominoes. At Bradford Cricket Club I have won prizes at all these games: that's why I have not many peals to my credit—66 for Yorkshire Association and six with the tourists—three away and three at home.

I have now finished with ringing because of a left leg fractured and a right leg amputated. During bad weather I have terrible pain on my stump and cannot do anything. I am very well just now so I thought I had better write wishing you a very happy New Year. May the year 1956 be a more prosperous one for 'The Ringing World.' I was a great friend of Jack Goldsmith and I want the paper to carry on for his sake. I have had a ringing paper since 1887 up to the present time.—Yours sincerely,

JOE HARDCASTLE.

P.S.—I have also met Sir Percival Heywood, Henry Johnson and William Sottanstill.—J. H. 70, Beechwood Avenue, Wibsey, Bradford.

WHO'S FOR A RAILWAYMEN'S PEAL?

Dear Sir,—Reference in 'The Ringing World' for December 16th to 'The British Railways Magazine,' which contained an attractive cover picture of a team of railwaymen-ringers in action, revives the desire for a railwaymen's peal.

We at Crewe, a famous railway town and very central, offer our Christ Church ring of 10 (tenor 20 cwt.) for a railwaymen's peal. The bells are quite a good ring, as those who have rung them will agree.

Method, Caters for preference. Date, somewhere between the end of March to the beginning of May. Any railwayman wishing to stand in please reply to the address below.

Now, Rodney, here's your opportunity for a bit of good ringing and a bit of 'Belfryman-ship.'—Yours, etc.,

W. FRANK STENSON.

North Col, 142, Minshull New Road,
Crewe, Cheshire.

THESE BACHELORS ARE SUSPICIOUS

Dear Sir,—I note with some alarm Mr. R. O. Fry's warning regarding the arrangement of a peal for 'eligible bachelors.' As he is a near neighbour of the arranger and obviously in possession of more facts, he can perhaps enlighten us.

From his letter, and taking into account the anonymity of the arranger, one might deduce that the peal is not being arranged by an 'eligible bachelor,' but by some 'poor frustrated female.' If this deduction is correct, then many would-be participants will undoubtedly be grateful for Mr. Fry's warning.—Yours sincerely,

G. A. HALLS.

Derby.

CENTRAL COUNCIL LITERATURE AND PRESS COMMITTEE

Dear Sir,—I should be grateful if you would kindly allow me to trespass on your valuable space with reference to the above committee.

It would greatly assist the committee in its review of 1955 if readers would be good enough to send copies of articles that have appeared in national or local papers relating to ringing and ringing affairs. The Report for the Central Council has to be based on a broad survey of the literature of the year, and there is therefore little possibility of considering the multitudinous small accounts of ringing activities that so often (and rightly) appear in local papers. What the committee really seeks is the article or feature illustrating the impact of ringing on the general public or revealing the view of ringing taken by the layman.

Suitable material for consideration may be sent to me at the address given below or to Mr. F. E. Dukes, Meadow Cottage, Julians-town, Co. Meath, Ireland.

It may not, of course, be possible to acknowledge every contribution, and I must therefore ask the indulgence of helpers in being content with a general acknowledgment in your columns later on.—Yours sincerely,

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD.

2, Witley Avenue, Solihull.

RINGERS REMEMBERED IN WILL

Mr. John Joseph Cecil Rowden, M.B.E., a retired civil servant, who died at Loughton, Essex, on September 28th, left £100 in his will to the Rector of Loughton to pay the sum of £5 to each of the persons acting as bellringers at the time of his death. He lived quite close to the church and the reason for the bequest was that during his illness, when he was confined to bed, he could hear the bells and so say his prayers at the same time as those in church.

The Rector of St. John's, Loughton, presented the money to the ringers after ringing in the New Year at 12.10 a.m. with an additional £1 from the Parish Council for their loyal services during the year.

'THE WRITING ON THE WALL'

Dear Sir,—It is the irresponsible attitude exhibited by Mr. Stenson, and which is prevalent among many ringers, which will in the end, no doubt, lead to our activities being curtailed to a greater or lesser extent.

That many bells are noisy in the vicinity of the tower, and that ringing, especially of peals, on them causes justifiable annoyance to those living nearby, is futile to deny.

Furthermore, it is not only the indifferent or hostile listener that the battering deluge of sound which floods with little or no restriction from some towers is unpleasant, but also to lovers of bells whose ears have not become entirely insensitive or whose prejudice does not outweigh their reason. In fact, there are many beautiful rings of bells which are spoilt simply because the volume of sound from them is uncontrolled.

The other factor influencing the degree of nuisance is, of course, bad ringing. Very many of us have been guilty of this, as it is easy in the excitement of achievement to lower our standards unconsciously. It would perhaps help here if we could keep uppermost in our minds that our ringing is our advertisement, and if we want the right type of recruits to come along to learn to ring we shall have to put the right kind of stuff out of our towers to attract them.—Yours sincerely,

P. H. WHITAKER.

Mapperley Park, Nottingham.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

Exeter Branch

The annual meeting of the Exeter Branch was held at Heavitree on December 10th, commencing with the glorious tones of this fine octave ringing out just after 3 p.m. signalling the usual service before the tea and business.

The Rev. J. Benton welcomed the members on behalf of the Vicar and Church Council, and spoke of the value of the ringers' work in connection with the church. The new 'form of service' was used for the first time in this Branch.

After an enjoyable tea, the meeting started with the Rev. C. J. Poulton in the chair, supported by the president of the Guild, the general secretary, and vice-president (Mr. E. J. Ryall).

The general account had increased by £1 6s. and the instruction account now stood at £39 10s. The chairman suggested that a proposal be forwarded for discussion by the general committee that some consideration should be shown to men on National Service with regard to their subscription to the funds of the Guild.

The annual report was accepted, the main point being a slight decrease in membership. It was suggested that this was caused by members not giving the instruction to learners that was required, and the 'going down' of some seven or eight university members. Members were urged to encourage more recruits and to give more support to Branch activities.

The officers elected for 1956 were: chairman, the Rev. C. J. Poulton; hon. secretary, Mr. F. Wreford; assistant hon. secretary, Mr. F. Wills; Ringing Master, Mr. E. W. Biffin; assistant Ringing Master, Mr. N. Mallett.

Meetings arranged for 1956 were for April 14th, Alphington; June 9th, Newton St. Cyres; September 8th, Thorverton, and December 8th, St. Thomas', Exeter—subject to permission being obtained.

Guild proficiency certificates were presented to Miss Mary Wills and Mr. Bernard Stone, of St. Thomas', Exeter, by the president, the Rev. Preb. E. V. Cox. Dr. D. Longridge, a local Devonian, now resident in British Columbia and a member of the Victoria Cathedral ringers, was elected a non-resident life member of the Guild, Messrs. A. R. Jones and B. Stone were elected performing members.

Mr. E. J. Ryall suggested that ringing should be encouraged among students at the University and St. Luke's College. It was decided to send an invitation giving details of ringing available in the city.

The meeting concluded with the usual thanks, being accorded to those contributing to the success of the meeting.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES IN MID-DEVON

A number of members of the Mid-Devon Branch made good use of their time during the Christmas holidays. On Boxing Day afternoon a quarter peal was rung at St. Michael's Church, East Teignmouth, after which a visit was paid to Dawlish Parish Church for further ringing.

On the following afternoon a few members journeyed to Dartmouth where some good practice was put in at St. Clement's, Townstal, with the Rev. N. F. D. Coleridge and some of his ringers.

On Saturday, to finish the year, a visit was paid to Buckfast Abbey where a most enjoyable afternoon was spent, some of the ringers admiring the very fine Crib at the west end of the Abbey. Handbells were later brought into use on this occasion, and the thanks of all are due to those who provided hospitality,

OBITUARY

MR. JOSHUA DEAN

We deeply regret to record the passing at the age of 85 of Mr. Joshua Dean, the last of the old school at Norbury, a school tutored by that great teacher, James S. Wilde.

Mr. Dean took part in the first change ringing by a local band at Norbury when in 1896 they rang an extent of Plain Bob Minor. In 1897 they rang a date touch arranged by J. S. Wilde, and on May 5th, 1900, the first peal on the bells was rung by a local band which contained four first pealers, to which Mr. Dean rang the treble. The peal was two extents Oxford Treble Bob, two extents Kent Treble Bob, two extents Plain Bob and an extent College Single, and was the first peal of Minor rung by the Stockport and Bowdon Branch of the Chester Guild.

Six months later the same band, with one alteration, rang a peal in seven methods (Violet, New London Pleasure, Oxford, Kent, College Single, Warnham Court and Plain Bob), the first in seven methods by all and by the Branch. On December 20th, 1902, he took part in the first 11 method peal by the Chester Guild; this consisted of eight 360's and three extents, and then, on May 23rd, 1903, 14 360's in 14 different methods were rung, followed in December by nine extents in nine different methods. About this time Mr. Dean's work took him away from the village but he retained his interest in the activities of the tower, and although since his retirement he did not do much ringing, he was often seen in the tower chatting about old times and encouraging young ringers.

With his passing goes the last link with the old band at Norbury, a band which laid, under the guidance of J. S. Wilde, a foundation upon which the late James Fernley, spurred on by the Rev. A. T. Beeston, built and upon which we are still building.

He was laid to rest in Norbury Churchyard on December 27th, when the bells were rung as the cortege approached the church, and handbells were rung at the graveside as a last tribute to his memory by members of the Stockport and Bowdon Branch of the Chester Guild.

C. K. L.

The Late Mr. W. J. Walker's Peals

Appended is the list of 320 peals rung by the late Mr. W. J. Walker, of Rainham and Upchurch.

Doubles: Grandsire, 1; four methods, 1.

Minor: Plain Bob, 4; two methods, 1; three, 2; four, 7; five, 3; six, 7; seven, 72; nine, 1 (10,080 changes, rung at Tunstall on August 5th, 1901, in 5 hours 4 minutes, conducted by William H. B. Wilkins).

Triples: Plain Bob, 2; Grandsire, 50; Oxford Bob, 1; Stedman, 50; St. Clement's, 1 (first in method for Kent County, rung at St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, on September 27th, 1927).

Major: Plain Bob, 25 (a grandfathers peal at Marden on October 3rd, 1931); Double Norwich, 24; Canterbury Pleasure, 1; Cambridge Treble Bob, 1; Superlative, 2; Oxford Treble Bob, 4; Kent T.B. Major 44 (one a William peal rung at Tunstall on January 19th, 1929); Oxford Bob, 1 (first for Kent County); Victory, 1 (first peal ever rung in the method).

Caters: Grandsire, 2; Stedman, 11.

Royal: Plain Bob, 1.

Rang peals for funerals of Queen Victoria, King Edward VII and King George V, also for the coronations of King Edward VII, King George V and King George VI. Also rang in first peal on the Isle of Sheppey, at Eastchurch, on September 9th, 1911.

MR. BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS

It is with the deepest regret that we report the passing of Mr. Benjamin A. Knights (son of the famous ringer and composer, Arthur Knights), whose death occurred on December 27th. He was laid to rest on December 30th at Spital Cemetery, Chesterfield, where his talented father is buried.

Ben Knights was a keen and expert ringer and conductor and in the days when the Chesterfield company was going strong, ringing peals almost week by week of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Kent Royal and other methods, he took his place in that enthusiastic band. He joined the old Midland Counties Association in 1901 and with that Society rang about 250 peals. He migrated to Lancashire, and with the local and other companies rang many peals and also others for the Yorkshire Association.

Mr. Knights was the last surviving member of the band who rang the then record long peal of Stedman Caters (18,027 at All Saints', Loughborough, on April 12th, 1909, in 12 hours 18 minutes. Mr. W. J. Nudds, of London, who recently passed away, rang the eighth to this same record peal—Ben Knights rang the sixth. Thus pass on the last two survivors. The present writer recalls vividly and with pride, peals rung with these two great men, viz.: with Mr. Nudds on the original old Bow Bells, February 27th, 1926, in 3 hours 56 minutes, 5,280 Cambridge Surprise Maximus, conducted by the late Wm. Pye. Mr. Nudds rang ninth and I rang the eighth.

With Mr. Knights at Manchester Town Hall on the rough-going old ten (tenor 52 cwt.), February 12th, 1921, I rang in a peal of Stedman Caters. In this peal were some noted figures—James W. Washbrook (junior) treble, Benjamin A. Knights 2, Ernest Morris 3, Samuel Wood 4, Frederick Page 5, Charles H. Page 6, Harry Chapman 7, James W. Washbrook (composer and conductor) 8, Richard F. Deal 9, Councillor Amos Trippier and Joseph Wilson, tenor.

ERNEST MORRIS.

MR. W. J. THYNG

It is with further regret we learn that another member of the old Chesterfield company—Mr. W. J. Thying—passed away about three weeks ago. He joined the Midland Counties Association in 1894 and with them rang in 89 peals—many along with the above mentioned Knights family and the Chesterfield Society. He also rang 100 peals for the Yorkshire Association on both tower- and handbells.

ERNEST MORRIS.

MR. RICHARD J. JENNER

With the passing of Mr. Richard Jonathan Jenner, who was born in Edenbridge and lived there all his life, the Kent County Association has lost its oldest member. He died on Dec. 17th, after a short illness, in Oxted Hospital, in his 93rd year. He was the last surviving member of the band which rang the first peal on the then new eight, on October 4th, 1896.

'Dick,' as he was familiarly known, was of a most musical nature. In his younger days he played the bass fiddle in the local string orchestra and was a member of the Town Band and Choral Society. He first sang in the Parish Church Choir as a lad of eight years, and later took up the art of bell-ringing.

In 1951 he completed eighty years' service as chorister and ringer, and to commemorate this unique event a peal of Bob Major (conducted by Mr. E. J. Ladd) was rung on his 88th birthday.

His last visit to the tower was in September of last year, when the Vicar of Edenbridge, the Rev. E. A. Graham, on behalf of the Kent

County Association, presented him with a letter of congratulation on attaining the age of 92, from the secretary of the Kent County Association, Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, and a cheque from the Benevolent Fund. Before and after the presentation, the local band, joined by ringing friends from Tunbridge Wells and Limpsfield Chart, rang several touches.

There is no complete record of all his peals, but it is believed that he rang well over fifty, many of them Stedman Triples, his favourite method.

The funeral service on December 21st was conducted by the Rev. E. A. Graham, and Mr. Jenner's favourite hymn, 'Pleasant are Thy courts above,' was sung.

He was laid to rest in the Old Churchyard, within the sound of the bells he loved so well.

MR. W. HARDING

We regret to record the death of Mr. W. Harding, of Blunham, Beds, which took place on December 16th, at the age of 78 years.

A lifelong ringer at his Parish Church, he had been steeplekeeper for many years until failing health made it impossible for him to climb the awkward ladder into the ringing room. But though unable to take part himself, he was always within earshot whenever the bells were rung, and if he heard any bad striking he did not hesitate to ask why.

In the evening following the funeral a half-muffled quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung to his memory.

C. H. H.

MR. ALBERT H. WARD

AN APPRECIATION

It was with sorrow and regret we read in 'The Ringing World' of November 11th of the passing of yet another old member of the Exercise—Albert H. Ward, at his home in Derby at the ripe age of 82 years.

Albert had given many years of excellent service to ringing, especially in and around Derby. He joined the Midland Counties Association in 1893 and, until its conclusion in 1945 when the M.C.A. was divided into diocesan guilds, rang 225 peals for the Association in the Standard and Surprise methods. A large number of the peals were on eight to twelve bells and he conducted many. He was equally at home and rang many peals on handbells.

One particular peal of which he was very proud was 5,050 Stedman Caters rung on Oct. 29th, 1932, composed by the late Sir Arthur P. Heywood, president, and conducted by Ernest Morris, secretary, to commemorate the 50th jubilee of the Midland Counties Association, which was founded at St. Andrew's, Derby, in 1882. It was at this church where Albert rang for Sunday and other services, and when the bells were increased he gave the second of the present ring of ten. It is inscribed, 'Grant us Thy peace,' and was given, I believe, in memory of his wife.

Albert, among other kindred associations, was an honoured member for many years of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, and took part in several peals for the Guild on eight, ten and twelve bells.

After Worcester Cathedral bells were recast the St. Martin's Guild were privileged to ring occasionally (and still are) for the Sunday evening nave services, and Albert often motored from Derby, calling at Birmingham to join in the journey to Worcester. It was generally midnight when he left Birmingham to return home; he always loved to hear and ring on this grand twelve, as do so many other visiting ringers.

So passes another fine old stalwart in Albert H. Ward.

In conclusion, may I take this opportunity to thank Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, for much valuable information.

ALBERT WALKER.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s. 6d.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

BIRTHS

BIRKETT.—On Jan. 7th, 1956, to Lily and Paul Birkett, of Elland, the welcome gift of a son, Christopher Sharp, a brother for Richard.

ECCLES.—On Tuesday, Jan. 3rd, 1956, to Roland and Dorothy (née Schofield), of 22, Walton Avenue, Morecambe, a daughter, Janet Patricia. 7605

ENGAGEMENT

HAW—MORGAN.—The engagement is announced between James William Haw, of Peterborough, only son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. Haw, of Mablethorpe, and Ruth May, adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Morgan, of Swanage. 7563

MARRIAGES

CARPENTER—ROBERTS.—On Saturday, Dec. 17th, 1955, at Shire Hall, Cambridge. Dr. Alan Carpenter, of Gorton, to Miss Marie K. Roberts, of Histon. 7616

MORANT—KEMP.—At St. Laurence's Church, Frodingham, Scunthorpe, Lincs, on Saturday, Dec. 31st, 1955, at 11 a.m., Roland William Morant to Gwyneth Rose Kemp. 7570

DEATHS

KNIGHTS.—On Dec. 27th, 1955, Benjamin Arthur, at his sister's residence, 38, Rutland Road, Chesterfield, aged 70 years. Interred at Spital Cemetery, Chesterfield, on Friday, Dec. 30th. 7566

MAYNE.—On Jan. 7th, 1956, Cecil Charles Mayne, after a short illness. R.I.P. 7639

IN MEMORIAM

BAILEY.—In treasured memories of a devoted husband and dad (Norman), who fell asleep Jan. 11th, 1955. 'Sadly missed.' From his loving wife and family, Knodishall, Suffolk.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of John A. Brown (late of Chester-le-Street) is now 'Coneceastre,' Harrogate Road, Ripon, Yorkshire. 7167

The address of Sidney O'C. Holloway is now 121, Moat Road, Langley, Oldbury, Birmingham. 'Phone: BROADwell 1164. 7572

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

FOR SALE.—Set of 12 handbells, good condition; best offer over £18.—Mr. A. C. Hopper, 12, Midleton Road, Guildford, Surrey. 7602

HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED.—Set of handbells, eight or more, by country vicar anxious to foster ringing among a keen band, eight of them under 15 years. Please state number, condition and price.—The Rev. A. Webb, The Vicarage, Cleeve Prior, Evesham, Worcs. 7627

WANTED.—Set of eight handbells, any key, in ringing condition: please state price.—R. C. Fincher, Ivy Cottage, Dunsfold, Godalming, Surrey. 7632

MISCELLANEOUS

BURTON-ON-TRENT, ST. PAUL'S.—Until further notice weekly practice will be on Mondays, 7.30 till 9 p.m. 7578

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Notices of motion and nominations (including C.C. Representatives) for the A.G.M., 1956, must reach me by Feb. 1st, 1956 (Rule VI and Rule IX).—F. V. Gant. 7564

MEN required to take up bell hanging.—Apply Mears. 7612

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL.—Due to internal repairs to the belfry, there will be no Sunday or mid-week ringing until further notice.—J. A. C. King. 7613

TO LET.—Modernised cottage; bath, W.C., etc.; end of Jan.: at present occupied jobbing gardener, who is also church sexton and bell-ringer. Applicants with these qualifications will receive favourable consideration. Farm work also available. Apply H. R. Watson, North Cadbury, Yeovil, Somerset. 7604

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF
CHURCH BELL RINGERS
AFFILIATION FEES

Association secretaries are reminded that affiliation fees to the Council (ten shillings per member) are now due.

E. A. BARNETT,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

PUBLICATION

AN IDEAL GIFT

'TOWERS AND BELLS OF BRITAIN.'—This beautifully produced book will soon be out of print. Obtain your copy now, before too late. Direct from the author: Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. Price 21s. net. 7100

MEETINGS

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.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate. 7532

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. The Master of the Association will give the address.—E. J. Chivers, Winkles, Chilcompton. 7495

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

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.—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. 7486

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

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

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at St. Mary's, Church End, Finchley, on Saturday, Jan. 14th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business to follow.—T. J. Lock. 7582

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. 7538

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Glaston Branch.—Annual meeting on Saturday, Jan. 21st, St. Cuthbert's, Wells. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting. Notify for tea before Tuesday, 17th, certain.—William Marsh, 4, Dovecots, Street. 7581

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Meeting, Barrow Gurney, Jan. 21st, 4 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 7635

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Annual meeting at Leighton Buzzard on Saturday, Jan. 21st, at 3 p.m. Names for tea (5 p.m.) to Mr. H. B. Whitney, 32, Mentmore Road, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. 7630

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Annual meeting, Crewe, Jan. 21st. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea must be received by Jan. 18th.—W. Kerr, 102, Moreton Road, Crewe. 7588

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly meeting, Warwick (10), Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 4.30 at 'The Ilce Café,' Smith Street, followed by business. Bells 6 to 8 p.m. Names for tea definitely by Thursday morning, Jan. 19th (latest), to Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuncaton. Phone: Nuncaton 3296. 7630

CUMBERLAND AND N. WESTMORLAND ASSOCIATION.—Joint Branch meeting at Keswick, Jan. 21st. Bells (8) 2 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 18th.—J. W. Brownrigg, 14, Greta Hamlet, Keswick, Cumberland. 7620

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Bakewell (8), Saturday, Jan. 21st, District annual meeting, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., approx. Tea 5 p.m. All members make special effort to attend. Election of officers for 1956, 6 p.m. in belfry, etc.—H. E. Taylor, Dis. Sec. 7587

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Monthly meeting at Denby, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea interval 5 p.m.—B. A. Sollis, Hon. Sec. 7587

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells: Godmanchester (8), 3 to 4 p.m.; All Saints' (6), 4 p.m., and in the evening; St. Mary's (8), in the evening. Service, All Saints', 4.30 p.m. Tea, All Saints' Hall (Ferrars Road), 5, followed by meeting.—H. S. Peacock, 7625

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Annual meeting, Wisbech, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells (10) 2.30. Service 4.30. Business meeting in belfry at 6 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 7623

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

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch.—Meeting at Staunton, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, Jan. 18th, to Mrs. D. Stafford, Staunton, near Coleford, Glos. 7622

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting, Dursley (8), Jan. 21st, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Notify by Jan. 18th.—Mary Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 7621

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—South-West Branch.—Annual meeting, Jan. 21st, at Revelstoke. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 16th, please, to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Annual district meeting at Guildford, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Holy Trinity (8), St. Mary's (6), 2.30. Service, St. Mary's, 4 p.m. Tea and meeting, St. Nicolas' Hall, 4.45 p.m. St. Nicolas' and Stoke-next-Guildford, 7 to 9 p.m. Names for tea to Miss A. M. Cox, R.S.C. Hospital, Guildford, by Wednesday, Jan. 18th. —A. M. Cox, M. E. Collins. 7608

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Annual meeting, Hawkhurst, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 18th to G. Billenness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Hawkhurst. 7575

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Clun District annual general meeting will be held in Clun on Jan. 21st at 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Thomas A. Davies, Dis. Sec. 7577

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A.G.M., Hitchin, Jan. 21st, 3 p.m. Tea 5.30.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 7569

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

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting at Bobbing on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to me by Tuesday, Jan. 17th.—Cyril S. Jarrett, 38, Balmoral Road, Gillingham, Kent. 7628

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

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at Bolton Parish (annual), Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Business 6. Free tea, but names to Vincent Martin, 413, Crompton Way, Bolton, by previous Wednesday.—J. Thornley, Hon. Sec. 7544

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Rawtenstall on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Tower open for ringing at 3 Own tea at 5. Meeting in tower at 6. Members and non-members are cordially invited.—J. Porter, Branch Sec. 7584

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Annual meeting at St. John's Church, Blackpool, on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Cups of tea provided.—J. H. Foster. 7618

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—Ringing meeting at Manchester Town Hall, 3 p.m., Jan. 21st. Lloyd Street entrance. No arrangements for tea—cafés nearby.—R. Benson. 7619

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

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Annual District meeting, Kibworth, Jan. 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 4.15, St. Wilfred Hall. Names for tea, by Jan. 18th, to me.—L. W. Allen, High Street, Great Glenn. 7552

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

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District.—Meeting at St. Andrew's, Uxbridge, on Jan. 21st. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and District annual meeting. Ringing at St. John's, Hillingdon, from 7

to 8.30. Names for tea, by previous Wednesday, to F. Corke, The Lodge, Taylors Meadow, Hill End Road, Harefield, Middlesex.—J. D. Rock. 7607

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Irthlingborough, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Service 4.30. Names by Tuesday previous, please.—A. Bigley, 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough. 7567

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Annual meeting, Jan. 21st. St. Martin's bells, 2 to 3; St. Paul's bells, 2.30 to 4. Service, St. Paul's, 4 p.m. Tea and meeting, Assembly Rooms, 5 p.m. St. Martin's, St. Paul's and St. Thomas' bells in evening—times to be announced. Names for tea by 17th to Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury. 7551

SALISBURY GUILD.—Calne Branch.—Annual meeting, Calne, Jan. 21st. Usual arrangements. Names for tea essential.—E. Buckeridge, West Hill, Calne, Wilts. 7611

SALISBURY GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Peter's, Dorchester, Jan. 21st. Bells 2.30. Service 4, followed by tea and meeting. Names, by Jan. 18th, please, to Mr. Duke, Morland, Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester.—Hayne, Sec. 7571

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

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newark District.—Annual meeting on Saturday, Jan. 21st, at Sutton-on-Trent. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Names, by previous Wednesday, to Miss Burchnell, Pembroke House, Sutton-on-Trent, Newark. 7579

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

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Seaford (8), Jan. 21st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea only for those who notify, by Jan. 17th, K. C. Knight, Spinney Farm, High Hatch Lane, Hassocks. 7610

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Surprise practice, Jan. 21st. not 28th, Arundel. Bells 4-6 and 7-8.30. Tea available. 7537

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, January 21st, Andover. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 in local cafes. Meeting to be held in Church Room at 5.45 Bells available after tea.—G. K. Dodd, Sec. 7574

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, Hensworth 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

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. Annual meeting at Dunmow (8), Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting afterwards. Numbers for tea, please, to H. W. Smith, 11, The Causeway, Dunmow, Essex. 7625

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Annual district meeting, Hemel Hempstead (8), Jan. 28th, 3 p.m. Names for tea to R. Shutter, Church House, Apsley, Herts, by Jan. 25th.—R. Shutter. 7633

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Quarterly meeting, St. Mary's, Lewisham, Saturday, Jan. 28th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea, not later than Monday, 23rd, to A. Hill, 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere. 7599

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—Annual meeting, Grimsby, Jan. 28th. Bells (8) 2.30. Tea 5. Service 7 p.m. Names for tea, by Jan. 25th, to Mr. J. Mingay, 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby. 7580

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Monmouth Branch.—Annual Branch meeting, Ebbw Vale, Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business. Names for tea, by Jan. 23rd, to Miss Dellwyn Evans, 17, Belle View, Ebbw Vale.—Jacqueline Evans, Branch Sec. 7614

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Towcester Branch.—Annual meeting at Towcester, Jan. 28th. Names for tea by Tuesday previous to Mr. V. Burt, Church Cottage, Towcester.—W. A. Yates. 7624

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 28th, at Holy Sepulchre, Northampton. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. only. Service 4 p.m.; St. Giles' (10) available from 6.45 p.m. Annual reports (6d.) to be ordered at this meeting. Committee meet at 2.45 p.m. Names for tea, by Monday previous, to G. F. Roome, 116, Denby Road, Northampton. 7658

SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—Annual meeting, St. Mary's, Nottingham, Jan. 28th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Meeting in tower 6 p.m. Own arrangements for tea. Nominations for officers may be sent to I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Nottingham. 7600

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Shrewsbury, Jan. 28th. St. Mary's (10) 2.30 to 4 p.m.; St. Chad's (12) 2.20 to 4.20 p.m. Service at St. Chad's 4.30 p.m. Tea at County Cafe 5 p.m. Business in St. Chad's Parish Room 6 p.m. St. Chad's bells available 7 to 8.30 p.m. Names for tea, by Jan. 25th, please, to Miss E. V. Jones, 30, Oakley Street, Shrewsbury. 7576

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Annual District meeting will be held at Beddington, Jan. 28th. Bells (10) at 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting in Grange Mansion (price 2s. 6d.) at 5. Names, by Thursday previous, please, to F. D. Jennings, 28, Cedars Road, Beddington. Business includes nominations for general officers. Ringing until 8 p.m. afterwards.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 7585

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 Brodrick Hall. Names by 24th to H. A. Nobes. 26, Peel Road, Gosport. 7545

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Rededication of the bells at Old Alresford (6), Jan. 28th. Service 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in the Village Hall. Names, by Jan. 19th, please, to P. Nash, 10, Portal Road, Winchester. 7615

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The fourth annual dinner and social evening will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11th (eleventh) at the Corporation Hotel, Derby. Afternoon ringing at the Cathedral and St. Peter's, Derby (2.30 to 5.30 p.m.). Tickets 11s. (eleven shillings) from G. A. Halls, 15, Brackens Avenue, Alvaston, Derby. 7601

(Other Notices on back page)

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LATE NOTICES

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 21st, St. Albans. St. Michael's bells (8) if available 3 to 4.30, Cathedral bells (12) after tea. Tea 5 p.m.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 7634

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—Annual meeting, St. Mary-atte-Bow, Stratford East, Saturday, Jan. 21st. Ringing 3-5 p.m. Tea, own arrangements. Business, Church Hall, 6 p.m., and further ringing. Everyone welcome. Essentially for learners. A practice will be held on these bells Wednesday, Jan. 25th, 6.30-8 p.m. All learners welcome.—Bullock, Sec. 7636

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — South Oxon Branch.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 21st, at Stoke Mandeville, Bucks. Bells at 3. Service at 4. Tea for those who notify me by Jan. 17th.—H. Badger, The 'Blue Man,' Thame, Oxon. 7637

SOUTHEND AND DISTRICT GUILD. — Annual general meeting, Saturday, Jan. 21st, at Prittlewell. Ringing 3. Service 4.30. Names for tea to B. C. Sadler, 15, Priory Crescent, Prittlewell. 7640

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