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TIT - FOR - TAT

IT was a nice morning in the middle of May, 1905, when young Bill was enjoying a three-mile walk towards the lovely church of St. Saviour, Arklow, Ireland, where for some years the famous James W. Washbrook was vergar and steeplekeeper. Being a little early for the peal attempt, Bill was a little surprised to see Washbrook busy in his garden as he passed nearby, and he concluded that his task was nearly done; therefore he went on his way to the tower to meet the Rev. F. E. Robinson, the Rev. Cyril Jenkyn, both from the Oxford Guild, and Mr. C. Cleveland Ellis, from Edinburgh, who had come to Ireland chiefly for the purpose of seeing Washbrook ring two bells to a peal. When Washbrook first performed this feat most ringers were sceptical and many asserted it was impossible, but young Bill was able to disabuse the minds of many ringers in England because he was in the band when Washbrook rang 3-4 and called the first peal of Bob Major in Ireland on December 27th, 1904.

For some unknown reason Washbrook failed to appear at the appointed time, so, at the request of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, young Bill went to find him and he soon spotted him still at work in his garden. 'How about the peal, Jim?' asked Bill, and to his surprise Washbrook replied: 'What peal?' Yes, he had forgotten, so Bill waited while a hurried change of garments was made, and soon they set off to join the waiting party at the tower. Then came a shock when F. E. R. told Washbrook to ring 3-4 for a peal of Stedman Triples, and though the latter protested at the very short notice he had been given, the Vicar of Drayton briefly explained the object of the visit, viz.: actually to see two bells rung in a peal.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson regarded one of the ringers with a little apprehension and asked his age, which was given as 12, but knowing the name of the lad was James W. Washbrook, jun., he seemed satisfied. In the early stages of the peal the Rev. F. E. R. watched the 3-4 ropes very carefully, for this was something out of the ordinary in ringing, a new idea for the peal ringer and Sunday service ringer; but the parson conductor soon realised that Washbrook was making his task look easy; in fact he handled his bells perfectly and was never in any difficulty. After the peal had finished, arrangements were made for another peal in two days' time, and as Washbrook walked towards his home in company with young Bill, he said:

'I have something saved up for the old gent for our next peal; tit-for-tat, you know.' Questions on the plan to surprise the Rev. F. E. R. only ended in mystery so Bill had to be content until Thursday, but was enjoined to 'watch the parson's face sometimes.'

On the Thursday a party of eight assembled in the tower for Stedman Triples, and Washbrook was the first to take a rope, the 7th, whereupon the Rev. Robinson, considerably surprised on account of being in the habit of ringing the 7th and calling his favourite variation of Thurstans' Four-part, bluntly remarked: 'Where do I ring then?', to which Washbrook replied: 'The 6th, sir.'

Reluctantly, the Rev. F. E. R. took the 6th rope, and off we went in fine style, but it soon became evident that the peal composition was quite different from Thurstans', and this caused the 6th ringer to wear a worried look, probably because he was out of his element, was not ringing his usual 7th, was not conducting, and did not know the composition. At times he would hesitate slightly, a most unusual thing for the famous parson to do, but Washbrook was always alert and watchful even though it was a complex composition being rung for the first time. When the peal was finished, the Rev. Robinson asked the reason why such an unusual composition was chosen, and Washbrook's reply was: 'This is the first peal of Stedman Triples to be rung with all the 6-7's at backstroke.'

In the Rev. F. E. Robinson's book, *Among the Bells*, these two peals are briefly recorded, and though 51 years have elapsed, there is still one who can recall the events in more detail—the one named 'Bill' in this article but who was always called 'Will' by Jim Washbrook.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

AN IDEA

WITH printing costs getting steeper and steeper, various Associations are searching for economies. Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association have just published their handbook, which contains the list of members. Under each tower a space is left so that additional names can be added as new members join. The printing order also covers the estimated number of new members for the next five years to enable those joining to receive a handbook. By this means the cost of the report is spread over five years.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 3 Hours and 32 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Matthew,

A PEAL OF 5081 GRANDSIRE CINQUES

Tenor 20 cwt. 18 lb. in D.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| WILLIAM J. LEACH Treble | GEORGE W. HUGHES 7 |
| BARNABAS G. KEY 2 | †STELLA HUGHES 8 |
| ALAN G. FOSTER 3 | P. GEORGE GOLDER 9 |
| ERNEST STITCH 4 | AUBREY PICKERING 10 |
| *PETER J. BARKER 5 | †HOWARD HOWELL 11 |
| CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 6 | §EDWARD J. WHITE Tenor |

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.
 * First peal of Grandsire and of Cinques. † First peal of Grandsire Cinques. ‡ 500th peal. § 50th peal.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 3 Hours and 41 Minutes,

At the Collegiate Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 33 cwt. 21 lb. in C sharp.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| *G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Treble | GEORGE E. FEARN 7 |
| MURIEL REAY 2 | JOHN WORTH 8 |
| ARTHUR V. PEARSON 3 | HENRY H. FEARN 9 |
| ALBERT WALKER 4 | RALPH G. EDWARDS 10 |
| FRANK W. PERRENS 5 | EDWARD JENKINS 11 |
| FRANK E. HAYNES 6 | FREDERICK E. COLLINS .. Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by FREDERICK E. COLLINS.
 * First peal on 12 bells.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tues., May 1, 1956, in 3 Hours and 37 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF 5050 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 37 cwt. in C.

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| PAUL K. WILLIAMSON .. Treble | CLIFFORD A. BARRON 7 |
| STELLA HUGHES 2 | JOHN PINFOLD 8 |
| ALBERT WALKER 3 | NORMAN J. GOODMAN 9 |
| FRANK E. HAYNES 4 | HENRY H. FEARN 10 |
| FRANK W. PERRENS 5 | GEORGE E. FEARN 11 |
| EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 6 | PETER BORDER Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thurs., May 3, 1956, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. Philip,

A PEAL OF 5080 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| FRANK W. PERRENS .. Treble | NORMAN J. GOODMAN 7 |
| EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 2 | PETER BORDER 8 |
| ALBERT WALKER 3 | RALPH G. EDWARDS 9 |
| J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 4 | CLIFFORD A. BARRON 10 |
| FRANK E. HAYNES 5 | HENRY H. FEARN 11 |
| JOHN PINFOLD 6 | GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.
 An 80th birthday compliment to the conductor.

LONDON, W.C.2.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., May 5, 1956, in 3 Hours and 39 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields,

A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *MISS M. PROCKSON .. Treble | *DAVID PRIESTLEY 7 |
| MRS. R. F. DEAL 2 | ALAN F. THIRST 8 |
| MRS. T. H. FRANCIS 3 | JOHN R. LEEMING 9 |
| THOMAS H. FRANCIS 4 | A. RONALD LING 10 |
| ARTHUR W. J. BUTLER 5 | DENNIS BERESFORD 11 |
| FRANK E. HAWTHORNE .. 6 | ALFRED J. HOUSE Tenor |

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by T. H. FRANCIS.
 * First peal on 12 bells.

Rung as a welcome back as Vicar to Rev. S. A. Austen-Williams.

TEN BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., April 19, 1956, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. Philip,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| STELLA HUGHES Treble | NORMAN J. GOODMAN 6 |
| RUTH M. JACKSON 2 | RALPH G. EDWARDS 7 |
| EVELYN M. FLETCHER 3 | JOHN PINFOLD 8 |
| MURIEL REAY 4 | GEORGE E. FEARN 9 |
| FRANK E. HAYNES 5 | PETER BORDER Tenor |

Composed by JOHN A. BURFORD. Conducted by PETER BORDER.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 23, 1956, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. Martin

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 25 cwt. 20 lb. in D.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ERNEST MORRIS Treble | HERRICK B. BOWLEY 6 |
| MRS. PHYLLIS POOLE 2 | *WILLIAM A. LACEY 7 |
| PETER J. STANFORTH 3 | J. FREDERICK MILNER 8 |
| SHIRLEY BURTON 4 | PHILIP A. CORBY 9 |
| JOHN A. ACRES 5 | WILLIAM J. ROOT Tenor |

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by HERRICK B. BOWLEY.

* First peal of Royal away from the treble. First peal of Royal as conductor. Arranged for St George's Day.

SOUTHAMPTON.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE ROYAL

Consisting of 3,360 London (No. 3), 640 Bristol and 520 each of Cambridge and Yorkshire. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| JESSIE M. KIPPIN .. Treble | *J. MICHAEL LAKIN 6 |
| *ADRIAN J. TUMBER 2 | *R. ROGER SAVORY 7 |
| *ROBERT C. KIPPIN 3 | *MAURICE J. BUTLER 8 |
| *NELIA M. LEAHY 4 | *REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD .. 9 |
| *MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 5 | CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor |

Composed by F. E. DARBY. Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise Royal. First peal of Spliced Surprise Royal in the county and by the Guild.

A birthday compliment to A. J. Tumber.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

FAIRFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| NEIL D. LOMAS .. Treble | †IVOR JENKINS 5 |
| *SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN. 2 | SYDNEY SAGE 6 |
| ERIC SIMPSON 3 | ALEXANDER RICHARDSON .. 7 |
| ALAN WARD 4 | DENNIS MOTTESHEAD .. Tenor |

Composed by J. PLATT. Conducted by DENIS MOTTESHEAD.

* First peal of Oxford T.B. Major. † First peal in the method.

Rung to celebrate the birthday of H.M. the Queen.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| MRS. L. BOUMPHREY .. Treble | C. KENNETH LEWIS 5 |
| *HAROLD LONYON 2 | LESLIE BOUMPHREY 6 |
| PETER LAFLIN 3 | ALAN J. BROWN 7 |
| BASIL JONES 4 | JOSEPH WHITTAKER Tenor |

Composed by HENRY DAINs. Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal in the method.

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SHEPshed, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in F

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| *CHARLES FREEMAN .. Treble | HAROLD MARCON 5 |
| MADLINE P. SMITH 2 | G. RONALD EDWARDS 6 |
| †DEREK WEBSTER 3 | ‡PHILIP BOWLEY 7 |
| GEORGE BUTLER 4 | PHILIP WEBSTER Tenor |

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by G. RONALD EDWARDS.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Major.

Rung as a 65th birthday peal for the ringer of the fourth.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 26, 1956, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5152 NORTHILL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| JUNE GLADMAN Treble | ANDREW C. SINFIELD 5 |
| JOHN W. SINFIELD 2 | PHILIP MEHEW 6 |
| RONALD J. SHARP 3 | STEPHEN IVIN 7 |
| C. HENRY HARDING 4 | C. EDWARD JEFFRIES Tenor |

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

First peal ever rung in the method.

ASHBY FOLVILLE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., April 27, 1956, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5056 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| E. CHARLES TURNER .. Treble | JOHN THOMAS 5 |
| DOREEN DUTTON 2 | S. ANTHONY JESSON 6 |
| MRS. J. THOMAS 3 | HERRICK B. BOWLEY 7 |
| WILLIAM A. LACEY 4 | PHILIP A. CORBY Tenor |

Composed by G. LINDOFF (C.C.C. 17). Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

ARDLEIGH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5376 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| CHARLES A. ANDREWS .. Treble | ALFRED E. HONEYWOOD .. 5 |
| *FRED. C. SOUTHGATE .. 2 | ALAN R. ANDREWS 6 |
| FELIX H. ERITH 3 | ROY DUESBURY 7 |
| GEORGE W. BARNES 4 | ARTHUR G. BUTTON Tenor |

Composed by GEORGE H. BEEVOR. Conducted by ROY DUESBURY.

* First peal, aged 64.

DORCHESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15½ cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| ROBERT BLOND Treble | *FRANK REED 5 |
| HENRY BISHOP 2 | ERNEST GARRARD 6 |
| FREDERICK SMITH 3 | FRANK ABSOLOM 7 |
| *ALFRED GREENOUGH .. 4 | JACK BERRY Tenor |

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by ROBERT BLOND.

* First of Kent T.B. Major.

GRESFORD, DENBIGHSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt.

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Middleton's. | | |
| DONALD G. CLIFT .. Treble | ALAN F. THIRST 5 | |
| WILLIAM A. THEOBALD .. 2 | WILFRID F. MORETON .. 6 | |
| GEOFFREY F. BRYANT .. 3 | ROGER O. FRY 7 | |
| MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 4 | WILFRED WILLIAMS Tenor | |

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

The conductor has now called a peal of Surprise Major in every county in Wales.

NORTHILL SURPRISE MAJOR

36-14-1258-14-58-14-38.

2nds place lead-end. 7856342. F.C.E.'s 43265, 32465, 53624, 65432.

NORTH BRADLEY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part, 7th observation.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| *DAVID KNIGHT .. Treble | *ARCHIBALD KNIGHT .. 5 |
| PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING .. 2 | RONALD G. BECK 6 |
| DAVID HOARE 3 | LAURENCE E. HITCHES .. 7 |
| FREDERICK S. SLATFORD .. 4 | A. ROY HARDING Tenor |

Conducted by DAVID HOARE.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. A. Shaw on his induction to the living of North Bradley this day.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 25½ cwt. in E flat.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| JUNE M. CLEMENTS .. Treble | TOWER R. TAYLOR 5 |
| FREDERICK W. BURNETT .. 2 | †ROGER BALDWIN 6 |
| *S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT .. 3 | FREDERICK W. ROGERS .. 7 |
| E. WINIFRED KEYS 4 | ALFRED T. GREENWOOD .. Tenor |

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FREDERICK W. ROGERS.

* First peal of Rutland. † 50th peal.

ALLESLEY, COVENTRY.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 30, 1956, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| GEORGE GARDNER .. Treble | WILLIAM A. STOTE 5 |
| HUBERT G. SUMMERS 2 | PERCY STONE 6 |
| JOHN W. T. TAYLOR 3 | JAMES L. GARNER HAYWARD 7 |
| L. MICHAEL CALLOW 4 | PAUL K. WILLIAMSON .. Tenor |

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by JOHN W. T. TAYLOR.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of C. H. Webb, a ringer at this church, who was interred this day.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., May 2, 1956, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5056 WYE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's Variation.

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

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| *MADLINE SMITH .. Treble | ERNEST J. JELLEY 5 |
| BRIAN G. WARWICK 2 | †JOHN A. ACRES 6 |
| ERNEST MORRIS 3 | †JOHN M. JELLEY 7 |
| †BRIAN S. CHAPMAN 4 | G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor |

Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal in the method.

PAKEFIELD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., May 2, 1956, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS AND ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

H. Hubbard's Five-part.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb. in G.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| *DOUGLAS MITCHELL .. Treble | STANLEY W. COPLING .. 5 |
| *EDWIN T. CHAPMAN .. 2 | H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 6 |
| *A. WILLIAM BIRD 3 | *PETER KINDRED 7 |
| *MICHAEL SOLLEY 4 | *JOHN ALLEN Tenor |

Conducted by PETER KINDRED.

* First peal of Plain Bob Triples. First peal of Plain Bob Triples on the bells.

Rung to commemorate the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh to Lowestoft on this day.

Plain Bob Triples was chosen because it was on May 2nd, 1715, that the first peal of Bob Triples was rung in Norwich.

MORPETH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., May 3, 1956, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE WATCH TOWER,

A PEAL OF 5056 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, comprising 992 London, 768 Bristol, 1,632 Superlative and 1,664 Cambridge, with 104 changes of method, and with all the work of the four methods for each bell. Tenor 10 cwt. 26 lb. in F sharp.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *MARGARET GIBSON .. Treble | FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD .. 5 |
| KENNETH ARTHUR 2 | *ROBIN G. LEALE 6 |
| CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. 3 | J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. 7 |
| RICHARD A. GOFTON .. 4 | DENIS A. BAYLES Tenor |

Composed by H. G. CASHMORE. Conducted by DENIS A. BAYLES.

* First peal of four Spliced. The conductor's 200th peal. The first peal of four Spliced in Northumberland. An 80th birthday compliment to Albert Walker, of Birmingham.

SIX BELL PEALS

HARPFORD, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Fri., April 6, 1956, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being seven extents each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Grandsire, All Saints', Reverse St. Bartholomew and Stedman.

Tenor 7 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| SIDNEY SKINNER Treble | CYRIL DEEM 4 |
| CYRIL SAVAGE 2 | JOHN QUICK 5 |
| ERNEST W. ROWE 3 | EDWARD SUMMERS Tenor |

Conducted by JOHN QUICK.

First peal by the band in six Doubles methods.

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS A BECKET,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| HENRY KIRK Treble | *A. HAROLD SALISBURY .. 4 |
| ELIZABETH M. BAGSHAW .. 2 | RONALD DAWSON 5 |
| MRS. GLADYS RICHARDSON 3 | BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor |

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

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

SILSOE, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| ANN CULPIN Treble | PETER SHIPTON 4 |
| *JANET GODFREY 2 | ROGER A. LENNARD 5 |
| *AVRIL THACKRAY 3 | STEPHEN IVIN Tenor |

Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.

* First peal 'inside.' This is the first peal to be rung by a band comprising present members of Bedford's four public schools. Rung in honour of the 30th birthday of H.M. the Queen.

ULCEBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

Tenor 9 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| ARTHUR CROWDER Treble | JOHN HALL 4 |
| MARTIN WALKER 2 | JACK BRAY 5 |
| MICHAEL CROWDER 3 | HARRY HALL Tenor |

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

Rung following the wedding of Miss G. M. Cuthbert, a ringer and keen worker for this church, and the Rev. G. Rennison.

WISBECH ST. MARY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., April 22, 1956, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| M. R. REED Treble | HARRY FOLLEN 4 |
| WALLACE COUSINS 2 | ERNEST MASTIN 5 |
| JOHN E. FOX 3 | CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor |

Conducted by ERNEST MASTIN.

First peal ever rung in this tower.

Rung at the Vicar's request on the eve of St. George's Day.

FORDHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 23, 1956, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY MAGDALEN,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 20 extents of Plain Bob and 22 of Grandsire.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| *ALBERT BUCK Treble | ROLAND MORLEY 4 |
| JOHN W. PICKETT 2 | GEORGE RAMPLEY 5 |
| JAMES MORLEY 3 | KEITH MUNNS Tenor |

Conducted by GEORGE RAMPLEY.

* First peal.

Rung to celebrate the induction of the Rev. C. J. R. Day, Vicar of Fordham, which took place on April 17th.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 25, 1956, in 2 Hours and 19 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Single Oxford, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Cambridge, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 6 cwt. in B.

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|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| EDWARD G. L. COWARD .. Treble | ARTHUR H. SMITH 4 |
| *GORDON P. T. PETERS .. 2 | ALBERT HARMAN 5 |
| ALFRED H. WINCH 3 | A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor |

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal in seven methods.

Rung as a compliment to Myrtle Maxwell and Colin J. Champion, who were married on Easter Monday at Dunoon, Argyll, Scotland.

DUNHOLME, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 25, 1956, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents: (1) Double Court and Single Court, (2) Oxford Treble Bob, (3) St. Clement's, (4) Kent Treble Bob, (5) Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, (6) Cambridge Surprise, (7) Double Oxford.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

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|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| *NORAH M. BIBBY Treble | LOUIS WILDERS 4 |
| GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. 2 | *JOHN R. KETTERINGHAM .. 5 |
| WILLIAM R. PARKER .. 3 | JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. Tenor |

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal in nine methods.

Rung to welcome Rev. G. A. Tyson as Vicar of this parish.

ELSTREE, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 25, 1956, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb.

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|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| D. KAY ADKINS Treble | KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. 4 |
| JOHN R. MAYNE 2 | *GEOFFREY S. DUNCAN .. 5 |
| JOAN M. WILCOCKSON .. 3 | WALTER AYRE Tenor |

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Cambridge. First peal on the bells since recasting by John Taylor and Co.

ROUGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wed., April 25, 1956, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents called differently.

Tenor 16 cwt.

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|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| LESLIE MELTON Treble | *ERIC NICE 4 |
| JAMES B. MORLEY 2 | LESLIE J. NICE 5 |
| RICHARD ROSE 3 | KENNETH G. BROWN .. Tenor |

Conducted by JAMES B. MORLEY.

* First peal 'inside' and in the method.

A 16th birthday compliment to Eric Nice.

TAXAL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 26, 1956, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents in 14 methods: (1) Wragby Delight; (2) Neasden Delight; (3) Charlwood Delight; (4) St. Albans Delight; (5) Norbury, College Exercise, Ockley and Duke of Norfolk Treble Bob; (6) Oxford, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure, Sandal and Capel Treble Bob; (7) Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt. 23 lb.

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Treble | ALEX RICHARDSON 4 |
| *MRS. GLADYS RICHARDSON 2 | *RONALD DAWSON 5 |
| *REV. G. GORDON GRAHAM 3 | WILLIAM A. SMITH Tenor |

Conducted by WILLIAM A. SMITH.

* First peal in 14 methods. First peal in 14 methods as conductor. The most methods yet rung to a peal for the Association.

BARKSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

Tenor 13 cwt. 13 lb.

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| WILLIAM H. DALE Treble | KATHARINE BURCHNALL .. 4 |
| *MICHAEL R. PLATT 2 | GRACE BURCHNALL 5 |
| GEORGE E. FOSTER 3 | GEORGE W. CREASEY Tenor |

Conducted by GEORGE W. CREASEY.

* First peal 'inside.' W. H. Dale has now 'circled the tower.'

A farewell peal to the Rev. G. H. Platt upon his leaving the parish.

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

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| MRS. A. SIMPSON Treble | FREDERICK G. HOOPER .. 4 |
| CLARENCE F. BRIGGS .. 2 | ALLAN SIMPSON 5 |
| F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. 3 | WILLIAM L. EXTON Tenor |

Conducted by ALLAN SIMPSON.

First peal on the bells since being rehung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., 1955.

PASTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 3 Hours,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 11 cwt. in G:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| *ARTHUR C. WELLS .. Treble | N. JOHN A. PUMPHREY .. 4 |
| LESLIE H. RISEBROW .. 2 | JOHN R. SMITH 5 |
| *DERICK W. PARDON .. 3 | WILLIAM H. HOLDOM Tenor |

Conducted by JOHN R. SMITH.

* First peal.

Rung as a welcome to Elizabeth Sara, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Balls, of Cromer, who was born on that day.

PAULERSPURY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (ten different callings).

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. Treble | PERCY FOSTER 4 |
| *KATHLEEN I. BALLARD .. 2 | KEITH SHELTON 5 |
| WILLIAM A. YATES .. 3 | *RICHARD HINTON Tenor |

Conducted by WILLIAM A. YATES.

* First peal of Doubles.

Rung as a token of gratitude to the ringer of the fourth, for his loyal services to this church.

RENDCOMB, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being eight extents of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure (eight callings), 12 of April Day (three callings), 12 of Plain Bob (four callings) and ten of Grandsire (ten callings).

Tenor 12½ cwt.

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| RALPH E. W. WENBAN .. Treble | MERVYN DAY 4 |
| JOHN DOWDESWELL .. 2 | WILLIAM A. GODWIN .. 5 |
| ERNEST H. JEFFERIES .. 3 | PATRICK A. BARTLETT .. Tenor |

Conducted by WILLIAM A. GODWIN.

HANDBELL PEALS

BURBAGE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 18, 1956, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,

At Stedman, Sketchley Road,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor size 18 in G.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| MARGARET BEAMISH .. 1—2 | ALFRED BALLARD 5—6 |
| WALTER WHITEHEAD .. 3—4 | *ALAN CATTELL 7—8 |

Composed by C. H. MARTIN.

Conducted by WALTER WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Surprise 'in hand.'

JULIANSTOWN, COUNTY MEATH.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., May 3, 1956, in 2 Hours and 4 Minutes,

In the Chalet, at Meadow Cottage,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores.

Tenor size 8 in C.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| SIDNEY G. LEWIS 1—2 | FREDERICK E. DUKES .. 3—4 |
| FREDERICK BOGAN 5—6 | |

Conducted by FREDERICK E. DUKES.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Mon., May 7, 1956, in 1 Hour and 46 Minutes,

In the Belfry of the Church of St. Alphege,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings).

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| HARRY BRAGG 1—2 | EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 3—4 |
| CHARLES BRAGG 5—6 | |

Conducted by EDGAR C. SHEPHERD.

The conductor's 500th peal. Rung in the same place, in the same method, and with the same band as his first peal 38 years ago.



GILLETT AND JOHNSTON

LIMITED

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

**BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS**

CROYDON



QUARTER PEALS

ARDLEIGH, ESSEX.—On April 22nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: G. Moss 1, F. Southgate 2, H. Bacon 3, F. Erith 4, M. Bantick 5, A. Andrews 6, R. Duesbury (cond.) 7, C. Andrews 8.

BEXLEY, KENT.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Doubles (480 St. Simon's, 360 Grandsire, 420 Plain Bob): Brenda Foster 1, Julie Tunbridge 2, Judith Cox 3, Mary Andrews 4, J. L. Morris (cond.) 5, Jean Jones 6. First quarter for 1 and 6.

BICKER, Lincs.—On April 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. H. Bennett 1, S. Jessop 2, J. P. Morris 3, W. E. Clark 4, P. H. Reynolds 5, W. B. Dawson (cond.) 6, J. Petch 7, C. Stubley 8.

BIDFORD-ON-AVON, WARWICKS.—On April 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): A. T. Shorey (cond.) 1, A. S. Read 2, R. Moore 3, A. Boswell 4, J. Moore 5, D. Hall 6, W. Busby 7, F. Splers 8. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. Cole on their golden wedding anniversary.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Jane E. Langton (15, first of 1) 1, B. E. Matthews (16, first quarter) 2, P. H. Langton (17, first as cond. and 'inside') 3, R. P. Wood 4, C. Wood 5, R. A. Brown (17, first quarter) 6. For Evensong.

BRANSCOMBE, DEVON.—On April 18th, 1,260 Doubles (480 each of Plain Bob and Grandsire with 300 Stedman): S. Skinner 1, C. Deem (cond.) 2, C. Savage 3, K. Dawe 4, J. Quick 5, J. Burnell (first quarter) 6.

BROADCLYST, DEVON.—On April 17th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Salway 1, W. Seldon 2, B. Pidgeon 3, A. Tapley 4, E. E. Retter 5, F. Wreford 6, G. E. Retter (cond.) 7, A. Holway 8.

BROOKFIELD, N.—On May 6th, at St. Anne's Church, 1,260 Bob Minor: J. M. Payton 1, R. Newman 2, T. Bevan 3, J. T. O'Dell 4, J. C. Rigg 5, A. W. J. Butler (cond.) 6.

BROMLEY COMMON, KENT.—On April 22nd, at St. Luke's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. F. Oakshett 1, A. Purdom 2, Kathleen M. Walsh 3, D. Martin 4, Hilda Oakshett 5, A. S. Richards (cond.) 6, P. Splice 7, E. Mounter 8. For St. George's Day service.

BROUGHTON, LANCs.—On April 21st, 1,272 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Jolley 1, S. Walsley 2, P. Dunderdale 3, W. Mansley 4, H. Hardacre 5, F. Stead (cond.) 6. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. Jolley on the 20th anniversary of their wedding.

BUNNEY, NOTTS.—On April 29th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. Towers 1, F. Priestley 2, M. Hill 3, H. Harrison 4, T. Mills 5, S. Adams (cond.) 6. First quarter on the bells. For Evensong.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On May 6th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. M. Rouse 1, D. Sims (first in method) 2, E. Deacon 3, S. W. Bigmore 4, K. Everett 5, H. Stebbings (cond.) 6. For morning service.

CASTLE DONINGTON, DERBYS.—On April 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. E. Collins 1, R. S. Barker 2, B. Halford 3, J. G. Cheverton 4, J. S. Knighton (cond.) 5, E. Barker 6. First quarter for all. Rung for Evensong.

CHARLTON-MORETHORN, SOMERSET.—On April 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. R. Rawlings (first quarter) 1, D. Gare 2, F. L. Andrews 3, W. J. Tiley (cond.) 4, C. Thomas 5, R. P. Rawlings 6.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKS.—On April 22nd, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. E. Lloyd 1, Miss D. J. Clarke (first 'inside') 2, J. E. Moreton 3, Mrs. D. E. Beamish 4, J. Draycott 5, A. H. Beamish (cond.) 6, J. F. Clarke 7, J. A. L. Thompson 8. Rung to welcome the Rev. J. R. W. Fleming to the parish as senior curate.

COFFINSWELL, DEVON.—On April 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. L. Bennett 1, Mrs. D. E. Hood 2, E. M. Atkins (cond.) 3, M. Hood 4, D. J. Cross 5, K. Shelley 6. First quarter on the bells.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—On May 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Jennings 1, Miss A. Mites 2, Mrs. P. Cracknell (first of Triples 'inside') 3, G. T. Jennings 4, B. A. Cracknell (first in method as cond.) 5, S. Arnold 6, W. Slaughter 7, W. Taylor 8. Rung for Evensong, and also as a compliment to Mr. G. T. Jennings (tower captain) and Mrs. Jennings on the occasion of their 25th wedding anniversary.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On Mar. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. Croft 1, B. W. Lake (first of Minor 'inside') 2, S. H. Ashton 3, G. Cherry 4, F. W. Croft (cond.) 5, R. Head 6. Also on Mar. 18th, 1,272 Surprise Minor (720 Cambridge, 552 Norwich): S. Ashton 1, P. Croft 2, L. Runnacles 3, G. Cherry 4, R. Head 5, F. Croft (cond.) 6. Also on April 15th, 1,269 Oxford Bob Minor: L. Runnacles 1, S. Ashton (first in method) 2, A. C. Harris 3, P. Croft 4, R. Head 5, F. Croft (cond.) 6. All for Evensong.

HALIFAX, YORKS.—On April 25th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss S. M. Taylor 1, K. Hainsworth (first quarter) 2, D. Hollas 3, Miss M. V. Copping 4, J. F. Bryant 5, R. Mann 6, E. M. Fielden (first as cond.) 7, V. Bottomley 8. Rung to commemorate the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone.

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.—On April 28th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: F. Whitby 1, V. Tipton 2, E. Larter 3, L. Cordell 4, W. Wheeler 5, J. Aley 6, W. Aley 7, S. Clark (cond.) 8. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. J. O. White, for 20 years Vicar of the parish.

HEADINGTON, OXON.—On May 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Dart 1, G. Collett 2, D. Simms 3, J. Cruickshank 4, T. Smith (cond.) 5, R. Trebilcock 6. A ruby wedding compliment to Mr. W. D. Smith, former tower captain and Vicar's warden, and Mrs. Smith.

HELLINGLY, SUSSEX.—On April 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Sybil Tonkin 1, Judy Funnell (first 'inside') 2, Kathleen Yeo 3, Laura Beeny 4, G. Beeny (cond.) 5, F. Beeny 6.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.—At the Abbey Church, on May 5th, 1,280 Bristol Surprise Major: C. McGuinness 1, W. N. Park 2, R. G. Leale 3, K. Lawson 4, B. Harris 5, J. A. Ainsworth 6, D. A. Bayles (cond.) 7, R. Park 8.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.—On April 22nd, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: Betty Tester 1, A. W. Durham 2, R. E. Lambert 3, F. Bromley 4, A. Bromley 5, C. Tester 6, E. Bromley 7, R. T. Lambert (cond.) 8. For Confirmation service.

KING'S LANGLEY, HERTS.—On April 26th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: K. Waples (first quarter) 1, Mrs. D. W. Barker 2, R. J. Picton 3, R. Wallis 4, B. M. Barker (first as cond.) 5, R. Scaplehorn 6. First of Bob Doubles by all. Also on May 6th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: Miss A. Bourdon (first quarter) 1, Mrs. D. W. Barker 2, R. J. Picton 3, R. Wallis 4, B. M. Barker (cond.) 5, R. Scaplehorn 6.

LEWKNOR, OXON.—On May 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Rosemary Edwards (first quarter) 1, F. Absalom (cond.) 2, F. Godden 3, R. Tuckwell 4, W. Fulker 5, E. Morris 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. Morris.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.—On April 22nd, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Mrs. J. Crampion 1, C. A. Hughes 2, Miss V. Tester (first quarter) 3, L. Batley 4, C. R. Smith 5, J. H. Crampion (cond.) 6, E. D. Smith 7, C. Willmington 8.

MAULDEN, BEDS.—On May 7th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. W. Sinfield 1, June Gladman 2, C. E. Jeffries 3, A. E. Rushton 4, R. J. Sharp 5, C. Sharp 6, A. J. Smith (cond.) 7, W. Izzard 8. For Rogationtide.

OXFORD.—On May 6th, at St. Ebbe's Church, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: W. H. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. T. Powell 2, D. J. Roaf 3, D. A. Edwards 4, C. J. B. Taylor 5, R. A. Hodgson 6, D. H. Niblett 7, P. R. Sanders (first in method as cond.) 8. First in method for 2, 3, 5 and 6. Rung for Matins.

READING, BERKS.—At St. Laurence's Church, on April 22nd, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Helen M. Brant 1, Mrs. A. Diserens 2, B. C. Stirling 3, W. Hunt 4, A. Diserens 5, R. F. Diserens 6, J. N. Diserens 7, N. J. Diserens (cond.) 8.

RIPLEY, DERBYS.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. W. Sewry 1, R. J. Stretton (cond.) 2, K. Faulkner 3, J. Brown 4, J. Sewry (first quarter) 5, F. Hill 6.

ROADE, NORTHANTS.—On April 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Sandra Tompkins (first quarter) 1, Miss J. Crow (first 'inside') 2, H. Curtis 3, K. Perkins (cond.) 4, A. Cozens 5.

ROCHESTER, KENT.—At the Cathedral, on May 5th, 1,367 Grandsire Caters: T. Beaumont 1, Miss D. Borer (first of Caters) 2, Miss J. Highley (first of Caters) 3, P. Borer 4, H. Springate 5, F. J. Cheal 6, C. E. J. Norris 7, W. A. J. Knight (cond.) 8, R. E. Norris 9, B. F. Baker 10. Rung as a birthday compliment to the son of the 9th ringer.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—At the Cathedral, on May 6th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss D. Whiting (first quarter) 1, Miss P. Doorn (first of Major) 2, R. F. Ewer 3, B. Cornell 4, G. Penney 5, W. Little 6, J. Ewer 7, W. J. Arnold (cond.) 8. Rung as a 14th birthday compliment to Miss D. Whiting.

ST. IPPOLYTS, HERTS.—On Mar. 25th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: W. Pratt 1, B. W. Lake 2, S. Ashton 3, L. Runnacles 4, A. C. Harris 5, R. Head (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

SANDHURST, GLOS.—On May 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss W. Cockburn 1, Miss J. D. Cockburn 2, C. A. Wratten (cond.) 3, I. Goulter 4, Miss S. M. Parsons 5, Miss V. Willard 6, D. J. Cobb 7, N. Daniels 8. First of Triples for 1 and 8. Rung in honour of the engagement of Mr. D. J. Cobb and Miss J. D. Cockburn, and as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss W. Cockburn.

SOUTH SHIELDS, CO. DURHAM.—On April 25th, 1,296 Cambridge Minor: Miss J. Hagan 1, Mrs. C. N. Lea 2, Miss M. Gibson 3, E. A. Rawlinson 4, Miss E. Softley 5, C. N. Lea (cond.) 6. Rung in honour of the enthronement of Dr. Ramsey as Archbishop of York.

STAMFORD HILL, N.—At St. Ann's Church, on April 22nd, 1,260 Spliced Plain and Grandsire Doubles: Miss A. Smith (first quarter, aged 15) 1, B. Bladon 2, M. Rowe 3, H. Howson 4, E. J. Rowe (cond.) 5, F. Riddlesden 6.

STANMORE, MIDDLEX.—On April 29th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss D. Ward 1, A. C. Wenban 2, E. J. Leversuch 3, Miss J. Wilcockson 4, R. Stoddard 5, L. North 6, W. Wenban (cond.) 7, R. Lambert 8. For evening service.

SWINTON, LANCs.—On May 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: K. Cooke (first quarter) 1, C. Rothwell (first 'inside') 2, Miss G. B. Cooke 3, Joyce Halliday 4, A. Sharples 5, D. Ogden 6, B. Rothwell (first as cond.) 7, W. Thornley (first quarter) 8. For Evensong.

SYDNEY, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.—At St. Mary's Basilica, on Aug. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: John Sheehy 1-2, J. Cummins 3-4, T. Goodyer (cond.) 5-6, Ellen Giddens (first quarter 'in hand') 7-8.

TONBRIDGE, KENT.—On May 4th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: N. Butcher 1, S. Jenner (cond.) 2, R. Waterhouse 3, G. Pickett 4, S. A. White 5, W. Dobbie 6. Rung on the back six.

TWINEHAM, SUSSEX.—On April 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. E. Mundy (first quarter) 1, G. A. Packham 2, F. F. Godsmark 3, C. H. Wickens 4, P. F. Romney (cond.) 5. Rung for the wedding of Miss S. M. Wickens and Mr. K. C. Knight, both ringers at Twineham.

TWYFORD, BUCKS.—On April 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Phillips 1, A. Hodges 2, W. G. Phillips (cond.) 3, N. Townsend 4, F. W. Thorpe 5, J. Hodges 6. A 65th birthday compliment to Mr. A. Hodges, for many years a member of the local band.

WANDSWORTH, SURREY.—At the Church of the Holy Trinity, on April 29th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. S. Langdon 1, H. Belcher 2, Miss A. Garnett 3, J. F. Smallwood 4, B. K. Lunn 5, C. J. Watts 6, John Phillips (cond.) 7, H. M. Page 8.

WHITBY, YORKS.—On May 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss T. Duck 1, G. W. White 2, A. Hunter 3, D. Elwick 4, H. Waters 5, J. Hodgson 6, S. R. Elwick (cond.) 7, F. Lamerton 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. A. E. Oxley, in his 82nd year, for 43 years a member of this tower.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.—On May 6th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Miss R. E. Gower 1, Miss B. Philpott (first in method) 2, C. T. Hillis 3, W. F. Garner 4, A. J. Lancefield 5, M. S. Lancefield (cond.) 6.

WOODBURY, DEVON.—On May 8th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor (7 and 8 covering): Miss J. Gooding 1, L. K. Dawe 2, T. Gooding 3, G. Betts 4, J. Briggs 5, J. L. Glanvill (cond.) 6, J. Gooding 7, J. Sellick 8. First of Minor for 1, 3, 5 and 8. Rung in honour of the Queen's visit to Devon this day.

COLLEGE YOUTHS AT BIRMINGHAM

WHILST enthusiastic footballers were busy leaving Birmingham to visit Wembley for the Cup Final, other enthusiasts were equally busy making a journey in the opposite direction. These were the London contingent of the Ancient Society, and on arrival at Birmingham a warm welcome was awaiting them, for the Master of the St. Martin's Guild and Mr. Albert Walker, with several other prominent Birmingham ringers, were at the station.

Whether the opportunity of ringing on three rings of 12 plus one of eight in one city or the certainty of receiving such a warm welcome was the attraction, the fact remains that a large number of College Youths gathered in the famous Midland city and full opportunity was taken to enjoy the facilities provided. Members came from many Midland districts including Oxford, Northampton, Shrewsbury, Gloucester, Norwich, Evesham and Coventry and also from Yeovil and Cowbridge.

Ringling took place at the Cathedral, St. Martin's and Aston and also at St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral, and a meat tea was provided in the city, followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Master, Squadron Leader John S. Mason. Mr. F. E. Haynes first expressed the satisfaction Midland College Youths felt that it had been decided to come to Birmingham for this meeting, and whilst he had heard that the bells in that city had been described in some quarters as 'drawing room jobs,' he was at somewhat of a loss to find a suitable description for some of the London rings (laughter). He hoped that the result of this gathering would be to cement further the friendly relations which had existed so long between the two cities. Mr. Albert Walker also welcomed the visitors, and mentioned that he was elected to the Ancient Society in 1896.

The Master suitably acknowledged the welcome and said all present would desire to join in congratulating Mr. Walker on attaining his 80th birthday, and trusted he would be with them for many more years.

It was pointed out that Mr. Walker's membership certificate was one of the lithographed copies, and the meeting decided that one of the original etching certificates by Bartolozzi (now in use) should be presented to him as a memento of his 80th birthday. Details will be copied from the old certificate. Mr. Walker also was presented with a copy of the latest edition of the Rule Book.

The secretary, Mr. A. B. Peck, reported that the appeal on behalf of Bow Bells was making steady progress, and reminded members that individual donations were still required if the sum it was desired to contribute was to be reached.

Several new members were elected and a pleasant social hour terminated the proceedings. Certainly the party returning to London were in much happier mood than were the party returning from the Cup Final to Birmingham!

J. F. S.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

A cycling party who attended the Northern District meeting at Anstey on April 28th rang in the morning at Wallington, Sandon and Barkway. At the business meeting hearty votes of thanks were given to the Vicar (the Rev. A. B. Lea), the organist (Mrs. Fox) and the ladies who provided the free tea. Surfleet Surprise was chosen as the special method for the next meeting at Walkern on May 26th.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION

Southern District

The April meeting of the Southern District was held at the Church of All Saints, Hurworth-on-Tees—a beautiful South Durham village, with the church bordering the River Tees. Beside the tower can be seen the memorial to William Emerson, who lived through most of the 18th century, an F.R.S. and an eminent mathematician, though very eccentric.

The ringing was curtailed owing to illness near the tower and was limited to short touches of Bob Minor, Grandsire Doubles, St. Clement's, Kent and Cambridge.

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. L. Piper) and the lesson was rung by the young Hurworth ringer, Peter Holland.

An excellent tea was provided by the ringers' wives, and they were ably thanked. The vice-president commented on the great progress made by the local ringers in the past three years.

F. C. W.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—E. M. 8s., H. C. 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Allesley 4s., Upchurch 3s., Preston Candover 2s. 6d., Marston 2s. 6d.

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'THE RINGING WORLD'

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers..

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Within the octave of his 80th birthday Mr. Albert Walker rang three 12-bell peals for three different Societies. The peal on his birthday (May 3rd) rung for the Ancient Society of College Youths was conducted by Albert himself. It was a worthy celebration of a great ringer.

BELFRY

Congratulations to Mr. Frederick C. Southgate, who rang his first peal in his own tower at Ardleigh, Essex, at the age of 64.

The portrait of Mr. Ernest Morris has been hung in the campanological museum in the Mitchell tower of Chicago University.

Ringling at Womersley, Surrey, has been suspended until further notice owing to a cracked gudgeon.

In our front page article of April 22nd Provost Michael Clarke is inadvertently described as Provost Michael Parker.

In recognition of his services over 32 years to the Norwich Diocesan Association Mr. Nolan Golden has been elected a vice-president of the Association.

One of Devon's famous beauty spots, Cockington Village, Torquay, was the venue for six members of the Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild on Saturday, May 5th, when they rang a peal of Plain Bob Minor on the bells, the first of Minor on these bells. There were three 'firsts' in the band, whilst another reached his half a century.

Dr. D. J. Neal Smith, of Twickenham, writes expressing his gratitude to all the ringers in Ireland who gave him such a welcome during his short visit. Not only did he meet most of the officials of the Irish Association and was able to ring with them but he was given the opportunity of ringing in six towers and taking part in a quarter peal attempt.

GOSSIP

Mr. Edgar C. Shepherd, of Solihull, had something unique for his 500th peal on May 7th. It was rung in the same place (St. Alphege's Church, Solihull) in the same method (Grandsire Doubles 'in hand') and with the same band as his first peal 38 years ago. Neither Messrs. Harry nor Charles Bragg had rung a peal (or even thought of starting for one) for well over 30 years.

The College Youths have received invitations to visit Yeovil and Cambridge.

The peal of Stedman Triples at All Saints', Leicester, on April 14th, was duplicated in two issues of 'The Ringing World.'

Mr. John A. Martin, of Horsell, now in the R.A.F., thanks all ringers in the Wilmslow area for their kindness to him during his stay at R.A.F., Wilmslow.

Mr. W. B. Cartwright is the new Master of the Worcestershire and Districts Association. He succeeds Mr. C. Skidmore, who has held the office since 1948.

To the memory of the Rev. A. St. J. Heard, late president of the Norwich Diocesan Association, a bronze tablet is to be placed in the ringing chamber at Mulbarton Church.

During practice at Wadhurst, Sussex, on May 2nd Miss Ann Bassett was presented by Mr. George Baker, a local ringer, with an iced cake modelled in the shape of a bell, with a little church in place of the canons. Inscribed round the sound bow was: 'Congratulations to Ann on her 21st birthday,' and on the crown 'Cast in 1935. Pealed in 1956.' Twenty ringers were present, and after leaving the church Ann's health was drunk with a bottle of sherry purchased with money from a recent wedding peal. Unfortunately Ann refused to stand in the peal in honour of her birthday the following Saturday.

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AT LEICESTER AFTER 45 YEARS

The following letter of welcome has been sent to the president of the Central Council (Mr. Edwin H. Lewis) by Mr. Paul L. Taylor, president of the Leicester Diocesan Guild:—

Dear Mr. Lewis,

As the new president of the Leicester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers I am writing to welcome the Central Council to Leicester at Whit week-end. I am writing a personal letter owing to the close connections which my family has had with the Central Council.

It was in 1911 when Leicester was last honoured by a visit of the Council, at which time the president was Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., who was also president of the Midland Counties' Association, from which Association springs the Leicester Diocesan Guild. The vice-president of the M.C.A. was my father, to whom fell the pleasant but maybe onerous task of looking after the Central Council while in Leicester.

Leicester is not unknown to you and the Central Council, so that there is no need to enumerate the various glories that it possesses, sufficient to say that the Guild is doing its utmost that our visitors will be able to have both a successful meeting and an enjoyable stay, and will go away with pleasant memories of their sojourn within the diocese of Leicester.

In closing, may I again say how welcome you and the Council will be this Whitsuntide.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) PAUL LEA TAYLOR.



MR. PAUL L. TAYLOR

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION

The Scottish Association were pleased to welcome eight visitors from the Newcastle area and two from Wolverhampton at the annual meeting which was held in Edinburgh on April 28th. Ringing began at St. James', Constitution Street, shortly after midday and continued until 1.30. The start of ringing at St. Cuthbert's was delayed somewhat by the difficulties caused by and the interest on the part of some of the ringers in the procession for Student Charities Week. Tea followed a short service conducted by the Rev. W. S. Elliott in the Memorial Chapel of St. Cuthbert's.

The president, Mr. Ernest Boumphrey, of Glasgow, took the chair at the business meeting. The Ringing Master, Mr. C. R. Raine, of Edinburgh, and the secretary had little to report. Seven new members were elected and the officers re-elected for a further year. The secretary stated that the new ring of bells at Fettes had just been hung and that all towers would be informed as soon as possible of the ringing arrangements there.

After discussion about the places for the next meetings it was decided to hold the annual meeting at St. Mary's, Great Western Road, Glasgow, in 1957, and the other two meetings at Dundee and Alloa. The matter of the committee was raised and the secretary instructed to remind all towers of their rights in this connection.

Mr. Lloyd moved a vote of thanks to the various church authorities, steeplekeepers, minister, organist and St. Cuthbert's Society for entertaining everyone to tea, and the officers for their work during the year. Ringing was resumed for a further half-hour. R. S. W.

THE BELLS OF LEICESTER CITY CHURCHES — by Ernest Morris

VISITORS to Leicester for the Central Council meeting will find plenty of interest in the bells of the city and neighbourhood, for which an excellent programme of times available for ringing has been drawn up by the peal secretary, Mr. Shirley Burton. Tours also have been arranged, as already advertised. In every case it will be found that the various rings are in good order and can be enjoyed to the full. To those who are able to take advantage of these tours arranged for Sunday and Monday, it will be found that the places chosen are not only noted for their grand bells, but also for the beauty of the churches and the fame of their structures.

Leicester Cathedral.—This is one of the lesser parish church cathedrals but, nevertheless, full of interest. Built on the site of a pagan temple, it shows traces of Norman work in the base of its modern central tower and spire, which is not yet 100 years old!! It has been much restored and enlarged during the centuries past, and was for long the civic church. The bells began as a ring of five, then six, eight and ten, but as such were a mixed lot until the great restoration in 1937, when they were all recast, and now form a grand ring of 12 (tenor 25½ cwt.) with a flat 6th to form a lighter octave.

St. Margaret's.—Not very far distant—is an even larger church and stands on the site of the earliest Christian church (Saxon) in the city. It has a long historic background and is noted for having the only effigy—in alabaster—of a Bishop in this Diocese (John Penny, Bishop of Carlisle, ob 1520). An ancient well within the church and other treasures. Its noble Perpendicular tower, built in 1444, has a grand modern ring of 12—the heaviest in the county (tenor 33 cwt.) and a flat 6th, like the Cathedral.

St. John-the-Divine.—Near the Midland Station—one of the redundant parishes of Leicester, was threatened with demolition, but through the efforts of many faithful worshippers there (and we remember in this connection Mr. Sidner Harrison, the Ringing Master) it was providentially saved. Its tower—now minus the spire—has a glorious ring of ten (tenor 21 cwt.) in a splendidly-kept belfry which is a joy to behold.

St. Mary de Castro (the church of the Castle) is a grand building almost all Norman, a delight for all who love architecture, and one for deep study of its varying stages. Its tower is unique and stands within the church, which was once two distinct churches in one, where services were held simultaneously—one for the parish, the other for the Castle. Here is a Mears ring of seven covered by a Watts tenor, and since their recent restoration and rehang-ing in new frame and fittings are a delightful set to ring on.

All Saints', in Highcross Street—near to the Central Station—has its Norman tower placed on the north side of the chancel—an unusual feature. This church has much of historic interest and it noted for its Jacobean clock with attendant 'quarter boys.' The bells were an ancient five dating back to 1370, of various later dates, and of recent years restored and augmented first to six and now to eight (tenor 8½ cwt.) and so form a handy set, easy to ring.

St. Saviour's.—From the City centre a bus—via Humberstone Road—brings one to St. Saviour's Road, where is the church of that name, whose brick tower with stone spire has a heavy octave (27 cwt.) not going too well!

Aylestone.—A short bus ride from the Town Hall gets one to Aylestone, noted for its connection with the Manners family and Dorothy Vernon. Here the old six bells with long

draught of rope were recently rehung and augmented to eight (tenor 16 cwt.) and rope guides provided—now form a very nice ring.

Belgrave.—From the City centre a bus ride will take one to Belgrave (St. Peter's), where its handy octave (tenor 14 cwt.) is rung from the ground floor. Not far distant (and once attached to this parish) is **Birstall**, whose old five bells were in recent years augmented to eight (tenor 10 cwt.). Then, again, a short distance further on, is **Wantlip**—still retaining its old-world appearance—whose three ancient bells are now a lovely little ring of six.

Anstey.—A bus ride from St. Margaret's will take one to Anstey, where Redvers Elkington (affectionately called 'Anstey' for short!) looks after a very nice eight (tenor 10½ cwt.), the only bell in England with 'Edward VIII.' on it! The Cathedral tenor originally had this, but later it was very carefully filed off and 'George VI.' engraved thereon. These are just a few of the towers worth a visit—a number of others are quite easily reached by good bus services, such as Wigston Magna: South Wigston; Kibworth; Thurcaston; and the six-bell towers of Humberstone, Great Glen, Whetstone, Countesthorpe and others.

When will cartoonists depicting ringing study their subjects first-hand? Bentley's cartoon in the 'News Chronicle' of May 7th spoilt a good idea by bad craftsmanship. Probably best example of automation is to be found in Carter's ringing machine.

Mr. Shirley Burton writes that the two compositions published in 'The Ringing World' of May 11th should not be credited to him. The 5,088 for Arnesby was a transposition of G. Baker's, and the 5,152 of Woodstock a transposed variation of an old composition, probably by C. H. Hattersley.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Memorial to J. A. Trollope Proposed

THE 59th annual general meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Twickenham on April 21st.

A large number of members and friends met at St. Mary's, where ringing took place during the afternoon and evening.

The Guild's service was held at St. Mary's, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. J. Davis, and the address was given by the president, the Rev. G. C. Taylor, Rector of St. Giles-in-the-Fields. Over 75 were present at tea, served in St. Mary's Hall by the local ringers and friends.

At the business meeting which followed, the chair was taken by the president. This was the first annual meeting since his election last year. Mr. E. A. Morris, churchwarden and ringer of St. Mary's, apologised for the absence of the Vicar from the meeting. He drew attention to the very fine memorial altar cross in memory of the late Rev. W. P. Cole Sheane, past president of the Association.

The general secretary, Mr. E. C. S. Turner, sent his apologies for absence, owing to illness, and the meeting expressed its pleasure that he is recovering satisfactorily.

The names of those members who had died since the last meeting were read, and those present stood in silent memory of: J. C. Adams (Walthamstow), W. S. Beaumont (Ruislip), W. H. L. Buckingham (St. Albans), C. Glenn (Grantham), T. Goodchild (Maidenhead), B. A. Knights (Chesterfield), W. J. Nudds (Edgware), H. J. Poole (Leicester), Mrs. A. S. Roberts (Carbis Bay), J. W. F. Trotman (Nuneaton), W. H. Oram (Harrow), A. H. Ware (Chellaston), C. C. Mayne (Harrow Weald).

POINTS FROM ANNUAL REPORT

The report for 1955 was presented and the main points are as follows: The usual monthly District meetings have been held, the visit to Harrow-on-the-Hill being particularly noteworthy as it was the first there for very many years. Thirty-five peals were rung, of which Sudbury, Kenninghall, Queensland, Walbrook and Xavier Surprise Major were rung for the first time. A record of Doubles ringing was set up at Stanwell with a peal in 72 methods spliced into 42 different extents. F. T. Blagrove conducted this peal and also rang two bells.

The audited accounts were adopted and showed small increases in the Bell Restoration Fund and assets compared with the previous year.

Officers elected were: President, the Rev. G. C. Taylor; vice-presidents, Messrs. S. G. Hart and W. H. Coles; general secretary, Mr. E. C. S. Turner; assistant general secretary, Mr. W. N. Genna; Master, Mr. T. Price; treasurer, Mr. F. W. Goodfellow; auditor, Mr. M. Hodgson; trustees, Messrs. T. J. Lock, E. C. S. Turner, F. W. Goodfellow. One honorary member, seven non-resident life members and seven ringing members were elected.

It was agreed by a large majority that the annual general meeting next year should be held at Harrow Weald.

The assistant secretary reported that the Lord Bishop of London had agreed to become patron, and the Bishop of Willesden had become a vice-president of the Association.

The Association had offered congratulations to Mr. James Parker, formerly of Edmonton, on his 90th birthday, in March. Mr. Parker had been a very prominent ringer in the county and is now resident at Caister-on-Sea.

Mr. A. Harding had given the Association a set of annual reports, and the appreciation of the members was gratefully expressed.

SUPPORT FOR BOW BELLS

It was decided to donate five guineas to the Bow Bells Appeal with the proviso that the Association would consider making a further contribution if found to be necessary.

The question of a memorial to the late J. Armiger Trollope was discussed and the meeting elected a committee to consider suggestions as to the form it should take. Messrs. F. W. Goodfellow, E. Kilby, T. J. Lock, C. F. Neale and E. C. S. Turner were elected as the committee.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Twickenham, the Rector of All Hallows', Twickenham, and to the local ringers for all the arrangements made.

Ringing continued after the meeting at St. Mary's and All Hallows', Twickenham.

PAT CHAPMAN'S 18 TOWERS ON EASTER MONDAY

The 'Pat Chapman' annual tower hunt on Easter Monday is becoming a popular event. The venue this year was South Warwick and North Oxon, and the ringers (14) came from the Kettering and Northampton area with visitors from Byfield, and Dorking, Surrey.

Punctually, at 9 a.m. the five bells at Farnborough (tenor 7 cwt.) were raised in peal, and the Vicar welcomed us in the tower. He is also Vicar of Avon Dassett (5, 13), but at first thought that it would be unwise to ring there as a stay was broken, and he was not certain of the condition of the others. However, we gave him assurances that we would not ring unless all was in order, so permission was granted.

On arrival at the tower we were expecting a rough time, but to the surprise of everyone, the bells went extraordinarily well. The birds' nests, etc., had left their mark, including two or three dead birds, and this is one of the few churches still lit by oil lamps and candles.

Our next tower was the very isolated one of Burton Dassett (6, 13), which has a fine church and a magnificent view of the famous Edge Hill, scene of the Civil War battle of 1642. Kineton (6, 11) has the treble heavier than the fourth, and Butlers Marston (6, 16) are extremely noisy. At Oxhill (5, 9) a local ringer seemed surprised that we did not ring from cards, and at Tysoe (6, 15) we were amazed at the really excellent 'go' of the bells. Tredington (6, 16) has a fine church and bells, and the ringing Vicar was delighted to welcome us.

Lunch was enjoyed at Shipston-on-Stour (6, 12) and fortified us for a well-struck course of

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD Bowdon, Stockport and Mottram Branch

A meeting of the above Branch was held at New Mills on April 28th, when some 50 members and friends were present during the afternoon and evening. Ringing was enjoyed from early in the afternoon and the usual service was replaced by Evensong, at which the assistant curate, the Rev. H. B. Baker, gave a fine address.

After an excellent tea, served by the local ringers and ladies, the business meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Rev. H. B. Baker. The following new members were elected: Miss S. Mason, Miss E. Sheppard and Ian Wright, of New Mills, Samuel Clarke and Dr. T. Dinsdale, of Stockport St. Mary, and the following non-resident life members: John S. Barnes, Victor Griffin, Rev. G. Gordon Graham and Derek F. Yates. The secretary reported that he had now arranged the remainder of the meetings for the year as follows: June 23rd, Knutsford; July 21st, Taxal; September 29th, Bowdon; and November 24th, Bredbury.

Further ringing was enjoyed until a very late hour, a wide variety of methods from rounds to Surprise being practised. It was pleasing to note that at least half the members present were under 21, and at the other end of the scale there were two veterans of 87 and 84 years of age.

C. K. L.

Cambridge on the roughest six of the day. Difficulty was experienced at Sutton-under-Brailes (5, 9), due to the poor 'go' of the bells and the closeness of the ropes to the wall. We found Cherrington (5, 74) with very long ropes, and enjoyed the fine bells at Whichford (6, 13).

At Hook Norton (8, 20) we were met by Mr. Bossberry, and these excellent bells were rung to Stedman and Double Norwich. A charge is now made here for a peal attempt to cover cost of wear on the ropes. This idea seems fair and one which might well be copied by other churches.

After tea visits were paid to Swalcliffe (6, 13) and Tadmaston (6, 11), the latter having the entrance to the ringing chamber up a vertical ladder enclosed in casing. Here a good course of London was rung, after failing at Swalcliffe. The Vicar of Bodicote (5, 9) met us at his church and then came a pleasant hour on the fine ring at Banbury (10, 174). We were met by Messrs. Cave and Watson and rang Grand-sire Caters, Bob Royal, Little Bob Major and Cambridge Major. The last tower to be visited was the not well-known light ring at Balscote Farm (6, 14). Mr. C. Jervis congratulated the band, who eventually succeeded in ringing a course of Cambridge Minor. He said that he is shortly having two trebles added, and that the new bells will not be lighter than the present treble.

The usual refreshment was taken at the Butchers Arms, Balscote, and the party returned to their various homes, after once again thanking Pat Chapman for his excellent arrangements.

A. P. C.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WOMEN'S PLACE IN THE BELFRY

Dear Sir,—Although, like Miss Margaret E. Wilkinson, I am a comparative newcomer to the ringing fraternity, I feel I must protest against the attitude taken by Mrs. G. Parkinson in her recent letter. It is unfortunately typical of the spirit beginning to prevail in ringing, that women are quite as capable as men of taking over tasks such as ringing the tenor, seeing to the upkeep of the belfry and acting as tower foreman. This seems to me quite wrong. The male sex were destined by providence for the heavier belfry work, such as this, and very well they do it; as St. Paul says, women should not be suffered to have domination over men, but should be in subjection to them. A woman turning a heavy tenor in is, whatever the writer of 'Beauty in the Belfry' may say, usually a most ungraceful sight—far better it is that she should stick to something she can do reasonably well, rather than usurp male privileges.

My own husband was, as I am sure many ringers will remember, for many years a much-loved and respected captain in a country tower, though he seldom did anything but 'bump' the tenor; and I have never allowed the fact that I myself can ring Treble Bob methods to prevent me from deferring to him and consulting him on every occasion. As for Mrs. Parkinson's support of milk-bars and 'the other sort of bars,' I can only say that I was shocked to read it. Miss Yeo's behaviour after a practice seems to me a far more innocent and healthy way for a female ringer to conduct herself. Milk-bars may be on the surface harmless, but they are full of disgusting 'juke-boxes' and long-haired Teddy Boys or girls in tartan trousers; and though, unfortunately, we know that some lady ringers occasionally enter the 'other kind of bar,' that is no reason why we should condone a thoroughly unwomanly practice.—Yours faithfully,

EDNA M. THREEPWOOD.

Nottingham.

BOW BELLS AND VISITING RINGERS

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. Whitaker's letter in 'The Ringing World' of April 27th, I cannot agree that a previous letter written by Mr. Spavins on Bow Bells had anything of a 'spiteful air' about it.

I feel sure what Mr. Spavins meant to imply was that ringers whose Associations had made a contribution to the Bow Bells Fund would be granted the privilege of ringing on these famous bells, and not that they would claim it as a right.

The remark that visiting bands of ringers should not be allowed to ring at any tower as if they had a right to do so and without first presenting credentials, is ridiculous.

I quite agree that permission should be obtained beforehand through the proper channels, and I feel sure that this procedure is adopted more often as the rule rather than the exception, and I have very little doubt that only on very rare occasions has such permission not been granted.

Mr. Whitaker is evidently unaware of the conditions which prevail at many of our parish churches and even some Cathedrals, in that the ranks of the ringers are so depleted that it is very often only possible to ring at one Sunday service with no hope of being able to have a mid-week practice.

I know of many instances where holiday makers, servicemen, etc., have been very welcome at such towers, and there has been no need for them to turn up, cap in hand, complete with credentials, and beg for a ring as Mr. Whitaker apparently thinks should be necessary.

ERIC B. ROUSE.

Barnham-on-Crouch, Essex.

PEAL AT SOUTH WIGSTON WITHDRAWN

Dear Sir,—As conductor of the peal of Stedman Triples rung at South Wigston, Leics, on February 4th, 1956, I wish the following to be made known.

The peal was arranged on the eve of the 63rd dedication festival of St. Thomas' Church and was rung at the express wish of the Vicar. A band had been arranged for a peal of Surprise, but at 11 a.m. on the day of the attempt I was informed by telephone that Mr. E. J. Jelley, one of the band, was ill in bed. His son, John, spent from then until 4 p.m. searching for a substitute. At that time I suggested that the best thing to do was to ask one of our 'learners' to come and ring the tenor to a quarter peal of Stedman. However, when we met at the church at 6 p.m. we decided to start calling the peal and stop if necessary—in other words, if this 12-year-old lad was unable to manage the 14-cwt. tenor.

Now, in reply to T. H. Vallance's letter which appeared in 'The Ringing World' on March 2nd, this was definitely not a 'peal-snatchers' peal. If it had been an ordinary peal for our own amusement then it would never have been started. The 12-year-old boy handled the bell perfectly—he was quite capable of handling it and he was asked four or five times if he felt capable of carrying on. After three hours he was just as fit as when we started (not even a blister) and was ready for ringing at the morning service at 9.30 a.m. the next day with no ill effects whatever.

His ringing career has not been 'crucified'—in fact he is just as keen as ever. Incidentally, there are not 'hundreds of ringers in the vicinity of the tower,' as T. H. Vallance seems to suggest.

The letter written by F. S. Cheney certainly makes interesting reading. It will not escape notice that his address is given as 'South Wigston.' In fact I think it is true to say that he lives closer to the church than any other South Wigston ringer and yet not once in the last three years (at least) has he even been inside the tower. Obviously there must be some reason for this—he would have been quite welcome to have made an appearance at any time. He had not the courtesy either to see me or write to me personally, but had to resort to the underhand method of writing to 'The Ringing World,' thereby dragging not only the South Wigston band of ringers into disrepute but also damaging the reputation of the Leicester Diocesan Guild.

All that F. S. Cheney says is not quite true. Due to inexperience, the tenor (through not being pulled hard enough) struck in 7ths place and 7ths place—realising that was not right a harder pull was given, which was just a little too much, causing the tenor to strike in 8ths and 9ths place. This made the ringing rather uneven and so it was more difficult for the rest of the band to ring Stedman. Stedman Triples is a difficult method for a peal; in fact I think it is true to say that there are more peals of Stedman Triples lost than any other method.

However, after one and a half hours, when it seemed likely that the lad would last to the end, the ringing got better, as from then on to the end I told him every pair of bells to strike over as they came to the back. Anyone who heard the end would have heard a good finish.

The bells did not 'fire' eight times. If they did it would mean all the bells striking together for over a six. How could any band ring Stedman under those conditions?

There is no doubt that 5,040 true and complete changes of Stedman Triples were rung. Mr. Ernest Morris (with 1,600 peals) and I (with 400 peals) can vouch that the bobs were called correctly and that all 20 part-ends were absolutely correct.

F. C. Cheney takes Mr. F. H. Dexter's name in vain. Neither he nor I knew F. H. Dexter in his glory 40 years ago. Neither he nor I have seen Dexter go stark raving mad in the middle of a peal when some awful muddle occurred. Ernest Morris has, and even then he has got them out of it and scored a peal.

The letters which followed, by Messrs. W. G. Smith, A. J. Moore and M. Best, have all been inspired efforts not worth the paper they were written on because not one of them actually heard the peal.

W. G. Smith ('Ringing World,' March 16th) simply does not exist. There is no such person on the books of the Leicester Diocesan Guild and extensive inquiries have failed to locate him. It is obviously written by someone with an intense dislike for me and the work I am doing for the Leicester Diocesan Guild in an attempt to keep it one of the best in the country, but not content with that he throws mud at the rest of the band. It is to the good work of the Guild that so many members manage to appear in the leading peal-ringers' list each year.

Due to the bad name which F. S. Cheney has now bestowed on the Leicester Diocesan Guild at a time when a double change in officers is taking place I propose to withdraw this peal from the records of the Leicester Diocesan Guild, but in doing so I wish to make it quite clear that there were 5,040 true and complete changes of Stedman Triples.

In conclusion, I should like to add, in order to remove any misunderstanding that may arise, that I am not writing this letter officially as general hon. secretary of the Leicester Diocesan Guild.—Yours faithfully,

BRIAN G. WARWICK,

Ringing Master,
St. Thomas' Church, South Wigston.

ROUNDS IN A PEAL

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent, Mr. Lonsbrough, has expressed very well the point which I made myself when this vexed question was discussed some time ago.

The motion, as proposed by Mr. Barnett and seconded by Mr. Lewis, is clearly illogical. Perhaps they would care to amend it so that a peal can be discontinued after the first mistake which causes the bells to strike in other than the specified order. By this means we should save a great deal of space in 'The Ringing World.'

As an alternative and less restrictive proposition somebody might suggest that peals be not recognised in which rounds, the back change, 'queens' and 'tittums' appear in other than their allotted places.

I feel bound to add that a large number of ringers would not be able to tell whether 'queens,' for example, had been rung half a dozen times, let alone whether or not it was rung in the right place.—Yours faithfully,

PETER BORDER.

Coventry.

RINGING IN MISSION FILMS

Dear Sir,—When the article in 'The Ringing World' of April 20th appeared, about ringing appearing in two films in one programme, those films happened to be showing in Salisbury. I couldn't get to see them as I was going to a meeting of the Missions to Seamen here that night. But at the meeting they showed their centenary film, 'Sea Parish,' woven round the story of a merchant seaman; he and his family are just going to church on his last Sunday at home and suddenly the music of rounds on 10 rang out, with a 'flash' of ringers in the belfry—real bells, really being rung! So I didn't miss hearing bells in a film after all. 'Sea Parish' acknowledged the help of the clergy and people of King's Langley. I wonder if the ringing was from there, too—Yours truly,

Salisbury.

YVONNE L. ELOIE.

LETTERS—Continued

'THE OFFICE AND THE BELLS'

Dear Sir, — Your leader in 'The Ringing World' of April 27th ('The Office and the Bells') was probably intended to provoke discussion, and in that it should certainly succeed. Your points, while worth making, are also worth answering.

It should not come as a surprise that a change in the relations between Church and State has been discussed in higher circles, for a commission was set up by the Church Assembly in 1949 to consider the matter, and its report has since been published. The difficulties inherent in this relationship are very real, and stem largely from the fact that although the pattern of the partnership has not changed officially for hundreds of years, the State has gradually developed an altogether different view of its function. Whereas once the Church in England embodied the whole of the State in its religious aspect, the latter nowadays regards itself as the protector of the freedom of worship of all its members, and our Church is little more than another 'denomination.' But whilst the other denominations are free to order their own affairs, we are not. To give just two examples: A Parliament including Nonconformists, Roman Catholics and Jews, as well, of course, as members of our Church, was able to reject, in 1927, the proposed revision of the Prayer Book. And our Bishops are appointed by the Prime Minister, who might at some future date take less care than at present, or even be actively hostile.

We may think of 'the Christian community as a whole.' It is a comforting generalisation, but it breaks down in practice. What would you say, for example, is the view of 'the Christian community as a whole' on Premium Bonds?

The truth is that a very great proportion of the population thinks of itself as members of the Church of England only when they want her services, e.g., at weddings, and we shall remain weak until membership of the Church once more means active discipleship of our Lord. For good or ill, and there is much to be said on both sides, the clergy will be powerless to take united and effective action until the Church can order her own affairs with as much freedom as is accorded to other religious bodies.

Nor is it so fantastic to remember the bells if any new agreement should be brought about. However happily the arrangement was made, and whatever the emergency, was it the State or the Church which decided in 1940 that the bells should be silent except to proclaim an invasion? The Church's right could not be taken for granted.

Your other point is of a different nature. We have in this parish a most loyal band who are regular in their worship and do much else for the Church besides, and with the captain's encouragement I have taken up ringing. So I am concerned to defend not myself but those of my fellow clergy who are not so happily placed. It is quite impossible for us to take an active part in every single one of the organisations which look for our support and interest and have an equal claim to be work of real Christian importance. I could name well over a dozen in my village. Is it surprising that some clergy, faced with rising costs, large vicarages and inadequate stipends, get disheartened, sometimes to the extent of letting the size of their task overwhelm them? But I do sympathise with our friends in this great fraternity who fail to get the encouragement they look for—perhaps God is calling them, as He often calls His clergy, to carry on alone, and for years, if necessary, upholding that which they value most in the Church's work. May God bless them all.—Yours sincerely,

PATRICK FOORT (Rev.).

Rector of Clifton, Beds.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD

Mrs. Beamish Retires After 24 Years' Service

THE annual meeting of the Coventry Diocesan Guild was held at Stratford-on-Avon on April 21st. Stratford was looking its loveliest. Great preparations had been made for the festivities to take place on the 23rd, and the town had many visitors. The lovely ring of ten was put to good use during the afternoon and then members and friends adjourned to the upper room of a local hostelry for a buffet tea.

The Vicar (the Rev. Canon T. N. R. Prentice) joined the company and took the chair for the latter half of the business meeting, the Master, Mr. R. J. Edden, opening the proceedings.

Arising from the minutes, it was announced that a committee had met to arrange for classes in conducting, for which there was felt to be a great need, and that the first class had already been held on April 11th, and others were to be held fortnightly.

The general hon. secretary's report gave the total membership for the year as 204, 17 life members, 5 honorary members and 182 ringing members. Seventeen peals were rung, a decrease of seven on 1954. The annual dinner had taken place in Coventry in October, the Provost, the Very Rev. R. T. Howard, being the chief guest. During the year the Guild had sustained the loss of its patron, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, who always took the keenest interest in Guild affairs. Mr. J. W. Taylor and Mr. O. J. Hunt, of the Allesley band, and Mr. J. W. F. Trotman, a former captain of Nuneaton tower, had all passed to higher service.

Bell restorations and improvements were made at Rugby, Nuneaton, Wellesbourne, Wootton Wawen, Dunchurch and Honiley, a donation of £15 being made to Wootton Wawen. The general funds, with a balance of £33 9s. 8d., showed an increase of £1 6s. 1d. over 1954, and the Bell Repair Fund had a balance of £19 1s.

NO SUPPORT FOR COMPETITION RINGING

Competition ringing had been brought to the notice of the members at the summer quarterly meeting and left for discussion at the annual meeting. As there was no support for the introduction of competitions the matter was dropped.

The Northern District secretary reported meetings reasonably well attended and the standard of ringing very good.

The Southern District secretary reported slow progress, with attendances gradually increasing. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. H. M. Windsor for his painstaking work in organising and successfully carrying through a series of meetings in the Southern District. The work had been of a pioneer nature and was beginning to bear fruit.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. F. W. Perrins (a former Master and present Central Council representative); Master, Mr. R. J. Edden (re-elected); hon. general secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. L. Garner Hayward; hon. Northern District secretary, Mr. D. A. Carpenter; hon. Southern District secretary, Mr. H. M. Windsor; hon. auditor, Mr. F. E. Pervin.

Mrs. D. E. Beamish, the retiring secretary, having served the Guild for 24 years, was warmly thanked for her services by Mr. F. W. Perrins and Mr. J. L. Garner Hayward. She thanked them for their kind remarks and for the assistance she had been given by officers of the Guild over the years and for the sup-

port of all members. She would always retain the greatest interest in Guild affairs and would render any assistance required of her to the newly-elected secretary.

The place of the July meeting was to be Bidford-on-Avon together with Salford Priors.

New members elected were: Canon A. M. Startin, Messrs. W. L. Gower, T. Lamb, J. Green, D. Gardener, L. Johnson, J. Stockley, J. Snell (all of Wootton Wawen), F. Greenway, R. Moore, J. Richardson and Miss P. Nicholls (all of Nuneaton) and S. G. Osborne, of Rugby.

The request for a donation to the Bow Bells appeal was read by the hon. secretary. Several members spoke on the matter and all agreed that a donation should be sent. Mr. F. W. Perrins finally gave notice of motion that he would propose at the next meeting to send two guineas from the Bell Repair Fund, thus abiding by the rule which decrees that three months' notice should be given when any call for outside objects is made upon Guild funds.

The Vicar was accorded a vote of thanks for his welcome, for allowing the use of the bells and for acting as chairman at the meeting, and he responded in his own humorous fashion, inviting the ringers to visit Stratford as often as possible.

A return was made to the tower for further ringing until all tastes had been catered for.

A PEAL IN EACH COUNTY OF WALES

The peal rung at Gresford on April 28th is of more than passing interest as it was the first peal on the bells since rehanging on new cast-iron headstocks by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. It also represents the completion of a long-cherished ambition of Wilfred Williams and Donald Clift to ring a peal in each county in the Principality, a distinction it is believed only previously accomplished by the late W. H. Fussell. In addition, W. Williams has now conducted a peal in a Surprise method in each county, a number of them being the first in Wales.

For three members of the band this was their second attempt in this tower, and for two the third. At the conclusion of the peal the Rector (the Rev. W. V. Lort) ascended the tower to congratulate us. We should like to associate this peal as a compliment to him on his elevation to a Canonry of St. Asaph.

The two members of the band who only required this tower to complete the sequence had previously spent over six hours in this tower without ringing a peal. An attempt in 1953 for Pudsey ended after 2 hours and 50 minutes through a miscall, and Cambridge was lost in 1954 after three hours and 15 minutes with six leads to ring, owing to the tenor rope breaking. Following this attempt the National Coal Board announced in September, 1954, that they planned to mine 250,000 tons of coal from a seam running under the church. It was feared that this would endanger the church and tower and curtail ringing; however, strong protests from the Welsh Church Commissioners caused the plan to be abandoned, and we were extremely pleased when we received an invitation from Mr. Griffiths to attempt the first peal on the bells when they were rehung.

The completion of the sequence has been difficult, as in six counties only one ring of eight has been either ringable or obtainable for peals and these were not always available. At Barmouth, in 1953, two hours were spent before the attempt removing clock and chiming fittings, fitting new ropes, etc. Similarly, at Beaumaris and Llanbadarn-Fawr, more than an hour's work was necessary putting the bells in a pealable condition. D. G. C.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Juvenile Members Deprived of Vote

TWO matters gave rise to keen discussions at the annual meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild at Guildford on May 5th, with Mr. A. E. Harman (Master) in the chair. The first was a limitation of the period of the office of Master for three years. The resolution came from the Leatherhead District, and Mr. A. P. Cannon, who proposed the change, pointed out that the Guild had only had two Masters in 28 years. There were a large number of suitable candidates, and he would like to see other keen men have a chance.

The secretary (Mr. G. L. Grover) emphatically said that the executive were against any change. Under the present rule the Master was elected annually.

Mr. A. C. Hazelden said when the rule was first made, in 1927, they expected each District to nominate from their own members. This was not the case and only one man had been nominated. The solution was in the hands of members without any change of rules. The meeting favoured no change.

The second resolution came from the executive: 'That junior members should have no vote.' Opposing, after pointing out that the executive were not unanimous, Mr. J. F. Dodson said many towers would collapse if the youngsters left. After a keen debate, in which it was pointed out that a tower leader with a lot of young people had a great pull on any Guild matter, the resolution was carried by 47 votes to 37.

Regarding the routine business, the only change in the officers was the addition of Mr. W. Shepherd, of Addlestone, as a vice-president. A hearty clap greeted the appointment, and Mr. Shepherd, in thanking the Guild for the honour, said it was conferred not only on him, but also on the Chertsey District. The officers of the Guild were re-elected.

The report gave the Guild a membership of 482 ringing and 110 honorary members, and mentioned that a word of congratulation was

due to the officers and tower leaders in the Chertsey District, where, alone of all Districts in the year under review, headway had been made and membership increased.

The meeting stood in remembrance of losses by death—Mr. Wilkins Massey (Claygate), Mr. Tom Smith (Newdigate), Mr. F. Marchant and Mr. A. Hunt (Yorktown).

Major E. J. Bragg presented the peal report—34 peals against 50 the previous year. Peals were rung by 94 out of their 482 members in 17 different towers. Winchester Surprise Major, Spliced Plain and Little Bob, Bob Triples and Doubles in 21 methods were rung for the first time.

The accounts showed that the Guild had a balance in hand of £69 13s. 1d. The New Cathedral Bell Fund stood at £97 17s. 11d., being augmented by a legacy of £10 from Mrs. Emily Saps. The Benevolent Fund had £108 10s. in hand. During the year the Guild raised £21 5s. towards the building of the New Cathedral at Guildford.

A number of new members were elected—five from Stoke D'Abernon, three from Merrow, two from Stoke-next-Guildford and one from Farnborough. Mr. Malcolm S. Cloke was elected a compounding member.

The meeting confirmed the date of the annual dinner—October 13th, but left the venue—one of two hotels in Guildford—to the committee.

The appeal for Bow Bells was considered and the Guild voted the sum of five guineas. The officers were thanked on the proposition of Mr. C. W. Denyer, and the Master, in acknowledging the compliment, thanked the members for their loyalty and the splendid attendance at the meeting. Proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to the ladies who had prepared tea, which was moved by Mr. H. N. Pitstow.

Ringing took place at all Guildford towers, the highlight being London Surprise Royal, mainly by visitors from Southampton. The service at St. Mary's Church was conducted by the Rev. C. Pilgrim, priest-in-charge of the New Cathedral District.

A BEDDINGTON WEDDING

Eighty relations and friends gathered at St. Mary's Church, Beddington, on April 27th, to attend the marriage of David Parsons with Joyce England. David and Joyce first met at All Saints' Church, Carshalton, in 1944, where they were taught to ring by Mr. L. Reece. Since then they have rung peals in many parts of the country and have become well-known and popular ringers.

A touch of Stedman Triples heralded the arrival of the bride accompanied by her uncle, Mr. A. Budden. She was dressed in a full-length white lace dress, carried a bouquet of pink roses and lilies of the valley and was attended by two bridesmaids—her niece, Rebecca England, and a friend, Kathleen Weller, also a ringer at Beddington. After the service Joyce and David left the church to the accompaniment of Mendelssohn's Wedding March, played by the organist, Ken Mackintosh, a friend of the bride and bridegroom. A buffet reception was held at the Grange Mansion and soon after the telegrams had been read by the best man, John Chilcott, the bride and bridegroom left by car en route for the West Country.

Amongst the many gifts received by Joyce and David were a Lloyd loom chair from the Society of Roving Ringers, and a Russell Hobbs coffee percolator from the St. Mary's Society of Change Ringers. A peal attempt for Stedman Caters, made the following day, was unfortunately lost after 2 hours and 20 minutes' ringing.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

West Dorset Branch

At the quarterly meeting of the West Dorset Branch at Hawkchurch on April 28th, ringing during the afternoon consisted of call changes, grounds, Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob and London Surprise with Stedman Doubles as the service touch.

The Rev. P. Smith (Vicar) conducted the service and gave a helpful address regarding the office of a bellringer. Some 34 ringers sat down to tea served in the Village Hall by the Vicar's wife with lady helpers.

The next quarterly meeting was fixed for Evershot with Melbury Osmond on July 14th, and a by-meeting for June 13th at Symondsburry. Two non-resident life ringing members were elected—Mr. H. W. Pearce, of West Coker, and Mr. R. J. Fox, of Yeovil.

Canon Cox, chairman of the Branch, thanked the Vicar for his very warm welcome and for conducting the service, and Mrs. Wood for playing the organ, also Mrs. Smith for the very generous tea.

Following the meeting members of the Lyme Regis band rang Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Plain Bob Major on handbells.

Further ringing then followed in the tower including Plain Bob, Stedman and Cambridge Surprise. E. G. P.

OBITUARY

MR. J. E. ASHCROFT

The Grappenhall Branch of the Chester Guild has suffered a severe loss by the death of Mr. John Edward Ashcroft. Seventy-eight years of age he was secretary and treasurer of the Branch for 40 years until resigning about four years ago. John, as he was familiarly called, was of a genial disposition and highly respected by all. He was buried in the shadow of the tower, where he had spent so many hours. He leaves a sister to mourn her loss.

May he rest in peace.

C. R.

MR. T. G. IMPEY

It is with regret that we learn of the death at Banbury on April 26th of Mr. Thomas George Impey at the age of 76. He had been in failing health for some time but the end came suddenly and peacefully.

Mr. Impey learned to ring at Burford and came to Banbury some 47 years ago and joined the ringers at St. Mary's. For some years he was steeplekeeper and rang the curfew regularly until about four years ago. He was not a prolific peal ringer and kept no record of his peals, but it is understood that he had taken part in about 20. But he was most faithful in Sunday service ringing and in attendance at meetings of the Oxford Diocesan Guild until failing health prevented him. At a recent meeting of the Banbury Branch of the Guild he was made an honorary life member in appreciation of his services.

Our sympathy is extended to his widow, daughter and son, Mr. Herbert Impey, captain of the ringers at St. Margaret's, Uxbridge.

The funeral took place at St. Mary's, Banbury, on May 1st, and the bells were rung half-muffled in his memory in the evening.

MR. DONALD J. POTTER

With deep regret ringers of the Bromsgrove District heard of the tragic death of Mr. Don Potter, Ringing Master of Bromsgrove Parish Church, at the early age of 39 years.

Donald James Potter started ringing in 1937 and showed early promise. Called to the Forces in the early days of the war he saw considerable service in the Western Desert—experiences which left their mark.

Taking charge of the Bromsgrove tower after demobilisation, he carried out his duties with energy and thoroughness. A keen ringer, he set an example in regularity at both Sunday service and practice ringing.

The funeral service took place at Bromsgrove Parish Church followed by interment at Catshill, the service being taken by the Rev. F. G. Shepherd and the Rev. L. Birch (Worcestershire Association chaplain).

The ringers formed a guard of honour at both church and cemetery, and handbells were rung as the coffin was lowered into the earth. The large congregation included ringing from Dodderhill, Drojtwich, Wychbold, Hanbury, Stoke, Hallow and all the local ringers.

His death is a great loss not only to his own tower but also to neighbouring towers, which he so frequently visited to lend a hand.

H. F. M.

MRS. RACHEL SPOONER

Mrs. Rachel Spooner, of Capel, Surrey, who died while on holiday at Plymouth, aged 69, was the first lady to ring a peal for the Guildford Diocesan Guild. This was on January 1st, 1928, when she rang the second to a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor at Capel. She had learned to handle a rope the previous year, and she was also the first lady to ring a peal at Capel. Her husband, Mr. W. C. Spooner, who died in 1947, and her younger sister, who died 14 months ago, were also ringers. For health reasons Mrs. Spooner had not been able to ring since the restoration of the bells in 1951.

PEALS RUNG BY LATE HAROLD J. POOLE

We are now able to publish the full list of peals rung by the late Harold J. Poole, president of the Leicester Diocesan Guild and president of the National Police Guild, whose death occurred on July 14th, 1955.

Other ringers have rung a greater number of peals but this must surely be the most varied and the most remarkable peal list of all times and one which will not often be equalled, since such achievements could never become commonplace. There are many outstanding performances including the 12,896 of Cambridge Surprise Major, which Mr. Poole conducted at the age of 21, and a 13,440 Bob Major.

A striking feature of Mr. Poole's peal-ringing career is that he rang his 500th peal as recently as July 10th, 1946, so he therefore rang the remaining 747 in just nine years. His 1,000th peal was the first rung of 10 Spliced Surprise Maximus methods and took place on December 11th, 1952, at Leicester Cathedral. His first peal was rung on July 3rd, 1920, being Stedman Triples, at Stoney Stanton, conducted by Frederick H. Dexter. His last peal was Stedman Caters, at Loughborough Bell Foundry, on July 13th, 1955, conducted by his son-in-law, Mr. Peter J. Staniforth.

The list includes the only peal yet rung of Cambridge Surprise Maximus on handbells and a collection of 12-bell peals in the tower, the like of which would have been deemed impossible even as recently as the end of the war. These stupendous achievements derived from the sheer force of personality, the gift of leadership and the outstanding genius that was his at the end of a rope. Surely here was a man and a record that will be remembered as long as the art of change ringing lasts.

The list is as follows:—

ON TOWER BELLS

Minor.—Grandsire and Plain Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise 6 (conducted 3), York Surprise 1 (1), London Surprise 2 (2).

Triples.—Grandsire 3 (2), Stedman 105 (70).

Major.—Plain Bob (inc. 13,440) 2, Little Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 3, Double Norwich Court Bob 6 (1), Duffield 1. Surprise: Lincolnshire 11 (9), Bognor 1 (1), York 2 (1), New Cambridge 6 (1), Cambridge (in. 12,896) 124 (68), Superlative 72 (42), London 100 (77), Bristol 85 (72), Real Double Superlative 1; Yorkshire 60 (44), Wigston 2 (1), Pudsey 4 (4), Stanton 1 (1), Rochester 2 (2), Bedford 2 (2), Dublin 2 (2), Belgrave 4 (3), Aldenham 4 (4), Leicestershire 1 (1), Rutland 10 (8), Premier 3 (3), Watford 1 (1), Whitwick 4 (4), Lyme 5 (4), Painswick 2 (2), Aylestone 1 (1), Irchester 2 (2), Ealing 1, Kirklington 5 (5), Southwell 2 (1), Dorchester 4 (4), Helmingham 1 (1), Stoughton 1 (1), Southgate 1 (1), Staffordshire 1 (1), Bushey 2 (1), spliced four methods 8 (3), spliced six methods 1.

Caters.—Grandsire 4 (3), Stedman 44 (23).

Royal.—Plain Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 2 (1). Surprise: Cambridge 65 (42), Lincolnshire 1 (1), Lindsey 2 (2), Goldsborough 1, Leicester 2 (1), Pudsey 4 (2), York 5 (5), Melton 1 (1), Yorkshire 28 (17), Rochester 2 (2), Bedford 1 (1), Belgrave 3 (3), New Cambridge 3 (2), Albanian 2 (2), Aldenham 4 (3), Leicestershire 1 (1), Rutland 1 (1), Wye 1 (1), Metropolitan 2 (2), London No. 3 1 (1), Pontefract 1 (1), Southwell 1 (1), Spliced Surprise two methods (2).

Cinques.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 29 (17).

Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob 1. Surprise: Cambridge 35 (21), New Cambridge 3 (3), Yorkshire 27 (17), York 2 (2), Buckinghamshire 1 (1), Superlative 4 (4), Buckingham 1 (1), Pudsey 2 (1), Rochester 1 (1), Bedford 1 (1), Lindsey 1 (1), Lincolnshire 1 (1), Belgrave 1

(1), Albanian 2 (2), Wigston 1 (1). Leicestershire 1 (1), Aldenham 2 (1), Bristol 2 (2), Rutland (Belvoir) 1 (1), Goscote 2 (1), Metropolis 1 (1), Langley 1 (1), Stoneygate 1 (1), Gartree 1 (1), Framland 1 (1). Spliced Surprise: Two methods 2 (2), three methods 1 (1), four methods 3 (2), five methods 1 (1), six methods 1 (1), seven methods 1 (1), eight methods 3 (1), ten methods 1 (1), twelve methods 1 (1).

Total on tower bells.—996 (conducted 675).

ON HANDBELLS

Minor.—Cambridge Surprise 2 (2).

Triples.—Grandsire 3—1, Stedman 24 (21).

Caters.—Grandsire 4 (3), Stedman 64 (51).

Cinques.—Grandsire 1 (1), Stedman 57 (49).

Sextuples.—Stedman 1 (1).

Major.—Plain Bob 16 (10), Kent Treble Bob 13 (12), Double Norwich 2 (1). Surprise: Cambridge 14 (11), Superlative 1 (1), Yorkshire 1 (1).

Royal.—Plain Bob 16 (11), Double Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 11 (9). Surprise: Cambridge 8 (6), Yorkshire 2 (2).

Maximus.—Plain Bob 4 (3), Kent Treble Bob 3 (2), Cambridge Surprise 1 (1), Spliced Plain four methods 1 (1).

14-In.—Kent Treble Bob 1 (1).

Total on handbells.—251 (conducted 201).

Grand total.—1,247 (conducted 876).

NOTICES

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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.

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MISCELLANEOUS

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—The monthly practice for Saturday, May 19th, has been cancelled.—P. Newton. 8290

ORMESBY, YORKSHIRE.—In future the practice will be held every Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. There is now no ringing at St. Hilda's, Middlesbrough.—P. W. B. Semmens, Hon. Sec., Cleveland and North Yorks Association. 8305

'ELEMENTARY CHANGE RINGING,' by Rev. F. F. Rigby. Wanted for fifteen beginners, the future band for a tower now silent. Anyone who can spare a copy please help. State price. Send to Miss Wilkinson, 10, St. Oswald's Road, York. 8314

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MEETINGS

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Somerton, Saturday, May 19th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—T. J. Setter, 52, Middle Street, Yeovil. 8253

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—District meeting at Bentley (6) on Saturday, May 19th, from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 8254

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Biddenden, on May 19th, 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to S. G. Waters, Bishopsdale, Biddenden. 8255

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Evening meeting, Saturday, May 19th, at Essendon. Bells (6) at 6 p.m.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 8258

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District.—Meeting, Ruislip, Saturday, May 19th. Bells 3 p.m. Short business meeting 4.30 p.m. Tea at nearby restaurant. Further ringing in evening.—F. A. Finch. 8267

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newark District.—Meeting at East Bridgford on Saturday, May 19th. Bells 2.30. 8231

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Twineham (5), May 19th. Tea 5 p.m. Tower open 2.30 p.m.—K. C. Knight, Hon. Dis. Sec. 8284

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Old Alresford, Saturday, May 19th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in Village Hall. 8229

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Walpole St. Andrew, Whit Monday, May 21st. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—J. E. Fox, Dis. Sec. 8257

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting on Whit Monday, May 21st, at Chelmsford. Service, conducted by the Provost, in the Cathedral at 11 a.m. Address by the Rt. Rev. F. D. V. Narborough, M.A., B.D., Bishop of Colchester. Annual meeting to follow immediately after the service in the Chapter House. Tea and coffee available in the Cathedral Hall 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. Lunch 1.30 p.m., Cathedral Hall, and tea as a running buffet from 5 to 6.15 p.m. Lunch (4s. 6d.) and tea (2s.) tickets from A. H. Everett, Cornerways, Plantation Road, Boreham, Chelmsford, by May 16th, and please enclose stamped addressed envelope. Ringing arrangements: Cathedral, 9.30 to 11 a.m. and from 5 p.m.; Boreham (8), Great Waltham (8), Broomfield (6), Little Waltham (6), Springfield (6), from 3 to 6 p.m.; Galleywood (8), Great Baddow (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Danbury (6), Sandon (6), from 6 p.m.—F. V. Gant, Hon. Gen. Sec. 8179

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Branch.—Practice meeting, Banwell, Saturday, May 26th. Bells (8) 5 p.m.—E. C. Wickham. 8294

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Monthly meeting at Osmaston, May 26th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Names for tea by Thursday, 24th, to Mr. B. Goodall, Osmaston Village, near Ashbourne. Trent bus No. 31. Special methods: Walkworth Surprise and St. Clement's Minor. All welcome.—V. Horton, Dis. Sec. 8282

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Meeting at Staindrop, May 26th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea. Names for tea by May 23rd to E. P. Rock, 64, Tollesby Road, Middlesbrough. 8305

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at Gamlingay (6), Saturday, May 26th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 8298

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting, Saturday, May 26th, at Bourn. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 8319

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Monthly meeting at Olveston, Saturday, May 26th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea and meeting, 5.15 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, May 22nd, to W. F. Scudamore, County Police Station, Winterbourne, Bristol. 8293

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—Meeting, Todington, Saturday, May 26th. Bells (6), recently rehung, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by May 22nd to Mary Bliss, Beech Pike, Cheltenham. 8302

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—Meeting at Bromesburrow (6), May 26th. Names for tea to Mr. H. Minchin, The Lodge, Bromesburrow, near Ledbury. Service 4.15. Tea 5. 8276

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Stroud Branch.—Meeting at Eastington (6), May 26th. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Notify for tea by May 22nd Mr. S. T. Price, 12, Regent Street, Stonehouse, Glos. 8289

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—District meeting at Cranleigh (8) on Saturday, May 26th, from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by previous Tuesday, please, to Nurse A. M. Cox, St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford.—A. M. Cox, M. E. Collins, Joint Dis. Secs. 8313

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ludlow and Church Stretton District.—Combined practice, Leighton, May 26th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. After tea, Welshpool bells (8). Teas, G. Randle, Ashford, Ludlow. 8283

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Walkern, May 26th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Special method, Surfleet Surprise.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 8277

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—By-meeting at Hunton, May 26th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Please bring your own tea. Village Hall not available.—R. J. Sills, Dis. Sec. 8256

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—Meeting at Ashford (8) on Saturday, May 26th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by May 24th, please, to Mr. C. W. Everett, 48, Sussex Avenue, Ashford, Kent. All ladies welcome: gentlemen cordially invited.—Jill Haffenden, Hon. Sec. 8262

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at Walkden, Saturday, May 26th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 (free). Business 6 p.m. Names for tea by Thursday to Arthur Burton, 19, Old Clough Lane, Walkden, Lancs.—J. Thornley, Sec. 8275

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting, Guiseley, May 26th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by 23rd, please, to Mr. Walsh, Dunster, Oxford Avenue, Guiseley. Buses, King Street (Ledgard) and West Yorkshire Bus Station.—J. F. Hodson, Hon. Sec. 8306

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Broughton Astley, May 26th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Bull's

Head 5 p.m. Please notify by Wednesday, May 23rd, Mr. W. Drury, Willowbrook, Cosby Road, Broughton Astley, Leicester. 8310

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District.—Meeting at Gilmorton (8) May 26th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Bus leaves The Newarke at 2.5 p.m., route No. 641. Names for tea to reach me by Tuesday, May 22nd, at latest, at 117, Church Lane, Anstey.—W. A. Lacey, Dis. Sec. 8297

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Ilston, May 26th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5. Service 4.15 p.m. Outing fare £1, to be paid this day.—L. W. Allen. 8296

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Melton District.—Meeting at Great Dalby, May 26th. Service 4.15, followed by tea and meeting at Royal Oak. Names by Wednesday, 23rd.—Mrs. P. A. Corby, 11, Bowley Avenue, Melton Mowbray. 8311

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Loughborough District.—Joint meeting, Measham (8), May 26th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All welcome

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Annual, Lincoln Cathedral, May 26th. Cathedral bells only available, afternoon and evening. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., Eastgate Court. Business meeting immediately after in the Consistory Court. Names for tea by Wednesday previous to Mr. J. A. Freeman, 95, Sincil Bank, Lincoln. 8252

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Sculthorpe, May 26th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5, followed by the business meeting. Names for tea to G. Greeves, 44, Moor Lane, Sculthorpe. 8271

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—South Oxon Branch.—Meeting at Warborough on Saturday, May 26th. Bells (8) available at 3. Service at 4. Tea for those who notify, by May 22nd, Mr. F. Absalom, of Warborough.—H. Badger, Branch Sec., The Blue Man, Thame, Oxon. 8259

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Annual meeting Faringdon, Saturday, May 26th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, May 23rd, to R. F. J. Gilling, Branch Sec., Fernham, Faringdon, Berks. 8260

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Monthly practice, Winkfield (6), May 26th, 3.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by 22nd to W. Butler, 17, Forest Road, Windsor. 8317

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Meeting at Rothamsted, Saturday, May 26th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday previous, please, to Mr. G. F. Roome, 116, Derby Road, Northampton. 8280

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Practice meeting, May 26th, Broadchalke (6), 2.30-4.30. Tea 5 for those who notify by 22nd. Berwick St. John's (6) 7-8.30.—Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury. 8265

SALISBURY GUILD.—Calne Branch.—Meeting, Yatesbury (5), May 26th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea to Mr. J. Goddard, 19, Yatesbury, Calne, Wilts. 8315

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Monthly meeting, Hemingbrough, Saturday, May 26th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Please provide own food—cups of tea only available.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 8321

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—May meeting to be held at Bunney, May 26th, at 3 p.m. Bring own tea. cups of tea provided. All welcome. 8321

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury District.—Meeting at Felsham (6), Saturday, May 26th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to the Rev. J. Simons, Felsham Rectory, Bury St. Edmunds.—R. J. Seabrook. 8263

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Wadhurst, Saturday, May 26th. Let's see some old faces, please—and some new ones! Names for tea by previous Wednesday to C. A. Bassett, 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst.—H. Reynolds, Sec. 8279

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Advanced ringing practice, Arundel, May 26th. Bells 4 to 6; 7 to 8.30. Tea available. Look up Ashtead Surprise. 8292

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and **DONCASTER DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Annual joint meeting, Doncaster, May 26th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Names by 24th to Mr. D. A. Chapman, 31, Firbeck Road, Doncaster. New reports now available. All welcome. 8309

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Goudhurst, June 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea (2s.) 5.15 p.m. Names, with cash, please, by Wednesday, May 30th, to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. 8287

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—By-meeting at Eastchurch (6) on Saturday, June 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. S. Rayfield, 35, Stanley Avenue, Queenborough, by Monday, May 28th.—Cyril S. Jarrett, Hon. Sec. 8320

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District.—Meeting at Alford on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, May 29th, to Mrs. J. J. Smith, 15, Commercial Road, Alford, Lincs. Gentlemen cordially invited.—Mrs. A. Richardson, Glyn Garth, Surfleet, Lincs. 8300

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Irnham (5), June 2nd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting, Irnham School, 5 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, 28th, to Mrs. Garner, Fighting Cocks Inn, Corby Glen, near Grantham, Lincs.—F. G. Vickers, Hon. Sec. 8295

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Annual meeting at Blechley, Saturday, June 2nd. Bells 2.30. Service 3.30. Please notify for tea by May 28th.—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. 8301

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Barton-in-Fabis (6), Saturday, June 2nd, 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by previous Tuesday to Mr. S. Adams, 54, Wilford Road, Ruddington, Notts.—C. W. Towers. 8281

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Meeting at Brandon, Saturday, June 2nd, 3 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—E. M. Peachey, Dis. Sec. 8312

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Stowmarket District.—Meeting at Cotton (8), Saturday, June 2nd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, by Monday, May 28th. All welcome.—B. Chilvers, Cotton, Stowmarket. 8316

BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual shield six-bell contest at Penistone on June 9th. Entrance fee 10s. All entries to reach me not later than June 2nd.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 18, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley. 8308

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Monmouth Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Llanover, near Abergavenny, June 9th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting. Names for tea, please, by June 6th.—Jacqueline Evans, 1, Hughes Crescent, Chepstow, Mon. 8278

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.—Preliminary notice.—The 333rd anniversary of Great Ringing Day will be held on Saturday, June 30th, at 2.30 p.m. Twelve bells.—L. E. Pitstow, Sec. 8299

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