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MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY

THROUGHOUT the ages poets and philosophers of many races and languages have pointed out to us that it is by no means easy for youth and age to live and work together. It is indeed well known that there are incompatibilities of outlook, due to differences in maturity and experience, that lead the young person into impatience with his elders and drive the older person into an attitude contemptuous or patronising. It may be that the difficulties attendant on the co-operation of youth and age have, in all ages, been exaggerated, for the record of human progress provides ample evidence of the partnership of young and old in the inception and consummation of great enterprises. Certainly the last forty years, with their two great wars and their startling social changes, have shown not only the possibility but also the sheer necessity of the combining of the powers and potentialities of all age groups for the forwarding of major projects.

It is not without interest, therefore, to dwell once again on the relationship between the old and experienced change ringer and the young beginner, and to consider what each owes as a duty to the other. Years ago, it would seem certain, the standing and prospects of a beginner in the art depended largely on the view the ringing band took of his services, and whether they really wanted him to recruit their numbers or whether they looked upon him as an intruder, one who might wish to share in the moneys that might come their way.

The position of the beginner to-day is, generally speaking, quite different. The means by which he may get instruction are much more ample, and the relationship between the older and the younger ringer has very much altered. In very few places, one imagines, would there be a minor conspiracy to exclude the anxious inquirer after bell knowledge. There would be companies and towers in which, quite rightly, he could not expect to have freedom of ringing until he reached a recognised standard of efficiency, but there can be few parts of this ringing isle

where a band, however advanced, is not on the look out for an enthusiastic beginner. So whatever the position forty, sixty or a hundred years ago, it seems to be certain that this is the age of opportunity for the young person, the age of welcome for the earnest student.

This brings us then to the question of mutual responsibility, for if the beginner has a right to expect tuition and encouragement so the tutor has an equal right to demand respect, attention and industry from his pupil. In the beginning the initiative is with the instructor. It is his business to plan the stages of instruction carefully, so that while the pupil acquires correct technique he is not discouraged by the prospect of too many difficulties appearing at once. And in the later stage, when some facility in change ringing is being secured, no instructor should commit the capital mistake (one that has often been made) of leading the learner to believe that the higher methods are something entirely beyond his powers, things only to be attempted by mysterious circles of cleverness called the experts.

At the beginning the learner will be fully occupied with his desire to acquire skill in this fascinating art of ringing and will have very few views on anything. But when he has reached some degree of competence the initiative passes to him and it is here that he may begin to disappoint his tutor by seeming less tolerant of instruction, less amenable to hints, and perhaps failing to give evidence of study at home. But it is in these matters that he owes the biggest duty to his painstaking instructor, and it is certain that in these matters he can either dishearten or greatly reward his teacher. For the supreme joy of the true teacher is to see his pupil outstrip him.

Whatever responsibilities therefore the older man has in respect of the young beginner (and they are important ones) there can be no possible doubt that when the learner reaches the stage of discretion and discrimination he owes it to those who have laboured for him to improve himself according to his talent, walking humbly and observantly, but without abasement, among his elders, mindful that the whole realm of change ringing is freely his, but that only with a great price will he obtain this freedom. E. C. S.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Sat., July 14, 1956, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. Treble	ARTHUR D. COOK .. 7
STELLA HUGHES .. 2	DAVID A. CARPENTER .. 8
MURIEL REAY .. 3	J. L. GARNER HAYWARD .. 9
ALBERT WALKER .. 4	NORMAN J. GOODMAN .. 10
HENRY H. FEARN .. 5	*GEORGE E. FEARN .. 11
*JOHN PINFOLD .. 6	†PAUL J. RIGBY .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

* 600th peal together. † First 12-bell peal.

Rung with the best wishes of the band as a wedding compliment to Clifford A. Barron and Molly Flynn.

TEN BELL PEALS

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 7, 1956, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 42 cwt. in C.

LESTER L. GRAY .. Treble	JOHN F. GROVE .. 6
JOHN E. SPICE .. 2	JOHN N. BROWN .. 7
THOMAS R. BUTLER .. 3	EDWIN C. BIRKETT .. 8
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE .. 4	BRIAN D. THRELFALL .. 9
THOMAS C. LARKEY .. 5	JOSEPH RIDYARD .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS.

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 14, 1956, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

HARRY B. BROUGHTON .. Treble	*JOHN M. JELLEY .. 6
PHYLLIS POOLE .. 2	ALFRED BALLARD .. 7
ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 3	PHILIP A. CORBY .. 8
MICHAEL D. STANFORTH .. 4	ALAN JACQUES .. 9
PETER J. STANFORTH .. 5	TERENCE A. THORNER .. Tenor

Composed by W. PYE.

Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

* First peal of Surprise Royal 'inside.'

Specially arranged and rung to the memory of Harold J. Poole.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.

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

On Sat., July 21, 1956, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 29½ cwt.

FRANK E. DARBY .. Treble	STEWART KIMBER .. 6
JOHN CHILCOTT .. 2	JOHN S. MASON .. 7
GEORGE W. MASSEY .. 3	MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 8
ALAN F. THIRST .. 4	RICHARD E. PRICE .. 9
NORMAN V. HARDING .. 5	WILFRED WILLIAMS .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

The first peal of Surprise on the bells.

Rung for the opening of festival week.

LLANDAFF, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 21, 1956, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5000 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. in E.

REGINALD G. HOOPER .. Treble	*ALAN F. LEE .. 6
TUDOR P. EDWARDS .. 2	ROBERT E. COLES .. 7
JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. 3	FRANK D. MACK .. 8
ELISABETH A. G. GRIME .. 4	DAVID J. KING .. 9
RICHARD J. BOWDEN .. 5	ROGER O. FRY .. Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES.

Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

* First peal on ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., June 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5152 AYLESTONE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

DIANA J. PERRINS .. Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 5
MURIEL REAY .. 2	JOHN PINFOLD .. 6
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 3	CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 7
NORMAN J. GOODMAN .. 4	PETER BORDER .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

First in the method for the Guild, and by all.

BUCKINGHAM.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., June 30, 1956, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.	Tenor 27 cwt.
FRANK A. BARRETT .. Treble	EDGAR J. SMITH .. 5
FREDERICK A. H. WILKINS .. 2	FREDERICK VICKERS .. 6
THOMAS E. ROBERTS .. 3	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. 7
WALTER F. JUDGE .. 4	JOHN R. CHAUNDY .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

Rung for the Patronal Festival and as a wedding compliment to Miss Kathleen Ivy Ballard and Mr. William Alfred Yates.

FELMERSHAM, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 7, 1956, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. in E flat.

STEPHEN IVIN .. Treble	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 5
BRYAN F. SIMS .. 2	PHILIP MEHEW .. 6
RONALD J. SHARP .. 3	DEREK P. JONES .. 7
*JAMES R. TAYLOR .. 4	LEWIS H. BYWATERS .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN

* First peal of Surprise 'inside.' This composition contains all the -7568's and -7468's, the 6th the extent Home, and is now rung for the first time.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., July 9, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5152 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

H. DAVID HOLLAND .. Treble	FRANK E. HAYNES .. 5
*DIANA J. PERRINS .. 2	JOHN PINFOLD .. 6
MURIEL REAY .. 3	PETER BORDER .. 7
GEORGE E. FEARN .. 4	CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. Tenor

Composed by R. F. B. SPEED.

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. BARRON.

* First peal in the method.

GRESSENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 11, 1956, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5152 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor 10 cwt. in G.
NOLAN GOLDEN .. Treble	JOHN S. BARNES .. 5
H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 2	GEORGE P. ADAMS .. 6
STANLEY W. COPLING .. 3	F. CHARLES GOODMAN .. 7
ARTHUR G. BASON .. 4	GEORGE SAYER .. Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

The first peal of Surprise on the bells.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 12, 1956, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5088 ACTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

MARY LAWRENCE .. Treble	THOMAS J. LOCK .. 5
JOHN R. MAYNE .. 2	FRANK T. BLAGROVE .. 6
DENNIS KNOX .. 3	*ALFRED J. HOUSE .. 7
*ALICK CUTLER .. 4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

* 150th peal together The first peal in the method, which is No. 262 in Corrigan's collection

CURDRIDGE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 14, 1956, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 25 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb. in D.

MAURICE J. BUTLER Treble	J. MICHAEL LAKIN 5
ROBERT C. KIPPIN 2	GEOFFREY K. DODD 6
ADRIAN J. TUMBER 3	MALCOLM S. CLOKE 7
PETER NASH 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7½ cwt.

ALAN A. POTTS Treble	BASIL JONES 5
HAROLD C. LONYON 2	ALAN J. BROWN 6
EDWARD JENKINS 3	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER 7
PETER LAFLIN 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Composed by H. DAVIES.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, Rev. J. Richards, on his leaving to take up the living of St. Stephen's, New Brighton.

NEW ALRESFORD, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in F.

*LEONARD W. BULLOCK .. Treble	*R. ROGER SAVORY 5
ADRIAN J. TUMBER 2	J. MICHAEL LAKIN 6
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 3	A. PATRICK CANNON 7
GEOFFREY K. DODD 4	MALCOLM S. CLOKE Tenor

Composed by JAMES TOPP.

Conducted by J. MICHAEL LAKIN.

* First peal of Lincolnshire. First peal of Lincolnshire on the bells.

WHITTLESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt.

GEORGE S. BUSH Treble	TREVOR A. BEVIS 5
JAMES W. HAW 2	*CECIL WADE 6
ALBERT E. SCOTT 3	RICHARD E. PRICE 7
PERCY D. BALDOCK 4	JOHN H. BLUFF Tenor

Composed by JOHN BARKER.

Conducted by JOHN H. BLUFF.

* 100th peal.

A wedding compliment to Mr. Stanley Goakes and Miss Pauline Clarke, of Peterborough, who were married on June 30th. Also a birthday compliment to the conductor.

SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Tues., July 17, 1956, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

At the Church of St. James-the-Great,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 6½ cwt.

*JOHN P. HUNT Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN 5
†KENNETH R. FOOT 2	CYRIL A. WRATTEN 6
*DIANA J. PERRINS 3	VINCENT A. HEMMING 7
†RICHARD J. CANN 4	MURIEL REAY Tenor

Conducted by VINCENT A. HEMMING.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells. ‡ First of Grandsire.

COTTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wed., July 18, 1956, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF 5184 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

ROBERT E. LESTER Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN 5
LESLIE G. BRETT 2	GEORGE SAYER 6
JOHN S. BARNES 3	H. WILLIAM BARRETT 7
ARTHUR G. BASON 4	BERT GOGLE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal of Bristol on the bells.

BOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 19, 1956, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

At the Church of SS. HELENA AND MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's Variation.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON .. Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 5
J. DESMOND PAINTER .. 2	F. BRIAN COOKSON .. 6
JOHN G. GIPSON 3	JOHN W. WARD 7
SUSAN JACKSON 4	WILLIAM T. COOK Tenor

Conducted by CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON.

Rung to celebrate the marriage on July 16th of R. James Cook (brother of the tenor ringer) and Elisabeth J. Willcox.

CASTLE CARY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

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

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.

Tenor 15 cwt.

*JOHN BADMAN Treble	*DONALD E. LEE 5
DAVID HOARE 2	*GWILYM SALMON 6
*ANTHONY J. SANGER .. 3	HENRY J. SANGER 7
*RICHARD J. CRAGO 4	ARTHUR WHITE Tenor

Conducted by DAVID HOARE.

* First peal of Stedman Triples.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 21, 1956, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of The Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt.

JUNE M. CLEMENTS Treble	R. ROGER SAVORY 5
ROBERT C. KIPPIN 2	WILLIAM T. BEESON 6
E. WINIFRED KEYS 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS .. 7
JESSIE E. KIPPIN 4	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD .. Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

CHIPPING NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.

*GRAHAM L. PITTAWAY .. Treble	HAROLD HUXLEY 5
*PHILLIP F. COOMBS .. 2	FRED LYNE 6
*SYDNEY S. PULKER 3	REGINALD H. JARVIS .. 7
*JOHN J. BENFIELD 4	CYRIL F. TOMPKINS Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD H. JARVIS.

* First peal.

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LINTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.

*JOHN T. MANNERING .. Treble	FREDERICK LEESON .. 5
WILLIAM T. GRICE .. 2	REGINALD RICH .. 6
LEONARD MANNERING .. 3	LOUIS HEAD .. 7
GEORGE F. CANTRILL .. 4	*PERCY TOWN .. Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS HEAD.

* First peal and first attempt.

Rung for the wedding of Geoffrey Waters and Jill Haffenden, which took place at Marden the same day.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. in F.

JOHN G. AMES Treble	STANLEY E. BENNETT .. 5
NORAH M. BIBBY 2	RONALD C. NOON .. 6
JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 3	GEORGE H. RANGLES .. 7
GWEN I. RUSBY 4	JOHN WALDEN Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

Rung following the wedding of Mr. E. C. Willson to Miss S. M. Neal.

WOKINGHAM, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 21, 1956, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5056 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17 cwt. 27 lb.

*A. JAMES GLASS Treble	*FRANK W. LEWIS .. 5
REGINALD W. REX .. 2	GEOFFREY K. DODD .. 6
*FREDERICK R. SCOTT .. 3	*WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. 7
*WILLIAM F. BUTLER .. 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in the method.

MICKLETON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., July 22, 1956, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb.
DONALD H. NIBLETT .. Treble	CYRIL A. WRATTEN .. 5
FRED C. LYNE 2	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 6
HAROLD HUXLEY 3	WILLIAM L. GILKS .. 7
*FRANCIS POWELL 4	FREDERICK G. KINCHIN .. Tenor

Conducted by DONALD H. NIBLETT.

* First peal of Triples away from the tenor.

Rung for Evensong on the Festival of St. Mary Magdalene, and as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the tenor, and to Rev. E. P. Hammond, Vicar of Mickleton.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

TAXAL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 11, 1956, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt. 23 lb.

ELIZABETH M. BAGSHAW .. Treble	RONALD DAWSON .. 4
*E. ANNE CHARLESWORTH .. 2	WILLIAM A. SMITH .. 5
HENRY KIRK 3	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal at first attempt, aged 13. The first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor by all the band. First peal of Oxford Treble Bob as conductor.

REYMERSTONE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 12, 1956, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 18 extents of St. Simon's, 18 extents of Plain and six extents of Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt.

*SAMUEL A. WATERFIELD .. Treble	*ALBERT E. DIXON .. 3
WILLIAM M. MANN .. 2	CHAS. E. G. BANHAM .. 4
GEORGE P. ADAMS Tenor	

Conducted by GEORGE P. ADAMS.

* First peal of Doubles. The first peal on the bells.

LANGTON-BY-PARTNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Single Court and Single Oxford, and three extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt., approx.

MARGARET A. SWANN .. Treble	*LEONARD THOMPSON .. 4
J. ROBIN WORSNALL .. 2	WILLIAM R. PARKER .. 5
LOUIS WILLIDERS .. 3	JOHN E. COOK Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. COOK.

* First peal 'inside' in five methods. The first peal on the bells, installed in 1825.

NORTON DISNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Double Court and St. Clement's and three extents of Plain Bob (different callings). Tenor 8 cwt. 27 lb.

KATHERINE BURCHNALL .. Treble	*F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. 4
GRACE BURCHNALL .. 2	*ALLAN SIMPSON .. 5
*MRS. A. SIMPSON .. 3	*WILLIAM L. EXTON .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM L. EXTON.

* First peal in three Minor methods.

WILBURTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 14, 1956, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Reverse College, Woodbine T.B., Oxford T.B., Kent T.B. and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

*GEOFFREY A. LUCAS .. Treble	*GEORGE A. WALKER .. 4
HENRY W. SHARP .. 2	*ARTHUR YARROW .. 5
*DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS .. 3	STANLEY SHIPP Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY SHIPP.

* First peal in seven methods.

An 82nd birthday compliment to the ringer of the second.

WRAGBY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 16, 1956, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND OUR LADY,

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

MARTIN CUBITT Treble	HAROLD CHANT 4
SHEILA M. SCHOFIELD .. 2	J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 5
DAVID CUBITT 3	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

First peal of Kent Minor by all except the conductor. The first peal on the recast bells.

WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 18, 1956, in 2 Hours and 26 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Single Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

A. EDWARD LEGGETT .. Treble	*WILLIAM J. BRUNT .. 4
FRANK G. OLIVER .. 2	†BERNARD W. FAIRHEAD .. 5
HARRY J. MILLATT .. 3	ALLEN W. CANSDALE .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY J. MILLATT.

* First peal in seven methods. † First peal in seven methods 'inside.'

THURLASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Hinckley District.)

On Thurs., July 19, 1956, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINORBeing three extents of Kent Treble Bob and four extents of Plain Bob.
Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb.

WILLIAM NEWTON Treble	JOSEPH TAYLOR 4
JOSEPH LAWRANCE 2	ALFRED BALLARD 5
BRIAN W. NEWTON 3	GEORGE A. NEWTON Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE A. NEWTON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Joseph Taylor.

BICTON. SALOP.**THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

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

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores.	Tenor 12 cwt.
SYLVIA J. BEDDOW Treble	FREDERICK G. BEDDOW 4
ALFRED G. OWEN 2	ERNEST F. WILLCOX 5
ROBERT NICHOLLS 3	FREDERICK MASON Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST F. WILLCOX.

First peal as conductor.

Rung to celebrate the marriage of Clifford A. Barron and Molly P. Flynn at Kings Norton on July 14th, 1956.

FITZHEAD, SOMERSET.**THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., July 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings).	Tenor 12½ cwt.
A. GALE Treble	F. BRANCHFLOWER 4
*PATRICK J. BIRD 2	†W. J. NURCOMBE 5
C. W. J. TARR 3	H. COMMINS Tenor

Conducted by C. W. J. TARR.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

A farewell peal for the Rev. A. C. Allan.

HARTFIELD, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

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

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of a 720 each of (1) Kingston Treble Bob, (2) London Scholars' Pleasure, (3) Oxford Treble Bob, (4) Kent Treble Bob, (5) Cambridge Surprise, (6) Single Oxford, and (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

EVELYN D. ADAMS Treble	IVAN A. C. BUTCHER 4
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT 5
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE 3	FRANK H. HICKS Tenor

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

Rung as a wedding compliment to S. Geoffrey Waters and Jill Haffenden, married at Marden this day.

HANDBELL PEAL**ST. ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE.****THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Fri., July 13, 1956, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT 21, NORTH RIDING, BRICKET WOOD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINORBeing seven different extents. Tenor size 17 in A.
WALTER G. PAUL 1-2 | D. KAY ADKINS 3-4

MADELEINE CHAPPEL 5-6

Conducted by D. KAY ADKINS.

UPWEY, DORSET.—On July 21st, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: A. J. Slade 1, Mrs. A. J. Slade 2, Betty J. Marsh (first of Kent Treble Bob Minor) 3, G. J. W. Abbott 4, J. W. Rose 5, H. J. Ford (cond.) 6. Rung for the golden wedding of the Rev. R. P. Farrow, M.A., and Mrs. Farrow, of East Lulworth, Dorset.

QUARTER PEALS

ACLE, NORFOLK.—On July 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Daphne Le-Grice 1, Alison Bradford 2, Doris E. Liddbetter 3, H. W. Liddbetter 4, B. W. Willgress (first as cond.) 5, May Liddbetter 6. For morning service.

ALLENSMORE, HEREFORDS.—On July 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Colcombe 1, R. G. Powell 2, C. Phillips 3, L. D. Young 4, L. H. Colcombe 5, T. H. Young (first as cond.) 6. First quarter of Minor by all the band except the conductor.

BUCKERELL, DEVON.—On July 13th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: S. Skinner (cond.) 1, C. Deem 2, J. Quick 3, E. W. Rowe 4, W. Webb (first in method) 5, F. H. Parr 6.

WURSTOW, SURREY.—On July 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: G. Charlton 1, D. Wilson (first 'inside') 2, H. Parsons 3, L. Penfold 4, W. Slaughter 5, A. J. Bull (cond.) 6. Rung for the wedding of Miss Betty Turrell (a local ringer) and Mr. P. Russell.

CHECKENDON, OXON.—On July 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Lucy E. Slade 1, E. Baughan 2, M. Baughan 3, B. Wakefield 4, G. Hearn (cond.) 5, C. Baughan 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. A. Pearson, late foreman of the tower.

CHELSEFIELD, KENT.—On July 15th, 480 Plain Bob Doubles, 780 Grandsire Doubles: D. Parker (first quarter) 1, N. Martin 2, Mrs. E. Moore 3, J. Pannell 4, D. Manger (cond.) 5, A. Smith 6. For Evensong.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—On July 16th, at the Parish Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. J. Lewis 1, F. J. Lewis, sen. 2, W. G. Cook 3, F. J. Lewis, jun. 4, H. L. Cooke 5, E. H. Jefferies 6, W. H. Hayward (cond.) 7, S. Eastbury 8. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to Mrs. Matthew, wife of Mr. Owen Matthew, churchwarden.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.—On July 12th, at St. Peter's Church, 1,184 Plain Bob Major: G. Woodruff 1, Mrs. L. D. Mills 2, E. J. Butler (78) 3, Brenda M. Balls 4, A. E. Leggett 5, A. W. Cansdale 6, B. W. Fairhead 7, H. J. Millatt (cond.) 8. First quarter by treble ringer.

COMPTON BISHOP, SOMERSET.—On July 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Emery 1, B. Peters 2, B. T. Jeanes 3, W. Wiseman 4, F. S. Paramore (cond.) 5, G. Burge 6.

GRANTHAM, Lincs.—On July 18th, 1,278 Grandsire Caters: Miss P. Holmes 1, F. W. Pinchbeck 2, W. R. Read 3, J. E. Cook 4, B. Hunt 5, K. Ketteringham 6, R. Stevenson 7, H. R. Woods (cond.) 8, J. Royce 9, J. W. Watson 10. Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Watson.

HATFIELD, HERTS.—On July 14th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: B. Boon 1, W. T. Holmes 2, D. C. Wellington 3, E. Edmondson (cond.) 4, J. M. Page 5, S. Huckle 6. Rung for the wedding of Janet Hostler to Derek Wilsden.

HOLLOWAY, N.—At St. Mary Magdalene's Church, on July 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Bevan 1, Doreen A. Devereli 2, G. F. Carter 3, R. Newman 4, J. M. Payton 5, A. W. J. Butler (cond.) 6, B. J. Woodruff 7, H. W. Barnard 8. Rung for the patronal festival Evensong.

LANCASTER.—On July 22nd, at St. Peter's Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Crook 1, J. Woods 2, R. Warden 3, R. Rainford 4, H. Rainford (cond.) 5, S. Arderton 6. Rung in honour of the Rev. Father Kernan, of this parish, ordained to the priesthood this day.

NETTLEHAM, Lincs.—On July 9th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. Bratley (first quarter) 1, H. Jeffery 2, D. Birkett 3, C. Jeffery 4, W. R. Parker 5, G. R. Parker (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. W. S. Hill, a local ringer.

NETHERBURY, DORSET.—On July 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Elsworth 1, Mrs. E. Pannell 2, A. J. Scott 3, E. Pannell 4, J. T. Barrett (cond.) 5, J. Davis 6. Rung to mark the completion of 36 years' service as organist in this church by the ringer of the treble.

NORTH BRADLEY, WILTS.—On July 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Knight 1, P. W. J. Harding 2, L. E. Hitchins 3, C. Barber 4, A. Knight 5, J. Case 6, F. S. Slatford (cond.) 7, R. Harding 8. Rung as a compliment to the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, who retired this day after 48 years as Rector of Kingston Magna.

STRATTON, CORNWALL.—On July 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. E. Sanders 1, Miss H. Oakshett 2, A. E. Bissatt 3, C. Sangwin 4, A. Botterill 5, R. Sanders 6, M. F. Oakshett (cond.) 7, H. Stacey 8. Rung for St. Christina's Day.

STROUD, GLOS.—On July 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Simpson 1, T. Pritchard 2, Mr. Cotterill 3, F. Ponting 4, P. Riddiford 5, T. Price 6, T. Witts (cond.) 7, F. Garland 8. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Jane Cotterill.

TENBY, PEMBROKES.—On July 20th, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: T. Osbourne 1, E. Williams 2, G. Thomas 3, C. Knight 4, J. Webb 5, H. Jenkins (cond.) 6. First of Treble Bob Minor for 1 and 4. Rung to celebrate the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. J. Webb.

HARTHILL (ALL HALLOWS) & ITS BELLS

By NORMAN CHADDOCK

The village of Harthill lies off the beaten track in the most southern tip of Yorkshire, about 10 miles from Sheffield and Rotherham, and almost within a 'stone's throw' of the counties of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. Although there is a large colliery at Kineton only two miles away, this is hidden by higher land between, and Harthill and its surroundings are completely unspoiled by modern industrial development.

The Harthill scene has in fact changed little over the centuries, the village being off the main routes, and its population has increased but slowly to its present 1,300 or so. It possesses some ancient buildings, most prominent of which is the fine old parish church of All Hallows, a good portion of which remains from Norman times.

Before 1937 there were six bells, the oldest dated 1660. There is known to have been four bells in the church tower in 1632, but by 1660 these had disappeared, probably in 1649 during the Commonwealth when many churches were denuded of their bells by the Puritans who looked upon bells, music, etc., as idolatrous.

THE OLD BELLS

There is an interesting entry in Harthill Church papers: 'This year of Our Lord God, 1632 . . . bell frames . . . etc., for four bells, £10 5s., . . . workmanship, £10 . . . iron, cords, runners, nails, brasses, labour, leather, etc., £6 4s. 6d.'

Soon after the return to this country of King Charles II in May 1660, a new bell, cast at Nottingham, was hung in Harthill Church. It was inscribed: 'God Save the King, 1660.' Local people had been aware for some time that King Charles' return was certain, and this bell must have been ordered and cast some time before, a risky venture whilst the Puritans were still in power.

Sir Thomas Osborne (1632-1712), later made Lord Earl Danby, Duke of Leeds, and King Charles II's chief adviser, had many estates and interests in Harthill and frequently attended the parish church. He was responsible for the first two bells being installed in Harthill Church, the second one being installed in 1668 and inscribed 'I sweetly tolling do call to taste on meat that feeds the soul.' It became the dinner bell signal for mid-day meal, a custom that was maintained until 1940.

In 1711 the bells were augmented to five and a new wooden frame fitted. A sixth (treble bell) was cast by J. Warner in 1889 in memory of G. T. Hudson, Rector, 1852-1884.

By 1930, Harthill's six bells were in a sad state of repair, and it was decided to replace the six partially cracked bells with a new ring of eight.

A ROMANTIC STORY

Reference has been made above to Sir Thomas Osborne, and it is interesting to know how he acquired that title.

In 1540, living in a cottage near Hard Dam, a stretch of water near Harthill, was a poor widow named Osborne. Sir William Hewitt, a rich London merchant who was owner of the cottage, was impressed by her young son's brightness and intelligence, and persuaded the widow to let her son become an apprentice in his cloth merchant's business at his premises on London Bridge.

One day a negligent maid allowed Sir William's only daughter, Anne, aged 4, to fall into the river, which was in high flood. Nearby was young Edward Osborne who, brought up by Hard Dam, was an excellent swimmer. He dived in instantly and rescued the child, and as a result was taken into the family of the proud and grateful Sir William Hewitt.

The romantic climax of this story is that Edward Osborne, when he grew up, married Anne

Hewitt, and in 1583 became Lord Mayor of London and, during his year of office, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth. This is truly a story outshining that of Dick Whittington. This Edward Osborne was great-grandfather of Sir Thomas Osborne. The Osborne (Leeds) family remained patrons of Harthill benefice until very recently when the right to appoint new incumbents was delegated to the Bishop of Sheffield.

THE NEW BELLS

The money for the new ring, installed in 1937, was raised mainly through historical pageants about Harthill, organised by Mr. Harry Garbett (head teacher of Harthill Council School for 31 years) and others. A keen historian, Mr. Garbett wrote a 300-page history of Harthill, which was published in 1950. In it he makes some outspoken comments on the new ring of eight bells. He says: ' . . . Why are they not rung? . . . Why has not a team of eight been formed? . . . Harthill has one of the finest rings of eight bells . . . and yet has no team to ring them. It is a disgrace. . . '

He also makes reference to Harthill's former handbell team, saying: 'From 1870 to 1900, Harthill was famous for its handbell ringers, and sweetly could they chime, charming many with their playing, but now they are heard no more. The handbells rest silent and dusty in an old box in the church belfry, fit resting place, near to those mightier bells, which like them, seem fated to eternal silence.'

The old six bells had a tenor in F weighing 18 cwt. (foundry unknown). Their total weight was 65 cwt.

The new eight bells, cast by Gillett and Johnston in 1937, range from tenor 18½ cwt. to treble 4½ cwt., and were rung and officially opened on Coronation Day, May 12th, 1937. Outside they are a very musical ring. Inside the ringing chamber they are very noisy indeed, which accounts for the fact that only one peal has been rung on them—a fully-muffled one. The arrangements in the ringing chamber are marred by a clock case and two huge iron brackets fixed to the wall to support a clock winder's platform. With modification of these arrangements and provision of another floor, the ringing chamber could be made very comfortable.

A RETROGRADE STEP

Although almost 20 years have passed since Harthill Church acquired a melodious modern ring of eight bells, she has not yet obtained a team of ringers to ring them. Determined to have the bells sounded somehow, the late rector had electro-pneumatic chiming apparatus installed a few years ago, so that the bells could be clocked electrically from a keyboard in the vestry. This apparatus involves the use of an electrically-driven air compressor, rectifiers to provide direct current, an electrical relay and an air cylinder for each bell plus an elaborate system of wires, rods and balanced hammers. From an engineering point of view this is a very fine installation.

Harthill, however, has recently had a new incumbent who wishes the bells to be rung in the proper way by his own churchpeople, to offer a worthy office and activity for the Church's Anglican Young People's Association, thus providing another means to retain their interest in the church, and at the same time enable Harthill bells to be heard in their full beauty of tone. Elsewhere in this issue will be found a report of efforts to help the Rector of Harthill to obtain a team of ringers.

ASHBRITTE, SOMERSET.—On July 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Smith 1, Miss M. Alderman 2, Mrs. E. A. North 3, S. N. Bristow 4, D. T. North 5, J. A. Martin (cond.) 6.

A RINGING EXCURSION IN CORNWALL

One of the most delightful ringing tours our party has had occurred on July 18th, when we crossed the Tamar at Gunnislake into the delightful Duchy. Ascending the steep slope through the village we ran along the main highway to Liskard, passing many old-time mine workings with ivy-mantled shafts looking like pollarded trees. With views away to Plymouth Sound the scenery was impressive.

The venue of assembly was Menheniot (6, 12 cwt.), where we were met by the Vicar (the Rev. C. M. Thomas), who helped us with our ringing and pointed out many interesting features in the fine old church. Prebendary E. V. Cox, with Messrs. M. Atkins and Ryall, led us back to Liskard, where we were joined by Messrs. Myers (four) with Mrs. Bill Myers and the two boys, Messrs. A. and R. Truman and Mrs. Pat Johnstone with her little son, Richard. We were welcomed by Mrs. Hiscott and Mrs. S. J. Robinson (treasurer of the Truro Guild of Ringers). Liskard Church is one of the largest of the Duchy and has a fine tower with a spacious ringing chamber. In the north wall of the tower there is a fine characteristically ornamented Norman arch and the newel stairs in the north-west corner have been rebuilt. Good touches of triples were rung on the fine old octave (tenor 19 cwt.).

St. Cleer, a moorland village with magnificent views, was our next tower (6, 12 cwt.). Here we rang good touches on the pleasing six. Near the fine church is a holy well said to have been used in ancient days for baptism. At St. Ives the church has many interesting features of the 14th century and a fine 16th century tower in which hang six good bells, with tenor near 19 cwt. Thanks to the industry of the local ringers the bells run well and good touches were rung. Here we met an old Plymouth ringer.

At Callington, a shrunken market town, now a favourite residential centre, we were met by the Rector, the Rev. G. H. Marsh, who kindly directed us to the cafe where we had tea. Good touches were brought round on the lumpy six. The tea, which Mrs. Bolase (an erstwhile ringer) provided, was excellent. At the tea-table Prebendary Cox informed us that this trip gave him his 1,000th tower, and he celebrated the occasion (at tea) on his generosity.

The name of John Pennington, bellhanger, who died in 1826, we read on a tombstone in Stoke Climsland Churchyard. We have wondered why the famous firm who cast so many hundreds of bells in Devon and Cornwall should have worked from Stoke Climsland, and the derelict mineworkings seem to give the answer. The area around was once the centre for the production of tin and copper. In the tower we found a fine ring of eight (tenor near 19 cwt.). They went like tops, and good touches of Stedman and Grandire Triples came round. Meanwhile Mr. W. H. R. Smale with Mrs. Pat Johnstone ran off to see the famous Duchy herd of Devons, so it was that the Rev. W. H. Smale and his brother had to tarry awhile as the body of the party moved on to Calstock (6, tenor 9 cwt.). Here good touches of Doubles and Minor came round. Interestingly, the bells seemed more tuneful when the tenor was turned in. In this tower the first peal of method ringing in Cornwall was done in 1864; Bannister, Cocks and Trelawney were mentioned in this connection and the peal board hangs in the tower. The Rev. P. M. Denny gave us a welcome.

Fine towers, fine bells, beautiful weather, delightful scenery and a wonderful excursion into the Duchy. What more does the change ringer want? F. C. S.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On July 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Pamela R. Gough 1, Diana M. Gough 2, Beryl Sexton 3, J. Sexton 4, H. W. Brown (cond.) 5, J. P. Martin 6. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the ringers of the third.

BARKING, SUFFOLK.—On July 8th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. J. Prentice 1, P. R. J. Lester 2, A. E. J. Lester 3, W. S. Girling 4, J. B. Morley 5, R. E. Lester (cond.) 6. For Evensong. Also on July 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. R. J. Lester 1, Mrs. R. E. Lester (first 'inside') 2, A. E. J. Lester 3, L. S. Sharpe 4, R. E. Lester (cond.) 5, D. Brand 6. For Evensong.

COLLINGTON, NORTHANTS.—On July 21st, 1,260 Doubles (in 11 methods, being one extent each of St. Simon's, St. Martin's, St. Nicholas', Winchendon, All Saints', Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob, April Day, Old Bob, Reverse St. Bartholomew and 60 Grandsire): K. D. Perkins 1, G. F. Roome (cond.) 2, R. Line 3, A. J. Baker 4, A. C. Cozens 5. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Josephine Crow.

EARLS BARTON, NORTHANTS.—On July 11th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor (with tenor covering): Miss D. Miller 1, Miss J. Downing 2, W. R. Hammons 3, R. A. Eldridge 4, N. Line 5, G. F. Roome (cond.) 6, Miss J. Packwood 7.

FAR HEADINGLEY, YORKS.—On July 16th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Rosemary Hick (first quarter) 1, Mrs. B. K. Turnbull 2, G. Benfield (cond.) 3, B. K. Turnbull 4, A. Johnson 5, A. B. Sullivan 6, J. W. Gibson 7, A. E. Marsh 8.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On July 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Elsmore (first quarter) 1, Miss M. Wells 2, Miss R. A. Heath 3, Miss M. A. Cass 4, C. J. Beadle (first of Doubles as cond.) 5, E. J. Wells 6.

PRESTBURY, GLOS.—On June 28th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Stedman, 240 St. Bartholomew, 240 Reverse Canterbury, 240 Plain Bob, 300 Grandsire): W. Elliott 1, R. Taylor 2, M. Clifford (cond.) 3, F. Pendry 4, R. Dowdeswell 5, R. Jones 6, C. Rouse 7, D. Griffin 8 (4, 6, 8 covering). Rung for the golden wedding anniversary of Canon and Mrs. C. T. Rust, formerly of Frodingham, Scunthorpe.

RADLEY, BERKS.—On June 23rd, 1,440 Bob Minor: Audrey Gladwell (Past Master) 1, Jo Roper 2, Jean Dawson (Present Master) 3, Helen Brant 4, Jim Dawson (Past Master) 5, Marie R. Cross (cond.) 6. First quarter peal by the University of Reading Society.

RANWORTH, NORFOLK.—On July 21st 1,440 Minor (720 each of St. Clement's and Double Oxford): H. W. Easey 1, D. Mitchell 2, E. T. Chapman 3, J. W. G. Kindred 4, M. Solley 5, P. Kindred (cond.) 6. First 720's in methods for 1, 2 and 5. Rung after peal failure.

ROCKWELL GREEN, SOMERSET.—On July 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. Taylor 1, G. Walford 2, C. Webber 3, P. Moore 4, G. Gammon (cond.) 5, C. Baker 6. Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. E. Phillips, of Rockwell Green.

RUISHTON, SOMERSET.—On July 9th, 1,260 Doubles (360 Stedman, 360 Bob, 540 Grandsire): H. Floyd 1, W. G. Gigg 2, S. G. Coles 3, W. H. Tarr 4, A. H. Reed 5, F. Matraviers 6.

RYE, SUSSEX.—On July 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): Clare Filgate (first quarter) 1, A. J. Hicks (cond.) 2, J. Small 3, D. Hodgson 4, Jean Morrison 5, Jennifer M. Southerden 6, M. J. McRobbie 7,

R. A. Hodgson 8. Rung for Matins. Also a farewell compliment to Clare Filgate and Jean Morrison, who have completed courses at Rye Grammar School, and to Ruth Hodgson, who is taking up employment at Oxford. All were regulars members of the Rye band.

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL, SOMERSET.—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. F. North (cond.) 1, J. Martin 2, Mrs. D. North 3, G. Gammon 4, G. Walford 5.

SHOREDITCH, E.—On July 22nd, 1,287 Stedman Caters: Miss M. Floyer (first on 10) 1, Mrs. Deal 2, Mrs. R. Armstrong 3, Pam Steere 4, N. Steere (first of Stedman Caters) 5, P. Brown 6, R. F. Deal 7, A. R. Ling (cond.) 8, J. Armstrong 9, F. Hawthorne 10. A 77th birthday compliment to Mr. J. Hawkins.

SPONDON, DERBYS.—On July 16th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: E. Walklate (13) 1, P. Bellamy-Knight (15, first quarter) 2, D. P. Jones (cond.) 3, R. Stretton 4, D. Walklate 5, Miss Bernice Manning 6.

SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.—At the Christ Church, St. Lawrence, on May 1st, 1,260 Doubles (540 Plain Bob, 240 Old and 480 Grandsire): Pat Roche (first quarter) 1, W. Rowe (cond.) 2, J. Cummins 3, T. Goodyer 4, E. Fowell 5, E. Sheehy 6. Rung to commemorate the consecration of Bishop R. C. Kerle.

TICKNALL, DERBYS.—On July 8th, 1,260 Doubles (being 240 each of St. Simon's, Reverse Canterbury, April Day and Plain Bob, and 300 Grandsire): Mrs. T. J. Marriott 1, T. J. Marriott 2, L. Warren 3, A. J. Marriott 4, P. Marriott (cond.) 5, K. Freeman (first quarter) 6. Rung for Sunday School anniversary.

THRYBERGH, YORKS.—On July 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Betty Merchant (first quarter) 1, S. F. Wright 2, G. R. Hiner 3, F. Pickering 4, T. Cutts 5, H. Mortmore (cond.) 6.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

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

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

J. FRANK SMALLWOOD (convener), 16, Comer-
agh Road, West Kensington, London, W.14.
Telephone: Fulham 4935.

FRANK I. HAIRS.
JOSEPH T. DYKE.
R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

The Ladies' Guild is suffer-
ing a great sense of loss
through the retirement of
their President (Mrs. E. K. Fletcher). She
has been the mainstay of the Guild during its
46 years' existence and its flourishing state
to-day must be a source of gratification to her.

Bangor, Co. Down, bells will be heard on
the B.B.C. on August 12th at 9.30 a.m. They
are an eight with a tenor of 21 cwt. in E.

The Prestbury, Glos., band have sent a dona-
tion of five guineas to be added to the
Gloucester and Bristol Association donation
to the Bow Bells Fund.

St. Andrew's Church, Cromhall, Glos., is
at present a five-bell tower, as the pre-Refor-
mation fourth is cracked. This is a tragic
blow to the keen young band, but they ring
on the five, and hope to raise enough money
to be able to replace the broken bell.

The date of the quarter peal rung at St.
Marv Magdalene, Holloway (July 22nd) coin-
cides with the 40th wedding anniversary of
Mr. Tom Bevan and the 77th birthday of Mr.
Joseph Hawkins. The band wish to associate
the quarter with them.

The peal at Mickleton was rung on the birth-
day of both the local Vicar, the Rev. E. P.
Hammond, and Tower Secretary, Mr. F. G.
Kinchin. The members of the band are very
grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Kinchin for enter-
taining them to an excellent tea after the peal.

Commenting on the Central Council meet-
ing, 'Irish Bell News' states that the report
on Broadcasting and Television dealt solely
with the activities of the B.B.C. and did not
consider the activities of Radio Eireann,
which gave 'plenty of time' in any broadcasts
during 1955, especially in regard to Wexford
and St. George's, Dublin.

BELFRY GOSSIP

With reference to the peal
at Atcham, Shropshire, in
commemoration of a 720 of
Bob Minor rung there on May 25th, 1827
(see 'R.W.' page 356), Mr. Ernest Weatherby,
of Los Angeles, writes that three of his rela-
tives rang in that 720, which at that time was
a rare event. He rang on the bells two years
ago when visiting Shrewsbury. His friends
will be pleased to hear that he is enjoying
very good health.

Mr. George E. Fearn and Mr. John Penfold
rang their 600th peal together on July 14th.
The peal was Stedman Cinques rung at the
Cathedral.

The 26th issue of 'The Belfry,' the quar-
terly magazine of the Maidstone District, has
been published, and features St. Peter's
Church, Boughton Monchelsea. The instruc-
tional section deals with Cambridge Court
Maior and Hull Surprise.

The printed report of the Kent County
Association for 1955 is now available. An im-
provement in the number of practising mem-
bers noted in 1954 continued in 1955, and their
total now stands at 1,055. Assets of the As-
sociation at par total £1,274, of which £140 3s.
is in the General Account, £172 6s. 9d. in the
Belfry Repair Fund and £167 9s. 7d. in the
Benevolent Fund.

Through a typographical error a line was
omitted in making a correction in our issue
of June 29th (page 407) to a quarter peal
rung at Weston Favell, Northants, on June
10th. The quarter peal should read: 1,260
Grandsire Doubles: T. L. Pendred (first quar-
ter, age 15) 1, Miss G. Ashby 2, Miss J.
Downie 3, G. F. Roome 4, P. Amos (cond.) 5.
Our sincere regrets to the sender.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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BOW TENOR RECAST

Lord Mayor's Pride in Famous Ring

IN the presence of the Lord Mayor of London (Ald. Sir Cuthbert Ackroyd), the Master of the Worshipful Company of Founders (Mr. H. C. Bradbrook) and the Master of the Worshipful Company of Turners (Mr. Claude Mun-day), the tenor of St. Mary-le-Bow was recast at the Whitechapel Foundry on Friday, July 20th.

There were other distinguished guests present, including the Rector of Bow (the Rev. Hugh Evans Hopkins), his churchwardens and vestry clerk, and also the Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths (Squadron Leader John S. Mason).

The occasion was one of national importance. Photographers and news-reel cameramen were there in numbers to give publicity to the event and to enlist thereby the sympathy of the public in the rebuilding of St. Mary-le-Bow Church, and the restoration of its bells, destroyed by enemy action in 1941. Many thousands of pounds have yet to be raised.

Proceedings started with the time-honoured custom of the Master Bellfounder (Mr. A. A. Hughes) inviting the Lord Mayor and the Masters of the two city companies to cast a coin into the furnace. 'The Big Bell of Bow' was cast first, and this will be approximately 42 cwt. Afterwards came 'Fabian,' the second, which will be associated with the Ancient Society of College Youths.

The casting completed, the Rector of Bow invited the Lord Mayor to speak. In his speech the Lord Mayor expressed his pleasure at being present on such an historic occasion. 'It is fitting,' he said, 'that the Lord Mayor of London should be present, in memory of my predecessor, Richard Whittington, who heard it ring in 1375 and by its sound was inspired to return to the city of London, and finally became Lord Mayor in 1397, and again in 1406 and 1419. This bell, I understand, is a direct descendant of the old curfew bell which was cast in 1334 and ordered to be rung at 8 o'clock every night. That bell was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666, and was recast in 1669 and again in 1738, and as they all knew, it was destroyed by Hitler's fury in 1941.'

The City of London, and indeed Greater London, should be proud of this new curfew bell, the largest of the Bow bells, in the restored church of Christopher Wren's finest steeple in London.

The Lord Mayor added that he was proud to be the alderman of Cordwainer Ward in which St. Mary-le-Bow Church was situated. 'Long may these bells ring again, not only for the City of London and its historic associations, but to remind the people of London and the visitors who come to our city that the earth is the Lord's and the fullness therein!'

He then read Tennyson's poem:

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes,
But ring the fuller minstrel in.



Squadron Leader John S. Mason, Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths, naming the second bell of the ring 'Fabian,' after the father of English change ringing, Fabian Stedman.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

The Rector of Bow, with his churchwardens (Mr. H. G. Hicklenton and Mr. J. F. C. Bennett), and the vestry clerk (Mr. John H. L. Trustram), then named the recast tenor 'Bow.' This was done by the Rector who recited the inscription on the bell, 'Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.'

On the waist of the bell is inscribed:

The Bell of the Parish of St. Mary-le-Bow.
Rung for Curfew 1334. Destroyed by Fire 1666.

Recast 1669. Recast 1738.

Destroyed by enemy action 1941.

Recast 1956.

Hugh Evan Hopkins, O.B.E., M.A., Rector.
Howard George Hicklenton } churchwardens,
Julien Frederick Charles }
Bennett, D.T.
John H. L. Trustram, M.B.E., M.A., vestry clerk,
Named Me
'Bow'

Around the soundbow is a decorative border of London Pride.

The Master of the College Youths then stepped forward to name the second bell, using these words: 'I, John Stanley Mason, Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths, name this bell "Fabian".'

This bell is inscribed: 'Whoso offereth praise glorifieth Me.'

The Rector then offered prayers and gave the blessing.

Afterwards the Lord Mayor and the visitors inspected the bells that had already been cast. Mr. Douglas Hughes and Mr. W. A. Hughes were very fully employed in explaining the principles of bell-founding to the company, who were impressed by the novelty of the occasion.

Mrs. Hughes afterwards served tea to the Lord Mayor and other guests. As the Lord Mayor, who was wearing his robes and chain of office, left, people lined the pavement of Whitechapel Road.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

Hutton's Cordial Welcome

The summer quarterly meeting of the South-Eastern Division was held at Hutton on July 7th. It is a long time since the Division visited this little 5-bell tower, and the local band and church folk made the visitors more than welcome. About 40 members attended the service in the tiny church and enjoyed a special anthem rendered by the choir.

At the business meeting, which followed an ample tea, the Master of the Essex Association (Mr. R. C. Heazel) was present. The Rector of Hutton took the chair, and said how pleased he was to welcome the Division to his church. Mr. Crampin called the attention of the meeting to the absence of Mr. Reeve, one of our oldest ringing members, who was in Rochford Hospital with a broken leg following an accident on his motor cycle. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Mr. Reeve from the Division wishing him a speedy recovery. An apology for absence was received from Mr. F. Gant.

New members were elected from Shenfield, Hutton and Brentwood, and eight non-resident members who stood in a peal at Waltham Abbey were confirmed. Mr. Campion gave a brief résumé of the activities of the Central Council this year, touching on the new membership of the New South Wales Association, Carter's Ringing Machine, and 'The Ringing World' finances. Next year the Association would have the honour of entertaining the Central Council at Chelmsford.

Mr. Heazel asked the meeting to support the Association Dinner at Chelmsford later in the year, and mentioned the eminent members of the Church in Essex who had promised to attend. The collection for the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to £2. The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks, and ringing continued at Shenfield and Brentwood during the evening. Thanks are due to the Rector and the entire Hutton band, who made everyone so welcome and provided such an excellent tea.

MRS. K. LOCK NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF LADIES' GUILD

THE annual general meeting of the Ladies' Guild was held at Worcester on Saturday, July 7th. As there is no branch of the Guild actually operating in Worcester, all the arrangements were very kindly made by Mr. J. Johnson, the general secretary of the Worcestershire and Districts Association, and most efficient these arrangements proved to be.

The bells at Claines (10) and St. John's (8) were available during the morning, St. John's and All Saints' (10) in the afternoon and All Saints' after the meeting. Special arrangements were also made for those staying overnight to ring at the Cathedral (12) and Evesham bell tower (12) on Sunday morning.

The service was held in All Saints' Church, conducted by Bishop C. E. Stuart, the organ being played by Miss D. Hicks. The Bishop based his address on the text: 'Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ,' drawing the comparison between ringing and the Christian life.

Tea was prepared in the Abbot's Kitchen in the Old Palace, and over 90 members and friends sat down, the Bishop presiding. Tea was very kindly given to members of the Ladies' Guild by the Worcestershire and Districts Association, and the grateful thanks of the members were expressed by Mrs. O. Barnett, in the absence of the president, Mrs. E. K. Fletcher.

The Guild was welcomed to Worcester by Mr. W. B. Cartwright, and after votes of thanks had been passed to all those who had helped with the arrangements, the gentlemen left the meeting.

The ladies then held their business meeting, Mrs. Barnett taking the chair. This was one of the most representative meetings held by the Guild for several years, for of the 13 districts covering England and Wales, only two districts were not represented, some of the members travelling long distances in order to attend.

MRS. FLETCHER'S GREAT WORK

The main item on the agenda was the election of a new president, Mrs. Fletcher having stated that she did not wish to continue in office. Those who know anything of the early history of the Guild will know that it was mainly through Mrs. Fletcher's efforts that the Ladies' Guild was formed, and she has held office continuously since its formation in 1912, being general secretary and treasurer for 35 years and president for the following nine years.

Six members were nominated by the Districts, of whom three stated they were not willing to stand. A ballot was therefore held, as a result of which Mrs. K. Lock was elected. In thanking the members, Mrs. Lock paid tribute to the work of Mrs. Fletcher, and proposed that she should be offered honorary life membership. In supporting this, Miss E. Steele and Miss H. Snowden also spoke in appreciation of all that Mrs. Fletcher had done to get lady ringers accepted in the belfry.

This is the first occasion on which it has been suggested that honorary life membership should be conferred on a member of the Guild, and those present were unanimous that Mrs. Fletcher should be the first to receive this tribute. It was then agreed that it should also be offered

to Miss E. Steele, who has also done a great deal of work for the Guild.

Several resolutions were passed for circulation to all Districts, to be discussed at the next annual general meeting, and it was agreed that this should be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on July 6th, 1957.

The secretary showed the members the peal book which has been given to the Guild, and stated that Miss Muriel Reay, of Birmingham, had very kindly agreed to enter up the peals.

Votes of thanks to all those who had helped brought a very happy meeting to a successful conclusion, and it is hoped that 'Beau Pepe' was present and appreciated the 'good-natured humour' of the discussions.

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

A Sydney ringer, Marsden Hordern, of St. James', Turramurra, is now on his way to England where he will be living for the next four years. Also in England is Ruth Donnelly, of St. Jude's, Randwick, while Philip Cooper and Ron Nogare, of St. Andrew's, Walkerville, are expected later in the year. If you hear an Australian accent in the tower, please go up and give its possessor a welcome to England.

News of an engagement, a marriage and a birth have reached us from Sydney. Laurie Curran, captain of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, and Betty Heron, also a ringer of Christchurch St. Lawrence, announced their engagement on March 23rd. On the same day Ian Napper, of St. Jude's, Randwick, was married to June Carpenter at their local church. On April 3rd a son (Ian Keith) was born at the War Memorial Hospital to Margaret and Bruce Dunbar, of All Saints', Parramatta. 'It is interesting to note,' says the Editor of 'Ringing Towers,' 'that the three most recent births amongst bell ringers in Sydney have all been boys, and that none of them has been given names that can be confused with the word "bob"—a wise precaution.'

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—D. F. Balfour Park £1, Miss Whisler 8s. 9d., F. W. Housden 5s. 6d., C. R. 3s. 9d., M. D. 3s. 9d., B. S. T. 3s., F. C. R. 3d., W. T. C., W. H., J. F. M., J. W. O., Mrs. C., J. W. F., L. W. A., Miss S., A. H., E. J. M. 6s. 6d. each, E. W. Izzard 5s., Anon. 7s., S. A. C. Smith, C. M. 5s., P. T. 2s.

Peals.—Chipping 4s., Goxhill 5s., Pontefract 4s., Ashted 3s., Liverpool 5s., North Disney 3s., Linton 6s., Wormingford 3s., Castle Cary 4s., Wilburton 3s., Chipping Norton 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Fareham 15s., Upper Clapton 2s., Chelsfield 2s. 6d., Rushton 2s., Grantham 2s. 6d., Radley 2s. 6d., North Bradley 2s., Hatfield 3s., Ranworth 3s., Nettleham 5s., Checkendon 4s., Compton Bishop 3s., Netherbury 4s., Stratton 2s., Cirencester 2s. 6d., Ticknall 2s. 6d., Buckerell 1s., Acle 2s., Stroud 2s., Rye 2s., Allensmore 3s., Holloway 3s., Burstow 3s.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Banbury and District Branch

About 80 members and friends from 19 towers attended the annual meeting of the Banbury and District Branch, held on July 21st at Great Tew. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. N. C. Sergeant, and the organist said how much she had enjoyed playing to the vigorous singing.

Tea was served in the School, and at the meeting which followed the Branch chairman, the Rev. C. O. Moreton, presided, supported by the Rev. C. E. Wigg, Master of the Guild, who gave the members some helpful words of encouragement. Miss M. R. Cross, the Guild secretary, and Mr. A. D. Barker, the Guild treasurer, also addressed the members.

The Rev. C. O. Moreton was re-elected chairman, and Mr. H. L. Roper was elected secretary and treasurer in succession to Mr. E. C. Pearson, who had been elected at Great Tew 25 years ago. Mr. E. E. Pearson was elected Branch Ringing Master, so ensuring continuity of the influence of the Pearson family in the Branch. Mr. W. Watson was elected auditor, and the representatives to the general committee were re-elected.

The lovely ring of bells was kept going before and after the service. It was good to see a number of the young members of the Branch taking part in Kent and Double Norwich; they are getting on.

The fine weather, the lovely sylvan surroundings of the church, and the good attendance combined to make the meeting a memorable one.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

A quarterly meeting of the Mid-Devon Branch was held at Bovey Tracey on July 21st, when there was a fair attendance, including a number of the younger element. Ringing took place throughout the afternoon, this being followed by a service in church, conducted by the Rev. A. G. Lough (Vicar of Hennock). A Branch member, Mr. W. J. Harvey, acted as organist.

After tea at the Torvue Café, the usual business meeting followed, with Mr. J. E. Lilley in the chair. Four new members were elected. It was resolved, after discussion, that the next meeting, due to take place at Buckfast Abbey, should be held on Saturday, October 6th, and it was also decided to arrange a by-meeting at Coffinswell on Saturday, September 8th.

It was resolved to inquire into the question of a weekend visit to Lincolnshire next summer, and the usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting.

A. L. B.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

In spite of slight damage, caused by lightning, the bells of St. Nicholas', Norton, were rung on July 21st for the District meeting. Perhaps the holidays and the weather were to blame for the many absences.

After the tea and business meeting a short service was held by the Rev. G. Kenyon, then ringing continued. Hitchin practices are beginning again on Mondays: the next meeting will be at Pirton on August 25th, when it is hoped to ring the special method, Winchendon Place Bob.

J. S.

'POULARD' (Regd.)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NON-RESIDENT LIFE MEMBERS

Dear Sir,—At various times over the years suggestions have been put forward that all our Associations, Guilds and Societies should be amalgamated into a National Association.

Whether this would be to the advantage of the Exercise I very much doubt, for after all, tradition does count for something and a National Association would become an unwieldy, impersonal organisation.

I suspect one of the reasons for the establishment of a National Association is that for ringing a peal in an area outside his own a peal will cost a ringer anything from 5s. to 10s. for non-resident life membership of the organisation under whose auspices the peal may be rung, plus any booking fee that is customary.

To my mind, 10s. is too much for ringing, in many cases, an isolated peal. This point has come under my notice, here in Lowestoft, one of the centres of the East Anglian holiday area, where we do get quite a number of visitors, many of whom I am pleased to say are promising youngsters who would like to join in a peal but feel that 10s. is a bit too much to pay for it. Moreover, being situated on the border of the Norwich Association and the Suffolk Guild, the 10s. fee for the Norwich against the 5s. for the Suffolk has come in for some caustic comment from our neighbours just across the border.

The point I want to make is that every encouragement should be given to anyone who would like to join in a peal outside their own particular Association's area. This applies more particularly to young ringers, and in this connection may I say that there is nothing better than a peal for improving a young ringer's striking, more especially because of the experience gained by ringing with fresh faces and strange bells and surroundings.

May I make in all seriousness this suggestion: That all ringing organisations should abolish the non-resident life member rules and in its place have a voluntary fee of, say, 1s. above the ordinary annual subscription, the receipt being endorsed 'Compounded member,' or something of that sort. This produced would entitle a ringer to ring a peal in any part of the country.

I think something of this kind is in operation in one or two secular organisations in the country, and has operated very well indeed.

I do not think that, in the long run, any Association would suffer financially by this scheme: they would probably gain, and it would encourage those who are not so keen.

Of course, there are details to sort out, such as the position of the non-regional Society, but I cannot envisage any great difficulty in that direction. I sincerely believe a scheme of this sort would be of great benefit to the Exercise as a whole.—Yours very truly,

B. S. THOMPSON.

Lowestoft, Suffolk.

EXPLANATION WANTED

Dear Sir,—We at Stoulton were interested to read in 'The Ringing World' of July 20th the account of a tour of three counties by a band of young ringers. Interested inasmuch as we had been wanting to know who the ill-mannered people were who saw fit to visit the church here without prior permission to ring, and, being unable to find the vicar, ransacked the cupboards to find the key. Then, regardless of what damage they might do, or as to whether anyone was seriously ill near the church, they rang the bells.

By this behaviour they not only do themselves a disservice but also those who follow after them.—Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR A. JOPP.

Stoulton, Worcs.

ON HOLIDAY IN ENGLAND

Dear Sir,—As secretary of the New South Wales Association of Ringers, and one-time Editor of 'Ringing Towers' (of which I am at present treasurer), my husband and I have had the pleasure of meeting and entertaining many English ringers in Sydney.

I flew to London last Monday for a brief ten weeks' visit to my parents here in Quedgeley. Tom is in New York on business and will spend only one week in England on his way to France and Italy. As this trip was arranged suddenly I was unable to write to some of our friends over here. I now find that I do not remember the address of several of them. Such ringers as Philip and Joan Gray, of Bristol, and Joan Hills, of Essex, I have already contacted as we knew them very well in Australia.

However, I would be very pleased if you could ask anyone whom we have met, in particular Mr. Fred Savage and Mr. Jim Bennett, if they would care to write or phone me for news of Australian friends. (Telephone: Hardwicke 206.) I apologise for not writing to them before I left Australia.

In addition, I wish to bring greetings from all Australian ringers to our friends over here, I wish it were possible for me to spend time amongst ringers during my short stay here and tell them something more of conditions 'down under,' but I'm afraid that will be impossible.

Tom, I am sure, will be contacting Mr. E. A. Barnett, who wrote to us concerning our affiliation with the Central Council.

We are hoping that Philip Gray will be able to arrange a peal for Tom whilst he is here, but apart from this, and a ring here in Quedgeley, I'm afraid his time will be occupied.

The Quedgeley ringers rang a 'welcome home' quarter last Monday.

Thank you for keeping interest in Australian ringing alive through paragraphs which you print in 'The Ringing World.'—Yours sincerely,

MARGARET GOODYER.

School House, Quedgeley, Glos.

POINTS FROM RECENT PEALS

Dear Sir,—I have noticed several interesting points in the peal columns in recent weeks, and thought your readers might like to know of them. Several towers appear for the first time since the war. Croscombe's last peal was in 1935. Cromer's in 1933, whilst the recent peal at Hayes was only the third this century—the previous one being in 1936.

Then we have Broxbourne's first peal for 22 years, Kendal's first for 20 years, and Bolney with the last peal in 1938. Even longer than all the above, Halling hadn't appeared in the peal lists since December, 1920.

The most outstanding event is still to come! It isn't often that a peal is recorded in a 'conquered' tower after a lapse of nearly 60 years. But that appears to be the case with Chipping, Lancs. The recent peal seems to be the first this century! The last peal was rung in 1898, the seventh peal from 1892 when the first peal was rung. That is most unusual.

Although there was no footnote to that effect, I think the peal at Ampney Crucis, Glos, was the first on the bells. I confirm that the peal at Bunney, Notts, was also the first in that tower.—Yours faithfully,

K. W. H. FELSTEAD.

Southampton.

CORNELIUS CHARGE'S COMPOSITIONS

Dear Sir,—I note with regret the passing of Reuben, the last of the brothers Charge.

It might be of interest to those who knew them, that I have in my possession two notebooks that belonged to the late Cornelius Charge. One is superscribed 'Compositions rung as composed by C. Charge at various towers throughout the country in which he did not take part; 129 cuttings from "Bell News" and "The Ringing World" includes 19 Silver Jubilee peals for H.M. King George V and 14 peals of Coronation of King George VI.'

At the reverse end of the book are many compositions in various methods, by such composers as R. Williams (Liverpool), Samuel Marsh (Killamarsh), Arthur Knights, York Green, Henry Dains, Charles H. Hattersley, and many others.

The second notebook is of 'Peal Compositions by Cornelius Charge, of London,' and has a large selection of mostly Plain Bob, Grand-sire and Stedman, etc.—Yours sincerely,

ERNEST MORRIS.

St. Margaret's, Leicester.

South Staffordshire Ringers Visit South Herefordshire

The usual band of enthusiasts from Bushbury, Lichfield Cathedral, Little Aston, and St. Luke's, Wolverhampton, spent half a day among some country towers south-west of Leominster on July 14th.

Thanks to the co-operation of Mr. Leslie Evans, a ring was enjoyed on the excellent eight at St. Mary-the-Virgin's, Eardisland. These are an old six, since recast with two more added by John Taylor and Co. in 1953.

A Rudhall six of 1727 was next sampled at St. Michael's, Lyonshall. Of poor tone, they went quite well with a tenor of 12 cwt. in G. St. Mary's Church, Kington, has a ring of six with a tenor of 13 cwt. They not only went all their weight, but also the ringing is spoilt by the second being out of tune. They were originally a Minor five by Rudhall in 1736, a tenor was added in 1739, and finally a treble was cast by Evans in 1764.

There was originally a ring of five at St. Mary's, Eardisley, cast by Rudhall in 1708. A treble was added to them in 1887 by Mears and Stainbank, and now they are an excellent little six (tenor 8-1-27). We not only enjoyed the bells but also the enthusiastic welcome by the Vicar, who invited us to go again whenever we liked. At his suggestion we then called in at a meeting at Whitney, where the local band and the Vicar welcomed us. We enjoyed this lightish five, by W. Evans in 1740, but the fourth was recast by Blews in 1868.

It is a great pity there is no local band at all at St. Mary's, Clifford, for here we found amid fine scenery a very good eight (tenor 12-1-14). Once a ring of six, by Evans in 1736, the fifth and seventh bells were recast and two trebles added in 1897 by Mears and Stainbank.

Unfortunately at this point Jeffrey Webb had to leave us as the rain had well and truly 'set in,' and he had to travel back to Lichfield by motor cycle. However, we splashed our, by then, weary way on to the last tower, St. Nicholas', Norton Cannon. Here amid paraffin lamps we rang Doubles on the fair five (tenor 8½ cwt.). Before Mears and Stainbank cast a tenor for them in 1904, these were a Minor four by Rudhall in 1769.

Home was reached at various times from midnight until 1.15 a.m.; all were wet, tired but contented. Methods rung during the day were Cambridge Surprise Minor, Kent T.B. Minor, Plain Bob Minor and Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Reverse St. Bartholomew, not to mention the St. Clement's Minor—a new venture for some. Many thanks to all who helped us gain access to the various towers. C. M. S.

THE TEACHING OF RINGING - 1

Following the acceptance by the Central Council of Miss Marie Cross's proposition as to the revision and supplementing of the booklet of 'Hints for Instructors and Beginners,' this subject is again topical.

But the consequential official action to be taken covers only part of the general requirement. The remaining part is indicated in the front page article of 'The Ringing World' for June 15th, 1956, by 'J. P. F.', entitled: 'Instruction or Destruction'; where he spotlights the core of the problem when he says: 'In a correctly-planned "Course of Instruction," instructors of several types (specialists in their respective spheres) would be needed.' This article seeks to show that such organisation is essential and practicable.

In the post-war development of ringing the importance of this aspect of training has become increasingly evident. To this fact one has been privileged to refer in these pages from time to time, more specifically perhaps in article No. III of the series, 'Topic for the Month,' in which was outlined a 'Manual of Instruction,' with a synopsis of contents, based on many years of experience and brought up to date with proved modern methods. (Vide 'R.W.' No. 2296 of April 1st, 1955.)

COMPETENT TUTORS THE BASIC REQUIREMENT

As St. Paul has reminded us, abilities and 'gifts' vary from one person to another. Not all ringers are brilliant conductors, nor even brilliant Surprise ringers, nor need they be, so long as they are good at some aspect of ringing, even if it be only well-struck rounds and call-changes for services; but we must have some who are good teachers of ringing, for they are as important as any in the Exercise.

It is generally understood nowadays that not everyone has or can have the faculty of being a successful teacher. Certain innate qualities, basically, are essential; but the most successful teachers are generally those who have been trained in the art of instructing. Fortunately we have many such in the Exercise today; though there are also others, untrained, who have the ability to dissect and set forth interestingly the subject matter, to spot and correct faults, and generally to get results.

RINGING INSTRUCTION FREQUENTLY FAULTY

But we have to face the fact, nevertheless, that comparatively few ringers have been and are being properly trained in the all-important initial stages. For the rest, their partial success obtains in spite of, rather than because of, their early 'instruction.' If *that* had been sound and complete (with checks and tests eliminating every one of the score or more of potential fault-sources, and with *adequate practice solo* in the acquisition of skills in bell-control and bell-sound recognition), before any attempt to ring 'open' with others, any success they have would have been the greater and the more rapidly achieved. And the proportion of successes would be far higher with the percentage of wastage in training far less. Altogether worth while, surely? What, then, is lacking?

An interesting appraisal may be taken by almost any ringer of his own early training, to show him whether it was all it might have been, by asking himself whether it included such items as the following (and the list is *not* exhaustive!):—

1. Proper introduction to the bell chamber and the ringing chamber with logical explanation of what is involved in the physical action of ringing; or a general familiarisation to promote intelligent understanding of what is to come.

2. The musical aspect—tone recognition and bell identification. (Full use of tapped handbells.)
3. Some appreciation of the elementary mechanics involved in ringing. (Fewer broken stays and 'frightened-off' pupils.)
4. Emphasis on rope-approach, on the stance and general attitude.
5. Release drill. (Elimination of rope injuries.)
6. Dummy action or handling motions on a 'lowered' bell-rope.
7. Introduction to rope-handling, in successive stages, and in logical stage-sequence, on a 'raised' bell-rope.
8. Bell-balancing, especially from the moment of pulling solo, and no 'open' ringing until this is up to 80 per cent. pulls.
9. Raising and lowering action taught in detail, solo, on a silenced bell. (To complete confidence in bell-handling.)
10. Positive indication of, and relentless checking of, the 20-odd common faults in approach and handling of a bell.
11. Learning of dodging, place-making, then hunting, on few bells silenced (four is probably the best for this), before being stood-in for, say, hunting the treble in 'open' method-ringing.
12. Questions of pupil and by pupil on handling and control.

Once again, the foregoing are merely typical.

THREE ESSENTIALS OF A PROPER SCHEME OF TRAINING

Experience has shown, beyond all doubt, that for the success that ought reasonably to be gained, at least three things are primarily essential:—

- (a) A system of training demanding a minimum of recognised standards, available in print. (A Training Manual.)
- (b) Training of tutors according to such a system.
- (c) Examination and certification of tutors. (High standard.) The certificates or diplomas to be for the particular stage or stages of training in which they have qualified; of which stages there would be at least seven.

The question at once poses itself: How is this to be done, and who is to do it? Some may say: 'The Central Council.' But while the Central Council can set its 'seal of authority' on a work of some kind or on an achievement, and can depute committees to undertake special commissions (for example, of investigation or summarisation and report), yet it can hardly be expected to get down to detailed work amongst the rank and file of ringers everywhere. Such must be done, for example, territorially. Or it could be done by an organisation which, from a modest localised beginning, might spread (particularly through the help of the Council's official journal, 'The Ringing World') throughout the land; and, in showing its value by such growth, receive the cachet of the Council.

COURSES FOR INSTRUCTORS

Some years ago the Immediate Past Master of the Guild in the writer's territory discussed the possibility of courses of training for instructors. The idea had tremendous appeal, and it was visualised in the form of weekend conferences at a suitable centre, with lectures and demonstrations over two days; and the issue of a specially-prepared summarising pamphlet. Adequate board and lodging accommodation at reasonable cost was one of the main difficulties; and the scheme in that form seemed hardly practicable.

BIRTH OF A PLAN

Since then, persistent consideration of various other ideas has yielded a scheme which is considered to be practicable to initiate in a modest way, but which, nevertheless, could develop in snowball fashion. Eventually it might well produce a countrywide distribution of examined and certificated or licensed ringing tutors, with the consequential growing body of quality-trained and fault-free ringers. The primary object of all such training is to produce ringers of good style and a high degree of skill in handling and striking with precision. Such a scheme, in fact, is already in course of inception, and its success or failure will rest upon the support it gets. It embraces the three essentials, (a), (b) and (c) indicated above, and employs a system of training in the elementary stages identified as the 'Cathedral' system. A 'school' of 20 pupils is now well under way, with three student-tutors taking part in the course; and the scheme is being developed for administration in higher stages, with the issue of diplomas, as a 'College of Campanology.' To outline such development calls for consideration in some detail of those three 'essentials.'

THE 'BIBLE' OR TRAINING MANUAL

The first of these essentials is a standard of reference, by which the training can be 'streamlined' yet maintained at a recognised level of proficiency. In other words, a 'Manual of Training' is the No. 1 indispensable. Now it is said, and with truth, that there is always something more to be learned in ringing; and the vista of advancement may usefully be viewed in seven stages, forming the seven 'parts' of the Manual:

1. Bell Handling and Control and the elements of Method Ringing.
2. Method Structure and Theory.
3. Practical Method Ringing—Simple to Advanced.
4. Handbell Ringing.
5. Composition and Proof.
6. Calling and Conducting.
7. Historical.

It is envisaged that the various 'parts' will be compiled (or initially 'adopted' from extant publications) by one or more specialists in the particular subject matter of each Part. Additionally, where possible, the specialist knowledge and experience is to be combined with that of professional teaching, technical authorship and (most important) practical skill on the ringing side. The Parts are thus issuable in stages, each complete in itself; and though it may be some time yet before all seven Parts have been published (or announced as publications 'adopted' for inclusion), yet a start has already been made with Parts 1 and 2, which exist in a typescript synoptic form.

THE 'CATHEDRAL' SYSTEM

The scheme detailed in Part 1 has been built up from combined experience extending over many years, and is distinguished as the 'Cathedral' system. It has proved particularly successful in its application to beginners; and its plan is designed to enable a ringer who wishes to become an instructor to go a long way towards his goal by self-study. The examination which should provide his College Diploma as a Tutor is, of course, based on the content of this Part. The material is highly detailed, carefully arranged in order of logical development, and gives reference to extant publications such as the Central Council's 'Hints, etc.,' Snowden's 'Ropesight,' and others. Some ringers may be surprised at the high standard it demands in training and in execution; but the College is determined to aim at nothing less than the highest achievements in striking and general performance.

A. Y-B.

(Next week: The development of the scheme, and its place as a 'handmaid' to ringing societies.)

RINGERS' OUTINGS

GLOUCESTER GUILD

Our day started at Bodenham. A good rise was followed by Rounds and call-changes, Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob, and a very well struck touch of Spiced Plain and Little Bob Minor.

Leintwardine was the next stop and, typical of the tour manager's reputation, none of the party was surprised to find that the police had been forewarned of his intended presence in the area. However, after three of the elder members had offered to stand surety, and with the help of Mr. Hunt, this lovely eight were soon going to Grandsire Triples. After call-changes and a 120 of Grandsire Doubles, we enjoyed touches of Plain Bob Major and Oxford Bob Triples. Unfortunately, an attempt at Stedman Triples came to grief.

Following an excellent lunch at Leintwardine, we proceeded to Clun (Ivor Goulter's 300th), through beautiful countryside, where we again rang Plain Bob Major, Grandsire Triples and call-changes. Again Stedman wouldn't go.

To Knighton for tea, after an hour on their very pleasant light eight, where we heard a very good touch of Plain Bob Triples. Despite an enormous tea, one of the party, female at that, boarded the bus to Old Radnor with 2 lb. each of apples and pears, and a coconut, and with the statement that she was still hungry proceeded to demolish the lot—well, nearly the lot!

At Old Radnor (David Beard's 415th) we soon raised their heavyish six and had touches of Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob Minor. Rounds and call-changes were followed by some Spiced Single Oxford, Plain and Little Bob Minor and a plain course of Cambridge Surprise Minor.

Homeward bound after a thoroughly enjoyable day, our thanks were due to all incumbents and tower captains for welcomes extended and the use of their bells, to Gannet (pronounced Janet) and Toothless Slash for laughter en route, and finally to our tour manager for a good job exceedingly well done. We all regretted that our chairman couldn't be with us due to holidays, and we all hope that Jesse (recently engaged) hasn't had too many sleepless nights after her conversations with an aged landlord.

Who was our tour manager? Why, Corby's lad, of course. GEOF.

SEND, SURREY

The young ringers of Send held their first annual outing on July 7th. Two coaches gathered ringers and other friends from surrounding parts and the party was soon heading for the eight at Billingshurst, Sussex.

Thakeham was the next stop, and several people seemed to have the idea of ringing peals there at a later date! As Worthing drew near, a mist appeared, and so those with bathing costumes hastily packed them away again, except for one bright spark, who was determined to take a plunge, whilst most of the party tried to hide in wind-free corners to eat their sandwiches.

On to West Tarring and then to Heene, where we found the bells had just been rung down. An excellent high tea was provided in Heene Church Hall. Back in Surrey again, the six at Capel were put to good use, everyone being pleased to see Mr. Bob Andrews having a pull for the first time for 18 months. It was noticed, however, that the King's Head had for some a greater attraction than the church.

Thanks are due to the various incumbents, to the ringers who met us, and also to Mr. S. Strudwick, the organiser of the pleasant day's outing. E. A. H.

DURLEIGH, SOMERSET

Ringers from Durleigh and Wembdon, accompanied by their friends and relations, set out on July 7th for their fourth annual outing. These outings seem to have become so popular that this year more people than the number of seats available wanted to go.

Before crossing the boundary into Dorset, a stop was made for coffee at Yeovil, and then the party proceeded to Evershot, where the six bells (tenor 7½ cwt.) were soon 'risen' and set going to various touches. Lunch at an inn in Grimstone preceded the journey to Abbotsbury (6, tenor 12 cwt.), reached after an unexpected, roundabout route, through foggy countryside.

Ringling at St. Michael the Archangel, Lyme Regis, was thoroughly enjoyed. Tea was followed by a break of about two hours for sightseeing and several of the party were lucky in having a boat trip around a submarine in the bay. On account of an early departure, Chardstock (Devon), the last tower of the day, was reached rather early, and extra touches were added to the programme.

Touches during the day included Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Plain Bob Doubles and Major and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

Many thanks are due to all those who helped arrange the outing and to those who welcomed the party to the various churches, which were greatly admired by everyone. G. R. M.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BRANCH

The annual outing of the Wotton-under-Edge Branch on July 14th was one of the best ever. Twenty-seven members and friends from 11 towers had to be collected up so an early start was necessary.

Worcestershire was to be visited, and the first stop was Eldersfield, with a very good six. At Malvern Priory (8) a learner had broken the stay of the third a few hours before, but we were warned and rung it to Grandsire and Stedman without a stay, and the beginners had rounds.

Malvern Link proved to be another good eight, and between there and Hanley Swan we stopped at Guarford, where some grabbed an extra tower, or should it be tree, for the one bell is hung from a branch of a fir tree in the churchyard. Is this the only one in this country?

Upton-upon-Severn were the next eight after the six at Hanley Swan, and the last tower was Longdon (6), where we had the best striking of the day. A number of the ringers had been on the sick list, not having rung for several months, so it was a great day for them.

An excellent lunch was taken at Great Malvern, and after tea at Upton-upon-Severn the Rev. Mr. Peel, Branch chairman, expressed the thanks of all to Miss M. Drew for such a well-arranged outing, and to Ronnie Cox for guiding the coach driver and thus saving much time. C. R.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX

The St. John's, Loughton, Essex, ringers enjoyed a pleasant journey into three counties for their annual outing on June 30th. They were joined by ringing friends from Hornchurch, Waltham Abbey, Walthamstow, Wanstead, and one from Lichfield Cathedral.

The first stop was at Hemel Hempstead, Herts, where, after a slight delay, half-an-hour's ringing was enjoyed on this eight with a tenor of 19 cwt. Meanwhile, non-ringers admired the fine Norman work with which St. Mary's Church is blessed.

A lighter ring was found at Linslade (tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.). Ringing over, a move was made into Leighton Buzzard where an excellent

lunch was enjoyed. Perhaps the highlight of the day was when the ringers of Loughton, Essex, rang for the village fair at Loughton, Bucks. Despite the tenor at All Saints' Church being badly out of tune, the novelty of the occasion made a strong appeal.

Woburn, Bedfordshire, is well known for its Abbey and deer park, but it was the Church of St. Mary, with its famed ring of eight (tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb.), that attracted the visitors, who made full use of the bells. The last tower visited was Redbourn, Herts, but before ringing the party sat down to a very good tea. Thus fortified, they enjoyed the fine six bells (tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.).

The sincere thanks of all who took part in the outing are expressed to Mr. D. Riley, who so ably organised the trip, and also to the incumbents and those who met the party.

HORNCHURCH

One ringers' outing is very much like the other, and the same may be said of all the reports of such outings—weather, comments on the bells and countryside, methods rung, etc., etc. Indeed the remark was made in the Hornchurch coach on July 14th: 'I see the usual outing reports are appearing in the 'R.W.'—pretty dull reading!'

Hornchurch were out on July 14th and visited Biggleswade, Huntingdon, Godmanchester, Barkway and Hertford. We have no criticisms to make—we enjoyed the ringing everywhere, and appreciated the very sincere welcome we received at all towers, and all the efforts made on our behalf by a variety of people.

As a change from the usual comments on the 'go,' etc., here are two suggestions for those who are contemplating more or less the same route: Barkway is an excellent stop for tea (The Cross Keys), and if it's a convivial hour that is required, well, try the Pied Bull Inn, Stanstead Abbots.

Sorry about the advertising, Mr. E., but this is a report meant to convey our thanks and to be helpful—I hope we've succeeded.

F. V. G.

BECCLES

On July 21st about 25 ringers and friends from Beccles, Bursham, Lowestoft, Loddon and Norton Subcourse spent an enjoyable day in the Bury St. Edmunds district.

After an early start, ringing commenced on the grand eight at Stowmarket (tenor 24 cwt.), where we were met by a local ringer. Good touches of Plain Bob, Kent and Grandsire Triples were rung. Our next tower was St. Mary's, Bury St. Edmunds, where the good eight (tenor 28½ cwt.) were thoroughly enjoyed and some good Stedman Triples were rung.

After an excellent lunch we journeyed to Horringer, where ringing on this light eight (tenor 9 cwt.) was well up to standard. Tea was followed by a visit to the glorious ten (tenor 30 cwt.) in the detached tower of Bury St. Edmunds' Cathedral. These fine bells were rung to a variety of methods during the evening and we were joined by a few local ringers. The day's ringing concluded with an excellent course of Stedman Caters.

The thanks of the party go to all those who met us, the clergy and to Mr. E. R. Coate for arranging the outing so well. T. N. J. B.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On June 23rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. G. Ridgway 1, R. H. Howson 2, F. Vickers 3, I. Dicken 4, K. Perkins 5, G. E. Green 6, T. E. Roberts (cond.) 7, F. C. Case 8. Rung as a wedding compliment to Miss Kathleen Ivy Ballard and Mr. William Alfred Yates, who were married the same day at St. James' Church, Paulers Pury.

ST. MICHAEL'S, MAIDSTONE, BELLS RING AGAIN

By E. S. JOHN HATCHER, Secretary, Kent County Association

THE bells of the Church of St. Michael's and All Angels, Maidstone, have been silent for a very long time. Kent County Association reports reveal that a local band existed up to 1932, but thereafter its membership lapsed. Why this should have been is a question of legendary fame, and it would be a pity to dispel all sense of mystery. The bells themselves may provide a clue, for instead of being a normal six lacking trebles to make the octave (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8), they are the middle six (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7). The 8-bell frame with two vacant places suggests a motive; the parishioners were perhaps expected to react to the sound of their bells by subscribing the necessary funds to complete the octave. This gambit failed; indeed the contrary effect somehow resulted and ringing ceased altogether.

In pre-war years ringing in the Maidstone District was in the doldrums, and when the war-time ban on ringing was lifted a new beginning had to be made. This had the declared aim of rebuilding bands in all towers and achieving complete Association membership. Year by year steady progress was made, and the number of towers still to come under the influence of this reinvigoration grew smaller. Among such towers was St. Michael's.

After the present Vicar, the Rev. F. H. V. Fordham, came to the parish, however, it was not long before encouraging signs began to appear. A garden fete was held in aid of the Tower Fund (was the structure unsafe?); the church clock was repaired (helping his father do this was a keen ringer from St. Peter's, Aylesford); certain young people of St. Michael's developed a strong curiosity to 'have a go' at ringing (one of whom joined in the traditional custom of ringing out the old year); and it seemed that fair winds were beginning to blow.

Then came Mr. P. M. Town, of Linton, who has captivated our interest by his superb enthusiasm, and has brought a freshness of outlook which is an inspiration. Within a very short time he has brought back life to the belfry of St. Nicholas', Linton. Evidence of Mr. Town's efforts was contained in a letter to 'The Belfry' (the Maidstone District quarterly magazine), appealing for the loan of bellropes, and it was my great thrill to go along one evening to ring the bells silent. There I found ringers from Linton and Loose (a neighbouring 3-bell tower also under Mr. Town's wing), as well as three or four from St. Michael's whose instruction in bell-control had already begun.

So the time at last came for the bells to ring out again, and on July 16th a representative group of ringers met by invitation, including R. L. Sills (Wrotham), A. Waddington (Egerton), W. R. Manser (Barming), L. Mannering (All Saints', Maidstone), P. Carter (West Malling), D. Bowyer (Aylesford), S. A. Hayzelden (East Farleigh) and G. F. Cantrill (Bearsted). The Vicar, Mr. Town, and a host of young people of St. Michael's welcomed us, and in church together Father Fordham outlined the legendary history of the bells, and paid warm tribute to Mr. Town and all who had helped prepare for this important occasion.

Father Fordham then led prayers for all aspects of the ringer's calling, and for the witness of the bells. In the ringing chamber, after the press photographer had gone into action, the bells were expertly raised in peal, followed by a touch of Stedman Doubles, a course of Cambridge Surprise and, previous to the attempt at a 720 of Double Court, other ringers who had come along were invited to ring. Before, inadvertently, it came to grief, the Double Court was struck with perfection, and opinion was that, despite their unusual music, the bells did not lack a certain charm of their own, and certainly no one could reasonably object to them.

What a merry throng crowded the Vicarage for refreshments after the ringing, and not unnaturally handbells were soon in evidence. It was quite late before final goodnights were exchanged.

The future? Well, we all share Father Fordham's wish that St. Michael's will soon be the possessor of a keen band of ringers, loyal to their own tower, and yet playing an active part in the wider fellowship of the belfry. Building a new band is not an easy task, but one which is very worth while and which we are confident will be achieved.

After their night out the bells have their tongues lashed into silence again, and teaching is going forward with zeal under Mr. Town's supervision, with all the help the Association through its members can give. Just when service ringing begins must depend on the rate of progress, and this should be a strong incentive to the young recruits.

The bells will, it is hoped, ring again on Saturday, October 13th, the day of the Maidstone annual District meeting, and it is certain that many will seize this early opportunity for adding St. Michael's to their list of towers.

Good luck, St. Michael's. Thank you, Mr. Town.

OBITUARY

MR. WILLIAM T. POWELL

The ringers of Wednesbury, Staffs., regret to hear of the passing of Mr. W. T. Powell ('Old Bill'). Although only 70 years of age, he suffered a great deal during the last four years after a serious operation.

He learned to pull a bell at St. Paul's, after being in the choir as a boy. At the age of about 24 he went up to Leeds and met Mr. P. Johnson, who taught him the art of change ringing. From there he went to work at Warners Bell Foundry in London; then, after about five years, he came back to Wednesbury, where he made himself useful, both as a Sunday Service ringer and in care and attention of the bells, especially at St. Paul's, where he put in new gudgeons after being turned at Edward Elwell Ltd. Although the bells were installed in 1887, the 'go' of the bells are quite good now, due to the work put in by 'Old Bill'.

The ringers of Wednesbury and District express their deepest sympathy to his widow and children.

A quarter peal of Stedman was attempted a few days after the funeral, but was lost.
E. M.

QUARTER PEALS

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.—On July 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. A. Brown (first quarter) 1, E. E. Matthews 2, P. H. Langton (cond.) 3, T. Newman 4, H. Wood 5, R. A. Brown 6. Rung for the 18th birthday of the conductor, and for Evensong.

CAMBERWELL, S.E.—At the Church of St. George, on July 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. R. Iveson 1, L. V. Roberts 2, E. G. Webb 3, B. P. Danbury 4, D. C. Woodwood (first of Triples) 5, D. E. J. Watts 6, F. R. L. Blewer (cond.) 7, W. W. Shorter 8. For Evensong.

LITTLE HOUGHTON, NORTHANTS.—On June 23rd, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 480 Reverse Canterbury and 300 Grandsire): A. Henman 1, M. Blason 2, J. Kightley 3, G. F. Roome (cond.) 4, R. Henman 5.

LATE NOTICE

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Northchurch (8), Aug. 11th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by Aug. 8th to Mr. Ashby, 38, High Street, Northchurch. 8721

NOTICES

New Scale of Charges from July 6th, 1956

Meetings: 3/6 (minimum) for 30 words, afterwards 1½d. a word. Each additional insertion half charge.

Other Notices: 4/- (minimum) for 36 words, afterwards 1½d. a word.

Displayed: 6/6 per single column inch.
Latest Date: Monday first post.

BIRTH

WEAVER.—On July 27th, 1956, at Worthing Hospital, to Florence, wife of Henry C. Weaver, a son (Mark), a brother for John and David.

ENGAGEMENT

DEEM—HILL.—The engagement is announced between Cyril Charles, only son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Deem, 2, New Cottages, Littleham, Exmouth, Devon, and Daphne Edith, youngest daughter of Mr. E. Hill, 9, Carter Avenue, Exmouth, Devon. 8690

SILVER WEDDING

BEAMISH—LEWIS.—Arthur Henry to Dorothy Eva at All Saints' Church, Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton, on August 3rd, 1931, by Rev. J. A. B. Davies. 8693

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

CLOUSTON. The address of Randal W. M. Clouston is now 38, Gainsborough Road, Ipswich, Suffolk. 8697

BARRON.—The address of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford A. Barron is 17, Dulvern Grove, Kings Heath, Birmingham 14. Tel. Highbury 3032. 8701

The new address of the Hon. Secretary of the Bedfordshire Association, Mr. J. W. V. Sinfield, is now Malmsey House, Cumberland Street, Houghton Regis, near Dunstable, Beds.

CANCELLATION

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Ely District meeting at March arranged for August 4th has been cancelled.—R. J. Housden.

PUBLICATIONS

AN IDEAL GIFT

'TOWERS AND BELLS OF BRITAIN.'—This beautifully produced book will soon be out of print. Obtain your copy now, before too late. Direct from the author: Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. Price 2ls. net. 7100

BELLRINGERS' GUIDE TO CHURCH BELLS (DOVE).—Order now from W. H. Viggers, 37, Highfield Gardens, Aldershot. Price 6s. 6d. or full cloth 9s. 6d. (postage 6d.).

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow. 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Nicholas' Vicarage, Great Yarmouth. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

MISCELLANEOUS

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—There will be no practice at St. Martin-in-the-Fields in August.—P. N. Bond, Hon. Sec. 8619

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—There will be no ringing at St. Michael's, Cornhill, during August.—A. B. Peck. 8686

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—Sunday and practice ringing cancelled during August. Re-commencing Sunday, Sept. 2nd, 5.45, and practices Friday, Sept. 7th, 8 p.m. Regularly weekly thereafter. All ringers invited and welcomed. Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth HOU 3921. 8691

GUILD AND DISTRICT SECRETARIES are advised to save time and postage by opening a credit account for their notices with Mr. J. E. Jeater ('Ringing World' accountant), Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall.

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum change). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

COMPLETE YOUR FILES.—Back numbers of 'The Ringing World' are available at the 'R.W.' Office, price 6d. per copy, post free.

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

MEETINGS

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Ickleton, Saturday, August 4th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 8675

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Meeting, Ottershaw, Aug. 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. 8676

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—Meeting at Abbots Langley (6), Saturday, Aug. 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15 p.m.—K. R. Dunstan, Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Seal Chart, Saturday, August 4th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Seal (6) also available 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. 8641

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and **SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Joint meeting, Rotherham Parish Church, Bank Holiday Monday, August 6th. Bells (10) 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in the Church Hall.—J. Seager and J. J. L. Gilbert. 8655

GUILDFORD GUILD (Leatherhead District) and **SURREY ASSOCIATION** (Northern District).—Annual joint meeting, Leatherhead, Monday, August 6th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. in St. Nicholas' Hall. 8649

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Combined practice, Redhill, Thursday, Aug. 9th, 7.15 p.m. 8706

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Blunham on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells (6) 3. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—L. H. Bywaters, Dis. Sec. 8705

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETY.—Meeting, Bridlington Priory Church, Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells (8) available 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Cups of tea provided; bring own food. Please notify Mr. J. A. Parker, Higher Waterworks, Mill Lane, Bridlington. 8716

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—Ringing, Woodchurch (6 bells), Aug. 11th, 3 p.m. Service, Moreton (4 bells), 4.30 p.m. Tea provided for those notifying by Wednesday previous.—Alexander J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 8715

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Next meeting at Ilmington, Saturday, Aug. 11th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Aug. 8th, please.—H. M. Windsor, The Bakery, Long Itchington, near Rugby, Warks. 8665

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Gateshead, Saturday, Aug. 11th, 3 p.m. Names for tea, by Aug. 8th, to Mr. N. Elliott, 18, Mersey Road, Gateshead. Method: Double Norwich. 8694

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD and **SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.** Joint meeting, East Grinstead, Aug. 11th. Names for tea to I. Butcher, East Bungalow, Paddockhurst, Crawley.—C. Bassett, I. Butcher, Hon. Secs.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—District meeting at Pirbright (6) on Saturday, Aug. 11th, from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by previous Wednesday to Mr. F. Cherryman, Causeway Farm, Pirbright, Surrey.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 8717

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Saturday, Aug. 11th, 3 p.m., Standon. Names for tea to Mr. J. Little, New Street, Standon.—T. J. Southam, Dis. Sec. 8720

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District.—Meeting at Whaplode, near Spalding, Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to me by Tuesday, Aug. 7th.—Mrs. A. Richardson, Glyn Garth, Surfleet, Spalding. 8667

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at Sacred Heart Church, Blackpool, on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells (8) 4 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.—J. F. Turner. 8714

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Heydour (8), Saturday, Aug. 11th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Bring own food—cups of tea provided.—F. G. Vickers, Hon. Sec. 8682

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Melton District.—Meeting, Kirby Bellars, Aug. 11th. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by previous Wednesday.—Mrs. P. A. Corby, 11, Bowley Avenue, Melton Mowbray, Leics. (Melton 723.) 8700

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Southgate on Saturday, Aug. 11th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business.—T. J. Lock. 8689

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury and Reading Branches.—Practice at Aldermaston on Saturday, Aug. 11th, at 6 p.m.—P. A. Gaunt and R. G. Burton. 8692

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Aug. 11th, Stamford St. Martin's. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names for tea, essential by Aug. 7th, to G. Bush, 48, Princes Street, Peterborough. 8711

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting at Wingfield (6), Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, Aug. 8th. Business: Election of a new District Secretary.—J. W. Blythe, Gen. Sec., 29, Holton Road, Halesworth. 8712

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Joint meeting with **EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD**, East Grinstead (8), Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells 3.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names, by previous Wednesday, to I. Butcher, East Bungalow, Paddockhurst, near Crawley. 8709

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Quarterly meeting, Billingshurst, on Aug. 11th. Names for tea, please, by previous Tuesday, to Mr. Wood, Nyewood, Station Road, Billingshurst.—W. L. Weller. 8695

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Atcham, Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. 8687

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting, Saturday, Aug. 18th, Christ Church, Consett. Names to R. Oliver, Aldington, Park Terrace, Castleside, Consett. 8710

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—Meeting at Walmer on Saturday, Aug. 18th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names for tea, with cash, by Wednesday, August 15th, please, to Mr. F. A. Rye, 74, Downs Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent. All ladies welcome; gentlemen cordially invited.—Jill Waters. 8707

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Summer meeting, King's Bromley, Aug. 18th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, Aug. 15th.—Fred Bennett, Pool House Road, Wombourne. 8698

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting, Kirkby Moorside (6), Aug. 18th. Bells from 3. Names for tea, by Aug. 16th, to Alan Rutter, River View, Keldholme, Kirkby Moorside. Edward Hudson, Hon. Sec. 8713

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Preliminary Notice.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, Sept. 15th, at St. Mary's, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex. Full details later, but please book date now.—P. N. Bond, Hon. Sec. 8703

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A coach will be available to convey members to the general meeting at Ripon on Saturday, Sept. 15th, leaving Leeds at 1.45 p.m.; fare 6s. 6d. For further details and reservations please communicate with the undersigned as soon as possible.—A. E. Marsh, 19, Priestley Gardens, Pudsey. 8696

STEDMAN COMMEMORATION DINNER.—The Ely Association will hold a dinner, to commemorate the 325th anniversary of Stedman's birth, at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29th, at the Brunswick School Hall, Cambridge. Ringing during the afternoon; times to be announced later. Tickets by remitting 11s. 6d. to H. S. Peacock, 8, Roscrea Terrace, St. John's Street, Huntingdon. 8699

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Book this date now: the Association Dinner, Saturday, Oct. 27th, at the Corn Exchange, Rochester. Tickets 8s. 6d., available now. The 1956 annual report is out, price 2s. (2s. 4d., post paid), containing names of all members.—Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, 420, London Road, Ditton, Maidstone. 8680

TURRAMURRA, NEW SOUTH WALES.—On April 20th, 1,260 Doubles (420 Grandire, 360 Plain Bob, 240 Old, 240 Norfolk): W. Knight 1, J. Rainsford 2, J. Clark (cond.) 3, K. Stacey 4, W. Smith 5, J. Horden 6. Rung for the visit of the Archbishop for Confirmation service.

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