



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

No. 2408. Vol. LIII.

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1957

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

6d.

## THE RABBITS' GUILD

**T**HE proposal to set up a Rabbits' Guild of Church Bellringers may occasion some surprise. Guilds devoted to sectional interests we have already, and reasons for their existence may easily be found. The clergy on their tours may be supposed to enjoy a sort of 'busman's holiday,' and so, in a sense, the railwaymen. 'He came in Slow,' we hear them saying accusingly. The doctors we may imagine exchanging medical jargon. 'Cut her nerve of Bell, poor woman! Her ringing will never be the same again.' The police, too, may well enliven their meetings with professional talk. 'A real Artful Dodger, he is!' The Universities naturally continue the ancient strife, Oxford v. Cambridge. But what on earth, it may be asked, have these Rabbits to justify a Guild of their own?

The very scorn implied in the question points the answer; for, though the ringers of Surprise Maximus are certainly the brains of the Exercise, the Rabbits are as surely its backbone. There are towers, of course, having expert bands, where the disappearance of another forlorn and heartbroken Rabbit is a matter for rejoicing. Yet, without the Rabbits who scuttle along the approaches to our towers, for service ringing or practice, regular, punctual, humble, earnestly persevering in their hopeless task, without their offering hundreds, nay, thousands of towers would be silent. Their invaluable work belongs especially to the five- and six-bell towers, where they grind out so faithfully (and so badly) their Grandsire Doubles and kindred methods. Indeed, it is often only by their efforts that it is possible for the plaintive rhythm of 'Pussy's in the well' to be heard at all. Anyone who considers these facts with an unbiased mind must admit the truth of them and the justice of the claim.

Members of the Guild will pledge themselves to do all in their power to secure this recognition, and the fair treatment it implies. In everything, however, they will be sweetly reasonable. In criticising their Rabbits, ringing masters will still be allowed a certain amount of rope on their sallies. Members will resent being shouted at as little as heretofore, provided that they are indeed the culprits (as they usually are). What they will no longer do is suffer for the sins of others. How often is everything blamed on them, too innocent and too ignorant to defend themselves! In short, Rabbits will insist on remaining Rabbits, and refuse to be metamorphosed into goats,

scapegoats. They will retain, too, the right to feign deafness when they are sure that their version is the correct one, and also when they receive simultaneous conflicting orders.

Good-humoured shouting will, as ever, be accepted cheerfully, and members will always do their best to obey legitimate orders, reasonably expressed. Especially will they pull in their backstrokes when so commanded, five consecutive strokes at least, or until the agonies of concentration force them to forget once more. Shouting, then, will not necessarily be prohibited, but more offensive forms of expressions will never be allowed. Rabbits must endure the snarling of ropes, but not of masters.

Strategy has already been considered. Strike action is a legitimate weapon, and will be used when a ringing master oppresses or slights a member, and does not amend and make instant reparation when the Guild's writ is served on him. Whenever the master and fellows declare a strike (first, second or third degree), all members of the Guild will be expected loyally to adjust their striking accordingly (worse than ever, horrible or hellish) and so continue, in all the towers in the land, until justice is done to the aggrieved Rabbit. By such means, and others to be devised, such as synchronised stay-breaking, it is certain that the power of the Guild will be so felt that guilty masters will quickly capitulate, and take care not to offend again. In very serious cases, indeed, it has even been proposed that Rabbits withdraw their services, but the provisional officers of the Guild are not at present unanimous on this point, some holding that such a desperate action would dishonour the Guild. It is encouraging to note that in the home towers of the master and secretary, where the foundation of the Guild has been openly discussed, there is already an amazing change for the better in the treatment they receive.

Admission to the Guild will not be lightly granted. To ensure that all members are genuine Rabbits, applications, giving qualifications and preferably supported by a recommendation from a member of the applicant's band, not the master, are invited. As a rough guide to the qualifications required, be it said that candidates are expected to have tried their utmost for years, without making perceptible progress. An exact number of years is not specified, and the qualifying period obviously depends on the standard achieved, but prospective applicants may be expected to recognise their own eligibility. Aspirants who remain a physical danger to themselves



and neighbouring ringers are asked not to apply for membership, but may be considered for a supplementary roll of probationers.

The rules of the Guild are not yet agreed, and will be published later. One, however, is agreed and is absolute: any Rabbit who rings a peal, except the tenor covering, must resign his membership. There will be no subscription payable by members, but one of the reforms to be demanded is the replacement, free of charge, of all stays broken by Rabbits in every tower which enjoys the services of a member of the Guild. Thus, nearly every tower in the land will be covered for members' stay-breaking.

It is hoped to apply for a grant of arms; the device will include five bells (one cracked, to symbolise rabbihood) and a snarled rope. Other suggestions are a ringing master rampant and a broken stay couchant. Proposals for the motto include the following: Floreat avus (Grand-sire for ever), Ave, ave (Hail Grand-sire), Nimrod ego (I am the hunter), Semper volens (Always willing), and Dum in mundo tundo (While on earth I bash). Other suggestions, from applicants for membership or others, will be welcomed.

Until the Guild is established and has made its power felt to protect them from reprisals by the enemy, the master and other officers judge it expedient to be anonymous. It may, in fact, possibly be decided to develop the Guild in the form of a Rabbits Anonymous, the better to induce a feeling of insecurity among ringing masters inclined to bullying and other malpractices; but that is for the future.

The Guild is launched. A great surge of applicants for membership is expected. The rallying-cry is Rabbits, unite! Sursum corda!

T. B., Master.

B. M. W. D., Secretary.

## TEN BELL PEALS

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF 5000 BOB ROYAL**

Tenor 35½ cwt. in C.

*GEOFF. D. FEARNEHOUGH	Treble	*KENNETH PERKINS	6
*TREVOR TAYLOR	2	NEIL D. LOMAS	7
*PETER WATSON	3	*DEREK TAYLOR	8
BRIAN A. TOMLINSON	4	DEREK OGDEN	9
*IVOR JENKINS	5	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD	Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

\* First peal of Royal.

Rung to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Robin G. Turner to Miss Margaret Saunders at Derby this day.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL**

Tenor 21½ cwt.

VERNON FORSHAW	Treble	ALAN CAPSTICK	6
JAMES DICKINSON	2	FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY	7
LAURENCE CLEMENT	3	JAMES E. BURLES	8
THOMAS TURNER	4	RAYMOND SUART	9
JOHN BAGNALL	5	NICHOLAS M. NEWBY	Tenor

Composed by E. TIMBRELL.

Conducted by JAMES E. BURLES.

First peal of K.T.B. Royal by all except No. 7, for whom it was the first in the method on an 'inside' bell.

Rung as a welcome to the Rev. H. W. Mycroft, who was instituted to St. Mary's on April 3rd, 1957.

ST. ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE.  
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

**A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL**

Tenor 23 cwt.

FRANK E. DARBY	Treble	ALAN F. THIRST	6
RICHARD E. PRICE	2	JOHN PHILLIPS	7
*ALAN FROST	3	MICHAEL P. MORETON	8
WILLIAM A. THEOBALD	4	DEREK P. JONES	9
THOMAS W. SHEPPARD	5	WILFRED WILLIAMS	Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

\* First peal of Surprise Royal

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS

## EIGHT BELL PEALS

CHURCH STRETTON, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 11 cwt. 5 lb. in F.

CHARLES JONES	Treble	LESLIE EVANS	5
REGINALD T. JONES	2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	6
PHILIP MORGAN	3	WILLIAM E. THOMPSETT	7
AUSTIN T. WINGATE	4	WILFRID F. MORETON	Tenor

Composer unknown.

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

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

**A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALBERT W. BOND	Treble	JAMES H. LILLEY	5
ARTHUR W. GRAVETT	2	HENRY STALHAM	6
ALFRED J. BULL	3	FREDERICK PAGE	7
WILLIAM F. SLAUGHTER	4	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON.

Rung as an 85th birthday compliment to Henry Stalham.

FAIRFIELD, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 3 Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Groves' variation of Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 12 cwt. 10 lb.

*MRS. GLADYS RICHARDSON	Treble	*ALAN MCFALL	5
ALEX RICHARDSON	2	*BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE	6
*ROBERT SMITH	3	HERBERT E. TAYLOR	7
*BERNARD GROVES	4	WILLIAM A. SMITH	Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT E. TAYLOR.

\* First peal of Grandsire Triples. The first peal of Triples on the bells.

HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

(THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.)

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

MRS. E. CHADDOCK	Treble	SHEILA M. SCHOFIELD	5
MRS. D. E. MATTLI	2	MRS. B. HOLMES	6
SUSAN CHADDOCK	3	ELIZABETH BATE	7
MRS. E. D. KELLY	4	ELIZABETH A. WARDILL	Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON.

First peal as conductor.

PORT SUNLIGHT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute.

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES**

Thurstans' Four-part.		Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb. in F.	
LESTER L. GRAY	.. Treble	FREDERICK S. ALMOND	5
GWENDOLYN I. HOWLETT..	2	EDWIN C. BIRKETT..	6
THOMAS R. BUTLER .. ..	3	*JOHN F. GROVE	7
NORMAN HEAPS .. ..	4	H. STEWART BAILEY..	Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS R. BUTLER.

\* First peal of Stedman Triples

A wedding compliment to Julia M. Preston and Ewart H. Edge, who were married at St. Mary's Parish Church, Prescot, on April 27th.

**ST. NEOTS, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.  
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 3 Hours and 39 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.*

**A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR**

Johnson's variation.		Tenor 29 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in D flat.	
CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON	Treble	GILES C. GALLEY	5
SUSAN JACKSON	2	HAROLD S. PEACOCK	6
J. DESMOND PAINTER	3	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE	7
T. REGINALD DENNIS	4	BRYAN S. COPE	Tenor

Conducted by CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON.

Rung in honour of the completion of 60 years' service as parish clerk of St. Neots by Samuel W. Hawksford.

**SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.  
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,*

**A PEAL OF 5184 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR**

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

*ROGER K. STRETTON	Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON	5
JOHN A. ACRES	2	JOHN M. JELLEY	6
BRIAN G. WARWICK	3	ERNEST J. JELLEY	7
G. RONALD EDWARDS	4	BRIAN S. CHAPMAN	Tenor

Composed by RICHARD F. B. SPEED. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.  
\* First peal in the method.

In memoriam Josiah Morris, who was the last surviving member of the band that rang the record peal of 17,104 Double Norwich on these bells on December 27th, 1904, who died on April 27th, 1957.

**SUNBURY-ON-THAMES, MIDDLESEX.**

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.*

**A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED MAJOR**

Being 3,600 Plain Bob and 1,440 Cambridge Surprise, with 90 changes of method. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb.

MARGARET LEWIS	Tenor	ALAN J. FROST	5
PETER A. LAWRENCE	2	SIDNEY J. WOODCOCK	6
DEREK W. SPITTLE	3	ROBIN G. LEALE	7
JOAN BERESFORD	4	MICHAEL P. MORETON	Tenor

Arranged by ROGER BALDWIN. Conducted by ROBIN G. LEALE.

The first peal of Spliced Plain and Surprise by all the band, in the county and for the Association.

**TWYFORD, BERKSHIRE.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**  
(Sonning Deanery Branch.)

*On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.*

**A PEAL OF 5088 BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 12 cwt., approx.

*SYLVIA CASTLE	Treble	BERNARD C. CASTLE	5
WILLIAM J. PAICE	2	MRS. B. C. CASTLE	6
MRS. H. SMITH	3	ROBERT H. BEGRIE	7
HAROLD SMITH	4	WALTER HUNT	Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN (C.C.C. No. 100).

Conducted by ROBERT H. BEGRIE.

\* First peal. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the third.

**WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.**

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**

*On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,  
AT CHRIST CHURCH.*

**A PEAL OF 5152 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR**

Being 1,472 Cambridge, 2,208 Yorkshire, 1,472 Superlative, with 115 changes of method. Tenor 22 cwt. 2 qr.

DEREK K. KNOWLES	Treble	J. DENNIS HOLDEN	5
P. GEORGE GOLDER	2	*HARRY GRIFFITHS	6
*DEREK J. TRANTER	3	FREDK. E. WILSHAW	7
ERIC E. SPEAKE	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	Tenor

Arranged by SHIRLEY BURTON. Conducted by ERIC E. SPEAKE.

\* First peal of three Spliced Surprise. First peal on the bells since their overhaul and reduction from 12 to eight in May, 1954.

Rung as a welcome to Kevin Joseph Shiels, born on April 17th, 1957, and grandson to Mr. D. C. Jinks, the local tower captain.

**BARROW-ON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.**

**THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Wed., May 8, 1957, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,*

*AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,*

**A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in F.

ARTHUR W. HOODLESS	Treble	STEPHEN BROMFIELD	5
MRS. F. G. BLOOMFIELD	2	FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD	6
MICHAEL W. CROWDER	3	W. ARTHUR CROWDER	7
SEPTIMUS NEAVE	4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

Rung to celebrate 50 years' membership of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild by Mr. Arthur W. Hoodless.

**PENN, STAFFORDSHIRE.**

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**

*On Wed., May 8, 1957, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,*

*AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,*

**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Parker's Twelve-part.		Tenor 10½ cwt.	
BRIAN FORD	Treble	GORDON SMALLWOOD	5
JOHN A. RODEN	2	ARTHUR WILLIAMS	6
CHARLES F. W. EYRE	3	EDWARD G. BOWYER	7
CYRIL GRIFFITHS	4	JEREMIAH BLOORE	Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD G. BOWYER.

Rung as a token of appreciation to Mrs. B. Twentyman, of Muchall Hall, for her kindness to the ringers of Penn.

**HAVANT, HAMPSHIRE.**

**THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Thurs., May 9, 1957, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,*

*AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FAITH.*

**A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 18 cwt.

*ALAN A. J. BUSWELL	Treble	E. WINIFRED KEYS	5
†E. KEITH JORDAN	2	ROGER BALDWIN	6
MARION J. PARKER	3	FREDERICK W. BURNETT	7
S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT	4	JOHN H. HUNT	Tenor

Composed by JOHN E. BURTON. Conducted by JOHN H. HUNT.

\* First peal on eight bells † First peal of Major.

**MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.**

**THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Fri., May 10, 1957, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,*

*AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.*

**A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR**

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

*MARY WORTH	Treble	†DENIS A. HENSHAW	5
SHIRLEY HARRIS	2	BASIL JONES	6
BRIAN HARRIS	3	JOHN WORTH	7
ROBERT SMITH	4	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by BASIL JONES.

\* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Major. First peal in the method as conductor.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. J. H. Hayes, hon. treasurer of the Bell Fund when these bells were installed.

**ALDENHAM, HERTFORDSHIRE.**

**THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

*On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,*

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

**A PEAL OF 5008 BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK W. ELLIS	Treble	STANLEY HUCKLE	5
PATRICIA DOORN	2	JOHN E. EWER	6
DUDLEY C. WELLINGTON	3	ERIC EDMONDSON	7
*LESLIE T. HANSELL	4	GERALD PENNEY	Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by GERALD PENNEY.

\* First peal of Bob Major. First tower bell peal as conductor.



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## ASHTEAD, SURREY.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.

## A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 8 lb. in F.

ALFRED H. WINCH .. .. Treble	†DEREK G. SPITTLE .. .. 5
EDWARD G. L. COWARD .. 2	A. PATRICK CANNON .. .. 6
GEORGE F. OAKSHOTT .. 3	ALBERT HARMAN .. .. 7
*ARNOLD S. HARRIS .. .. 4	JOHN HILL .. .. Tenor

Composed by H. EARLE BULWER. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.  
 \* First peal. † First peal of Treble Bob. Mr. A. P. Cannon's 300th peal as conductor, including compositions by 50 different composers, and his 50th peal of Kent Treble Bob in 49 different towers.

## BATH, SOMERSET.

## THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes.

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

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. in E flat.

*MARGARET E. GREEDY .. Treble	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT .. 5
†S. ARTHUR READ .. .. 2	†ROBIN S. M. STUBBS .. 6
MRS. DORA EVANS .. .. 3	TERRENCE T. JONES .. 7
ERIC NAYLOR .. .. 4	RAYMOND P. STUBBS .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. CORRIGAN (Three-part). Conducted by ERIC NAYLOR.  
 \* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Triples.

Rung by the Sunday service band as a welcome to Preb. John Du Boulay Lance, who was inducted as Rector of the parish following the peal.

## CURRY RIVEL, SOMERSET.

## THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

## A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's No. 2 variation.	Tenor 19½ cwt.
G. STEDMAN MORRIS .. Treble	HENRY G. KEELY .. .. 5
WALTER H. POOLE .. .. 2	*GEORGE H. E. G. JEANES 6
JAMES E. LOOKER .. .. 3	HARRY J. GAYLARD .. .. 7
GORDON GAYLARD .. .. 4	*FREDERICK J. WHITE .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY J. GAYLARD.

\* First peal of Stedman Triples.

Rung to celebrate the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Morris.

## FROME, SOMERSET.

## THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes.

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

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 30 cwt.

ERNEST E. BRAY .. .. Treble	†GEORGE W. MASSEY .. 5
*PETER J. WYCHERLEY .. 2	DAVID T. ROBERTSON .. 6
W. JOHN PHIPPEN .. .. 3	DONALD H. FLOWER .. 7
EUNICE D. OVEREND .. 4	HUGH VENNELL .. .. Tenor

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by GEO. W. MASSEY.  
 \* First peal of Triples. † 100th peal.

Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Mr. W. Flower, bellringer for 68 years, 53 years at St. John's, Frome, where he was vice-captain for many years.

## HARMSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

## THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

## A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

J. W. Washbrook's variation.	Tenor 10 cwt. in G sharp.
FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD .. Treble	*HAROLD STEVENSON .. 5
WALTER TOMLINSON .. 2	MRS. F. G. BLOOMFIELD 6
JAMES W. RAITHEY .. 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 7
FRANK W. VERNON .. .. 4	†DAVID N. SELLARS .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal and first attempt.

## KNEBWORTH, HERTFORDSHIRE.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY-THE-VIRGIN AND THOMAS-A-BECKET.

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 12½ cwt.
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. Treble	DAVID SUTCLIFFE .. .. 5
THOMAS J. LOCK .. .. 2	JACK S. DEAR .. .. 6
RICHARD J. CASTLEDINE .. 3	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 7
*BERNARD L. MARKS .. .. 4	†PETER WELLS .. .. Tenor

Conducted by G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY.

\* First peal 'inside.' † First peal.

Rung to welcome the Rev D. L. Howells as Rector of the parish.

## MEASHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

## A PEAL OF 5184 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lb. in F sharp.

WILLIAM F. WOODWARD .. Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON .. .. 5
FREDK. E. WILSHAW .. 2	ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 6
MURIEL REAY .. .. 3	JOHN PINFOLD .. .. 7
BRIAN G. WARWICK .. .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. .. Tenor

Composed by RICHARD F. B. SPEED. Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.

## PAKEFIELD, SUFFOLK.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS AND ST. MARGARET.

## A PEAL OF 5008 BOB MAJOR

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

HORACE W. EASEY .. .. Treble	EDWIN T. CHAPMAN .. 5
JOHN W. G. KINDRED .. 2	SYDNEY J. MERRY .. 6
JOSEPH SAUNDERS .. .. 3	RICHARD W. R. COATES .. 7
MICHAEL SOLLEY .. .. 4	PETER KINDRED .. .. Tenor

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by PETER KINDRED.

## RAINHAM, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

## A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MAJOR

Shipway's Five-part.	Tenor 18½ cwt.
EMILY B. P. WALKER .. Treble	HARRY SPRINGATE .. 5
THOMAS BEAUMONT .. 2	CHARLES E. J. NORRIS .. 6
JOHN W. MEADE .. .. 3	WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT .. 7
FRANCIS J. CHEAL .. .. 4	BENJAMIN F. BAKER .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer, also the grandson of the sixth ringer.

## RUDDINGTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

## THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 15 cwt.
DAVID R. BODEN .. .. Treble	ALLAN SIMPSON .. .. 5
MRS. A. SIMPSON .. .. 2	F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. 6
CHARLES W. TOWERS .. 3	WILLIAM L. EXTON .. 7
MARGARET E. HILL .. .. 4	SYDNEY ADAMS .. .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM L. EXTON.

Rung as a small token of gratitude to Mr. Albert E. Whitworth, who completes this year 21 years as verger at St. Peter's Church.

## SAWSTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

## THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

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

## A PEAL OF 5152 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Being 2,944 Yorkshire and 2,208 Cambridge, with 92 changes of method.  
 Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

W. J. RIDGMAN (Queens') Treble	H. NEILL (St. Cath.'s) .. 5
SUSAN JACKSON (Girton) .. 2	J. D. PAINTER (Caius) .. 6
P. F. WINDLEY (Jesus) .. 3	A. R. HEPPENSTALL (Sel.) .. 7
A. J. HOWARD (Trinity) .. 4	C. M. P. JOHNSON (Sel.) Tenor

Composed by SHIRLEY BURTON. Conducted by W. J. RIDGMAN.

## THAME, OXFORDSHIRE.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes.

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

## A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt.

ROBERT B. BLOND .. .. Treble	JAMES P. BLOND .. .. 5
HENRY L. BISHOP .. .. 2	ALFRED R. T. GREENOUGH 6
HENRY BADGER .. .. 3	ERNEST G. GARRARD .. 7
*FRANK GODDEN .. .. 4	JACK O. BERRY .. .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT B. BLOND.

\* First peal in the method.



**FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS**

SHAFTESBURY, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., April 20, 1957, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being three extents of Single Oxford and four extents of Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt. 4 lb. in G.

VERNON GREEN .. .. Treble	FRANK HILLIAR .. .. 4
*ALBERT E. WOODS .. .. 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE .. .. 5
BEN RIDOUT .. .. 3	MICHAEL J. HALLETT .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. SHUTE.

\* First peal.

ASHBRITTLE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 24, 1957, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes.

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

**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES**

Being 42 six-scores.

Tenor 9 cwt.

GORDON WALFORD .. .. Treble	*PATRICK J. BIRD .. .. 4
*MARGARET S. N. ALDERMAN .. 2	†WILLIAM G. GIGG .. .. 5
†DAVID T. NORTH .. .. 3	STANLEY N. BRISTOW .. Tenor

Conducted by GORDON WALFORD.

\* First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman Doubles. ‡ 175th peal. First of Stedman as conductor. G. N. Bristow has now 'circled the tower.'

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss P. Norman, a local ringer.

BROOMFIELD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS .. Treble	DERYCK A. H. TALBOT .. 4
BERTRAM G. BRINKLEY .. 2	JOHN P. CRAWLEY .. .. 5
RICHARD J. HARRISON .. 3	MICHAEL J. EDWARDS .. Tenor

Conducted by IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS.

\* 50th peal for the Association. First peal since 1938.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. D. A. H. Talbot and Mr. G. T. Saunders.

ST. NICHOLAS-AT-WADE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 27, 1957, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

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

Tenor 20 cwt.

CRAWFORD T. HILLIS .. Treble	JOHN R. COOPER .. .. 4
*GEORGE FRY .. .. 2	RALPH BIRD .. .. 5
GEOFFREY PEARSON .. .. 3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

\* First peal in seven methods 'inside.' First peal in seven methods on the bells.

HUNTINGDON.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., May 2, 1957, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

**A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

*BERNARD S. R. ALLEN .. Treble	JOHN R. G. SPICER .. .. 4
BARBARA E. SPICER .. .. 2	†PETER J. COLES .. .. 5
DOROTHY A. M. ROBINSON .. 3	HAROLD S. PEACOCK .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD S. PEACOCK.

\* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

Rung with clappers half-muffled to the memory of H. B. Bull, a ringer at this tower.

PACKWOOD, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Fri., May 3, 1957, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.

**A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents, each called differently.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

J. THOMAS GWILT .. .. Treble	RICHARD D. MORRIS .. .. 4
GEORGE E. FEARN .. .. 2	VINCENT A. HEMMING .. 5
A. CHARLES MORRIS .. .. 3	ROBERT E. TALLIS .. .. Tenor

Conducted by VINCENT A. HEMMING.

Mr. Tallis has now 'circled the tower.'

The last peal rung on the bells before restoration.

ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

**A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR**

Being seven different extents.

*IRENE CUNLIFFE .. .. Treble	J. B. PICKUP .. .. 4
ROGER MAHER .. .. 2	ALFRED V. WILLIAMS .. 5
GEOFFREY S. MILLS .. .. 3	ROGER LEIGH .. .. Tenor

Conducted by ROGER LEIGH.

\* First peal.

Rung in honour of the 80th birthday of Mr. J. H. Rishton, a former ringer at Haslingden Parish Church.

BEARSTED, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

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

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

TERENCE BARTON .. .. Treble	GEORGE F. CANTRILL .. 4
A. PATRICK CANNON .. .. 2	CYRIL S. JARRETT .. .. 5
BRIAN BLADON .. .. 3	RALPH BIRD .. .. Tenor

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

The fastest peal on the bells.

Rung as a 70th birthday compliment to Dr. G. F. Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, whose niece is the wife of the Vicar of Bearsted.

CUDDINGTON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

**A PEAL OF 5040 EDINBURGH DELIGHT MINOR**

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

Tenor 9 cwt. in G sharp.

PHYLLIS M. MAYNE .. Treble	H. GEORGE HART .. .. 4
ELSIE K. HART .. .. 2	RICHARD G. OUSTON .. 5
WILLIAM WENBAN .. .. 3	JOHN R. MAYNE .. .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

The first peal in the method.

EWHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. JAMES AND MARK,

**A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES**

Being 30 extents of Grandsire (ten callings) and 12 extents of Bob Doubles (four callings).

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

STANLEY G. PONTING .. Treble	WILLIAM BUTTON .. .. 3
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE .. 2	ERIC A. FELLOWS .. .. 4
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. Tenor	

Conducting shared by ringers of treble and second.

HOLLINGBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being seven 720's in nine methods: (1) Double Bob and Oxford Bob, (2) Double Court, (3) Double Oxford and St. Clement's, (4) Cambridge, (5) Oxford Treble Bob, (6) Kent Treble Bob, (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

RALPH BIRD .. .. Treble	BRIAN BLADON .. .. 4
*TERENCE BARTON .. .. 2	TOM CULLINGWORTH .. 5
CYRIL S. JARRETT .. .. 3	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

\* First peal in nine methods and on the bells. The fastest peal on the bells.

KNUTSFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

**A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR**

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*CHRISTOPHER JONES .. Treble	HARRY W. HOWARD .. .. 4
*MARY SHAW .. .. 2	HENRY PARKER .. .. 5
ERIC HORNBY .. .. 3	CECIL RADDON .. .. Tenor

Conducted by HENRY PARKER.

\* First peal.

Rung in honour of the Royal May Queen of the town.



## LEATON, SHROPSHIRE.

## THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 14½ cwt.  
DEREK BRISCALL .. .. Treble | GEORGE FORRESTER .. .. 3  
ROBERT BARRATT .. .. 2 | LEONARD COPNALL .. .. 4

ERNEST PIMLOTT .. .. Tenor  
Conducted by ERNEST PIMLOTT.

First peal on the bells for 50 years.

## POLSTEAD, SUFFOLK.

## THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Kent Treble Bob and two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

MRS. R. E. LESTER .. .. Treble | ROSEMARY J. SEABROOK .. .. 4  
MARIAN H. MILLS .. .. 2 | EVELYN R. M. CANSDALE .. .. 5  
ALICE E. J. LESTER .. .. 3 | MRS. L. D. MILLS .. .. Tenor

Conducted by ROSEMARY J. SEABROOK.

## REDBOURN, HERTFORDSHIRE.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being one extent each of Double Bob, Double Oxford, Kent T.B., Oxford T.B., St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.

REGINALD E. J. SHEPPARD .. Treble | AUGUSTIN V. GOOD .. .. 4  
WALTER AYRE .. .. 2 | GEOFFREY S. DUNCAN .. .. 5  
JOE HOBBS .. .. 3 | EDWIN J. UPTON .. .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

## SOUTH CERNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

## THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS.

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (ten callings). Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

\*MICHAEL TUCKWELL .. Treble | \*BRUCE WAKEFIELD .. .. 4  
\*PETER T. LEWIS .. .. 2 | \*PETER WAKEFIELD .. .. 5  
WILLIAM A. GODWIN .. .. 3 | ERNEST H. JEFFERIES .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. GODWIN.

\* First peal.

## SPRINGFIELD, ESSEX.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

## A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 10 cwt. 15 lb. in G.

\*MALCOLM GOLDING .. Treble | \*BERTRAM G. BRINKLEY .. .. 4  
†ROBERT KEMP .. .. 2 | MICHAEL J. EDWARDS .. .. 5  
\*RICHARD J. HARRISON .. 3 | IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS .. Tenor

Conducted by IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS.

\* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

## SWEPTSTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., May 4, 1957, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of Childwall, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.

PAMELA J. PEARSON .. Treble | FRANCIS R. LOWE .. .. 4  
JOSEPH W. COTTON .. .. 2 | ERNEST J. JELLEY .. .. 5  
DEREK P. JONES .. .. 3 | JOHN M. JELLEY .. .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY.

200th peal for the conductor. Rung for the engagement of Mr. Robert Hillston and Miss Elsie Slater, of Burton-on-Trent.

## CHILCOMPTON, SOMERSET.

## THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., May 6, 1957, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

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

## A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of Norfolk and Primrose, two of Ipswich and three of Cambridge. Tenor 20 cwt.

\*ROBERT E. BECK .. Treble | †DAVID TARGETT .. .. 4  
\*ADRIAN P. BECK .. .. 2 | †EDWARD J. CHIVERS .. .. 5  
†RONALD G. BECK .. .. 3 | †DAVID HOARE .. .. Tenor

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

\* First peal of Surprise Minor. † 100th peal as conductor. ‡ First peal in four Surprise methods of Minor.

## LANGLEYBURY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., May 8, 1957, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

## A PEAL OF 5040 BACUP SURPRISE MINOR

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

Tenor 8 cwt. 13 lb. in A.

DENNIS LAUD .. .. Treble | WILLIAM WENBAN .. .. 4  
KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. .. 2 | JOHN R. MAYNE .. .. 5  
JOAN M. WILCOCKSON .. .. 3 | BRIAN BLADON .. .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

The first peal in the method.

## CHALFONT ST. PETER, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being ten different callings and one 240. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 lb.

\*MRS. E. G. SWIFT .. Treble | \*PETER G. BADCOCK .. .. 4  
\*LUCY BADCOCK .. .. 2 | EDGAR G. SWIFT .. .. 5  
†MICHAEL G. SWIFT .. .. 3 | \*SIDNEY BLACKMORE .. .. Tenor

Conducted by EDGAR G. SWIFT.

\* First peal. † First in method. First as conductor.

Celebrating the birth of a son to K. C. Vickers and a daughter to T. W. S. Taylor, both members of this tower; also the 57th birthday of W. A. Swift, brother of the conductor.

## WANLIP, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Syston District.)

On Sat., May 11, 1957, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. NICHOLAS.

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 extents each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob and 18 extents of Grandsire. Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb. in B flat.

\*D. ROGER LEWIN (12) .. Treble | B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. .. 4  
†DEREK M. SAWYER .. .. 2 | §PETER A. JOHNSON .. .. 5  
‡J. C. SHIRLEY SCOTT .. .. 3 | §STUART M. STONE .. .. Tenor

Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.

\* First peal. † First of Doubles on tower bells. ‡ First peal in three methods. § First peal of Doubles. First peal of Doubles on the bells. A welcome home from Cyprus of the fifth ringer and a farewell to Miss Peggy Wood, a chorister, who has since left for Canada.

## HANDBELL PEALS

## SILEBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(The Humphrey Perkins School Campanological Society.)

On Tues., April 30, 1957, in 1 Hour and 44 Minutes,

AT 153, RATCLIFFE ROAD.

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 14 extents each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor size 10 in A.

DEREK M. SAWYER .. .. 1-2 | B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. .. 3-4

MICHAEL WHITE .. .. 5-6

Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.

## LONDON, S.E.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., May 3, 1957, in 2 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE COUNTY HALL.

## A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

\*JOHN L. MORRIS .. .. 1-2 | WILFRID G. WILSON .. .. 5-6  
JAMES WALLMAN .. .. 3-4 | THOMAS J. LOCK .. .. 7-8  
Composed by G. H. Cross. Conducted by THOMAS J. LOCK.

\* First peal of Major on handbells. First peal as conductor on handbells.

## HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

## THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., May 8, 1957, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

AT No. 29,

## A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. J. THOMAS .. .. 1-2 | JOSEPH D. JOHNSON .. .. 5-6  
JOHN THOMAS .. .. 3-4 | \*VIVIEN BARNES .. .. 7-8  
Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

\* First peal of Treble Bob.



# QUARTER PEALS

**ALLESLEY, WARWICKS.**—On May 5th, 1,280 Bristol Surprise Major: C. S. Aylett 1, P. K. Williams 2, J. W. T. Taylor (cond.) 3, P. Stone 4, H. G. Summers 5, D. A. Carpenter 6, J. L. Garner-Hayward 7, W. A. Stone 8. First in the method for 3, 4 and 7. Rung by the Sunday service band.

**ASHWICK, SOMERSET.**—On May 7th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Miss A. Lewis 1, Miss E. D. Overend 2, W. J. Phippen 3, P. J. Wycherley (first of Surprise) 4, D. Hoare 5, R. H. Abbott (cond.) 6, First of Surprise and of Minor 1 and 6. Rung after losing a peal of the same method.

**BATH, SOMERSET.**—On May 5th, at the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Greedy (first quarter) 1, S. A. Read 2, Mrs. D. Evans 3, W. J. Prescott 4, E. Naylor 5, R. S. M. Stubbs 6, T. T. Jones (first as cond.) 7, P. R. Stubbs 8. For evening service.

**BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.**—On April 7th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: H. Wingrove (cond.) 1, Dorothy Fletcher 2, Kathleen Fletcher 3, J. Harrison 4, W. Edwards 5, J. Meads (first in method) 6, D. Lamb 7, A. Bridges 8.

**BEXHILL-ON-SEA, SUSSEX.**—On May 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Rogers (cond.) 1, Audrey Eldridge 2, Joan M. Downing 3, Daphne Pankhurst 4, C. Verdon 5, J. Downing 6, L. Giles 7, C. Grisbrook 8.

**BEXLEY, KENT.**—On May 5th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Mary Andrews 1, Jean Jones 2, Brenda Foster 3, Susan Nicholson 4, Judith Cox 5, J. L. Morris (cond.) 6. First of Minor 'inside' for 2 and 3.

**BRENCHLEY, KENT.**—On April 28th, 1,264 Bob Major: Miss O. Couchman 1, Miss M. A. Ladd (first in the method) 2, R. E. Lambert 3, T. E. Sone (cond.) 4, C. A. Tester 5, B. V. Collision 6, E. J. Ladd 7, R. T. Lambert 8.

**BROOMFIELD, ESSEX.**—On Mar. 30th, 1,260 Bob Minor: I. J. M. Saunders (cond.) 1, B. G. Brinkley 2, R. J. Harrison 3, D. A. H. Talbot 4, G. Nicholls 5, M. J. Edwards 6. A welcome to the Rev. A. Caton, who was inducted this day.

**BUSHEY, HERTS.**—On May 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: I. Norris 1, Mrs. T. Norris 2, J. Pares 3, H. Hodgetts 4, E. Ashby 5, C. C. Cook 6, T. Norris (cond.) 7, F. Morris 8.

**FENNY STRATFORD, BUCKS.**—On May 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. J. Howson 1, G. Guest 2, D. Hurst 3, R. Underwood 4, J. Brooks (cond.) 5, F. Rowe 6. A farewell tribute to Canon C. A. Wheeler.

**CAMBRIDGE.**—On May 8th, at the Church of St. Mary-the-Great, 1,232 Grandsire Triples: Dr. J. Boissart 1, E. G. Hibbins (cond.) 2, C. W. Cook 3, Miss F. Howson 4, P. H. Pigg 5, T. R. Dennis 6, J. W. R. Quinney 7, A. Rayner 8. Also at the Church of Our Lady, 1,260 Stedman Triples: C. M. P. Johnson 1, A. R. Heppenstall 2, Miss S. Jackson 3, D. Latchford 4, J. G. Gipson 5, J. D. Painter 6, W. J. Ridgman (cond.) 7, H. F. Brown 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam H. L. Martin, district secretary, E.D.A.R. Also on May 9th, at Great St. Andrew's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. M. P. Johnson 1, Susan Jackson 2, A. L. M. Shepherd 3, A. J. Howard 4, H. Neill 5, A. R. Heppenstall 6, J. D. Painter (cond.) 7, P. F. Windley 8. Rung half-muffled by members of the Cambridge University Guild in memory of Harry L. Martin, of the Society of Cambridge Youths, whose funeral took place the previous day.

**DAGENHAM, ESSEX.**—On May 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Turner 1, L. S. Woods (cond.) 2, Miss J. Peacock 3, A. W. Beard 4, N. J. Fleetwood 5, L. Bailey 6, E. D. Smith 7, B. Martin 8. Rung prior to the service of the dedication of the new standard of the local branch of the Royal Naval Association.

**DARTMOUTH, DEVON.**—At St. Clement's Church, Townstal, on May 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. E. Burton 1, J. R. L. Ingham 2, A. Newman (first of Doubles) 3, Rev. N. F. D. Coleridge 4, A. S. Watt (cond.) 5, R. F. Sanders 6. First quarter 1, 2 and 6. For evening service and as a farewell to the Vicar (the Rev. T. G. D. Watkins), who is leaving the parish. Believed to be the first quarter on the bells by a resident band.

**HASTINGS, SUSSEX.**—On May 7th, at All Saints' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Levett 1, P. H. Avey 2, Mrs. I. Roberts 3, E. F. P. Bryant 4, K. E. Hirst 5, R. G. Roberts 6, C. A. Levett (cond.) 7, E. D. Harrison 8. First of Triples for 4, 5 and 8.

**HUISH EPISCOPI, SOMERSET.**—On April 27th, 1,334 Bob Major: F. J. White 1, H. Gaylard 4, J. Looker 3, G. Gaylard 4, A. H. Reed 5, H. G. Jeanes 6, G. Prescott 7, W. G. Gigg (cond.) 8. First quarter on the octave, which has just recently been augmented from 6 to 8.

**IVINGHOE, BUCKS.**—On May 10th, 1,260 Bob Minor: W. Scar 1, June Gladman 2, J. R. Jordan 3, A. Mathews 4, R. Kendall 5, J. W. Sinfield (cond.) 6.

**IXWORTH, SUFFOLK.**—On April 21st, 1,320 Bob Minor: H. Ivings 1, H. King 2, L. S. Sharpe 3, E. Bishop 4, K. G. Brown 5, L. N. Melton (cond.) 6. For Matins.

**KENDAL, WESTMORLAND.**—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. J. Clement 1, G. H. Thwaites (first 'inside') 2, K. Clement 3, G. Savage (first quarter) 4, L. D. Clement 5, B. Gass 6, N. T. Nightingale 7, S. Edmondson 8.

**KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.**—At St. Margaret's Parish Church, on Mar. 5th, 1,440 Bob Minor: Mrs. A. Little (first quarter) 1, N. V. Harding (cond.) 2, D. Little (first quarter) 3, L. Houghton 4, M. Gathercole 5, W. Rose 6. Also on May 12th, 1,264 Bob Major: Miss F. Greaves (first quarter) 1, L. Houghton 2, N. V. Harding 3, V. Bowen 4, M. Gathercole (first 'inside') 5, R. Newson 6, D. Price 7, W. Rose (cond.) 8.

**LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.**—On May 12th, 1,299 Stedman Caters: A. H. Smith 1, A. H. Winch 2, G. Marriner 3, Patricia Smee (first of Stedman Caters) 4, A. P. Cannon (first of Stedman Caters as cond.) 5, A. S. Harris (first of Stedman Caters) 6, B. H. Hawkins (first of Stedman Caters) 7, A. Harman 8, E. G. L. Coward 9, H. V. Young 10.

**MANGOTSFIELD, BRISTOL.**—On May 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. T. Jefferies (first quarter) 1, E. Cooksley (first 'inside') 2, C. E. Jefferies 3, N. J. Jefferies (first as cond.) 4, W. Richings 5, J. W. Jefferies 6, J. G. Jefferies 7, C. Beakes 8. A farewell to the ringer of the 4th, serving in R.A.F. in the Far East.

**NAILSEA, SOMERSET.**—On May 7th, 1,260 Doubles (three six-scores each of April Day and Bob and 41 of Grandsire): Mary Powell 1, Mrs. R. Quint 2, C. Kortright 3, L. Derrick (cond.) 4, M. Horsemans 5, H. Hardwidge 6. Rung half-muffled on the day of the funeral of the Rev. D. H. C. Bartlett, Rector of Nailsea, 1923-1926. In the second year of his incumbency the bells were restored.

**NEATH, GLAM.**—On April 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. A. Hoare 1, Miss J. Howell 2, E. Latty 3, C. Latty 4, G. I. Lewis (cond.) 5, F. Gordon 6. Also on Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. Oliver 1, C. Latty 2, H. Boyce (cond.) 3, E. Latty 4, J. Galvin 5, D. Steer (first quarter) 6.

**NORTON, HERTS.**—On April 28th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Miss J. Moss 1, R. Day 2, I. Werrett 3, A. Pound 4, W. Hitch 5, H. Werrett (cond.) 6, Miss J. Sanderson 7. For Holy Communion.

**PORTHKERRY, GLAM.**—On May 13th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Bob, 780 Grandsire): Miss C. M. Malings 1, H. Green 2, D. Llewellyn 3, L. J. Malings 4, M. Williams (cond.) 5, H. Smart 6. First quarter 1 and 3. Rung on the seventh anniversary of the dedication of the two trebles.

**RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.**—On May 12th, 1,280 Little Bob Major: Miss B. Crossman 1, W. Ward 2, A. Reeve 3, H. Warboys 4, E. Blower 5, R. Tomlin 6, B. Howard 7, A. House (cond.) 8. First in the method by 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6. A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. G. Blower on the birth of a son; also to the 83-year-old ringer of the 3rd on his return to the tower after an enforced absence for nine months with a broken leg.

**REIGATE, SURREY.**—On May 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Hanning 1, F. B. Jeal 2, C. S. Hoad 3, G. F. Hoad (cond.) 4, F. T. Hoad 5, W. H. Inwood 6, A. T. Shelton 7, M. Holmes 8. For Evensong.

**RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS.**—On May 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. P. Hart 1, Mary G. Carnochan 2, F. W. Elliott 3, H. A. Bradbury 4, D. R. Bartholomew 5, D. C. Bartholomew 6, R. G. Bell (cond.) 7, J. R. Lloyd 8. Rung to celebrate the birth of a son (Andrew) to the wife of the ringer of 4, and also to celebrate the completion of 25 years' service as churchwarden by his father, Mr. F. C. Bradbury.

**RUSHDEN, NORTHANTS.**—On May 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (with 4, 6, 8 covering): Miss C. Wood (first quarter) 1, T. G. Cox 2, A. L. Priestley (first away from tenor) 3, S. Hodgkins 4, Q. Payne 5, C. Whitworth 6, J. M. Clarke (first as cond.) 7, J. Clifton 8. For morning service.

**ST. ALBANS, HERTS.**—At the Church of St. Peter, on May 5th, 1,360 Kent Treble Bob Royal: B. C. Johnson 1, Mrs. J. Dodds 2, Miss E. Oakeshott (first in the method and first of Royal) 3, R. W. Darvill 4, C. F. Sayer 5, H. G. Mason 6, F. J. Spicer 7, H. V. Frost 8, T. J. Southam (cond.) 9, G. W. Debenham 10.

**ST. BUDOCK, CORNWALL.**—On May 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. A. Southwood (cond.) 1, A. Carveth 2, Miss V. M. Matthews 3, A. F. Burley 4, G. W. Taysom 5, Rev. A. S. Roberts 6, D. N. Penrose 7, Miss P. R. Hosken 8.

**ST. GLUVIAS, CORNWALL.**—On May 11th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: Miss P. R. Hosken 1, A. Carveth (cond.) 2, Rev. A. S. Roberts 3, Miss V. M. Matthews 4, G. W. Taysom 5, A. F. Burley 6, D. N. Penrose 7, R. A. Southwood 8.

**SHIPLAKE-ON-THAMES, OXON.**—On May 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. H. Smith 1, Miss L. Roberts 2, E. Baughan 3, M. L. Baughan 4, C. Tigwell 5, F. G. Henbest 6, A. K. Street (cond.) 7, F. Bonsey 8. Rung to welcome the Bishop of Reading on the occasion of the annual service of the South Chiltern District Boy Scouts' Association.

**SHOREDITCH, E.**—On May 12th, 1,283 Stedman Caters: Mrs. R. F. Deal 1, Miss B. Thompson 2, T. H. Francis 3, A. R. Ling (cond.) 4, F. Hawthorne 5, R. F. Deal 6, P. Brown 7, R. Kceley 8, E. V. Williams 9, B. Baker 10.

**STEEPLE CLAYDON, BUCKS.**—On May 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Margaret Rand 1, A. Hodges 2, Pamela Barratt 3, J. Hodges 4, T. W. Thorpe 5, G. Rand 6. Non-ringing conductor V. G. Phillips. First quarter 1 and 6 (father and daughter). First 'inside' 3 and 4.

**STRATTON, CORNWALL.**—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (1 and 2 leading): T. Finemore 1, J. Hockridge 2, D. Garvie 3, Ann Clifton 4, C. Sangwin (cond.) 5, H. Heard 6, H. Stacey 7, S. Stacey 8. Rung for the visit of Ann Clifton, and also for the birth of a daughter to Mrs. E. Worth and Mr. E. Worth, a member of this tower.

**WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.**—On May 12th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Rumens 1, F. C. Maynard 2, B. Downes (first in method) 3, C. T. W. Coles 4, D. Hewitt 5, E. E. Holman 6, A. J. N. Boyack (cond.) 7, F. C. Taylor 8. For Evensong.

**WANDSWORTH, SURREY.**—At Holy Trinity Church, on May 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Euston (cond.) 1, M. Williamson 2, J. Tomsett 3, J. Rea 4, C. Nichols 5, J. Cook 6, E. Talbot 7, G. Miles 8. For Evensong.

**WARFIELD, BERKS.**—On May 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. H. Begrie (cond.) 1, H. Smith 2, Mrs. A. J. N. Rance 3, L. W. Paice (first 'inside') 4, W. J. Paice 5, B. C. Castle 6, W. J. Parker 7, A. J. N. Rance 8.

**WESTMINSTER, S.W.**—At St. Gabriel's Church, Warwick Square, on May 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss D. A. Deverell 1, T. H. Taffender 2, J. A. Hales 3, N. G. Hollingsworth (cond.) 4, F. Ranson 5, L. J. Batley 6, C. W. Otley 7, D. Randall 8. For Evensong.

**WIMBLEDON, SURREY.**—On May 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Jacobs 1, M. P. Moreton 2, Mrs. Bagworth 3, M. Sinden 4, A. Bishop 5, Susan Jacobs 6, F. Corfield (cond.) 7, A. Bagworth 8.

**WORPLESDON, SURREY.**—On April 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. B. Short 1, Miss B. Monk 2, S. Petter 3, F. Cherryman 4, K. Newman 5, Miss E. M. Turner (cond.) 6, C. Slyfield 7, R. Jordan 8. A compliment to Mr. S. Petter on his 80th birthday on Good Friday.



# INCREASED SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

THE annual meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Huddersfield on Saturday, May 11th, being well attended by members and friends representing each of the four Districts. Ringing took place on the Parish Church bells during the afternoon and evening, and also on the musical ring of eight at Almondbury during the afternoon. The service was held in the Parish Church at 4.30 p.m., followed by a really first-class high tea in the Parochial Hall.

Unanticipated incidents unfortunately intervened almost at once, it being found that by some oversight the printers had failed to deliver the usual quota of copies of the annual report to this meeting, which meant, of course that many members must now obtain them from their respective District secretaries. It was also found that the room was booked for another function at 7 p.m., but fortunately this was overcome by the discovery of another vacant room on the premises later on.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by Archdeacon C. O. Ellison, president of the Association, supported by the general secretary (Mr. L. W. G. Morris) and the hon. treasurer (Mr. G. Benfield). In his opening remarks, the president said he proposed to vary slightly the order of the agenda, as Canon Horan, the Vicar of Huddersfield, had a further appointment, and he would therefore ask someone to move a vote of thanks to Canon Horan and the churchwardens of Huddersfield, also the Vicar and churchwardens of Almondbury, for so kindly placing their bells at the disposal of the Association. This was ably moved by Mr. I. Slack, seconded by Mr. H. Lofthouse and carried with applause.

Replying, Canon Horan expressed his thanks, adding that he understood it was 30 years since the Association last visited Huddersfield, and hoped their next visit would not be so long delayed.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. S. F. Palmer, B. Sutton, J. B. Hutchinson, H. S. Morley, F. A. Staveley, L. M. Woodhead, W. E. Critchley and T. W. Strangeway. A vote of thanks to the local companies of Huddersfield and Almondbury was warmly accorded on the motion of Mr. N. F. Moxon, seconded by Mr. W. Barton. Mr. H. S. Armitage responded.

## LAPSED MEMBERS

Presenting the report of the committee, the president drew attention to the fact that there had been a further decline in resident membership due largely to the lapsing of no fewer than 82 members for failure to pay their dues for the previous two years. Some of the lapses may be deliberate, but many are also due to inadvertence or forgetfulness. After deducting the lapsed members, and those who had died during the year, the total resident membership now stood at 615 members.

Altogether, and including out-county members, the Association has lost 16 members through death during 1956 and the early part of 1957, amongst them being Mr. George Hawksworth, of Scarborough, who joined in 1902, and had served on the general committee; Mr. G. F. Williams, of Hull, who joined in 1907, and was one of the leading conductors in the East Riding; Mr. W. Bailey, of Skipton, a member since 1894; and finally Mr. Geo. F. Woodhouse, of Sedburgh (1897), who was a notable ringer and trainer of ringers, and constructed a machine which was capable of ringing any method, and at the same time producing a diagram of the method being rung.

Reports from the Districts indicate that successful meetings have been held, and a steady membership maintained, with the exception of the Northern District, where conditions give

rise to some anxiety. Over half the members who were lapsed for non-payment of subscriptions for two years come from this area.

The balance sheet showed a loss of £4 19s. 3d. on the year's working, less than the amount anticipated due to the fact that the actual cost of the reports had fallen short of the estimated cost by some £5, and in addition the sale of badges had yielded a better return than anticipated. Taking these factors into account, plus the amount saved by two Central Council delegates waiving their allowances, now had the effect of cancelling out the loss for the year.

## 102 PEALS

In the absence of the peal secretary (Mr. W. E. Critchley), who was indisposed with tonsillitis, Mr. W. Barton presented the peal secretary's report, and earned the applause of the meeting for the very able manner in which he did this at a minute's notice. The report showed that 102 tower-bell peals and 11 handbell peals had been rung during the year, a total of 113 peals, and the conducting had been shared by 33 conductors. Methods rung had shown a commendable variety, being on all numbers from Doubles to Maximus, with the exception of Cinques, and the list included the first peal of Spliced Surprise Royal by the Association, and a peal in 64 Minor methods at Adwick-le-Street was the greatest number of methods rung to a peal on tower-bells by the Association. Mr. N. Chaddock formally moved the adoption of the report. This was seconded by Mr. H. Armitage and carried.

The next business was the re-election to office as president for the next three years of Archdeacon C. O. Ellison, who was due to retire this year by rota. The general secretary said that Archdeacon Ellison had rendered invaluable service in the past, sparing nothing in time or effort on their behalf and in their interests, and he had once again very kindly accepted the unanimous invitation of the committee to be their nominee. He therefore had the greatest possible pleasure in moving his re-election to office. Mr. P. J. Johnson seconded, and Archdeacon Ellison was unanimously re-elected.

Thanking the members for their support, Archdeacon Ellison said he valued most highly their renewed expression of confidence in him, and he would always endeavour to serve the Association to the best of his ability as long as it was his privilege to do so. He sometimes felt that they would be better served by a practical ringer able to devote more time to attend District meetings, and would leave this as a thought for consideration.

The general secretary then moved the re-election of Mr. W. E. Critchley as hon. peal secretary. This was seconded by Mr. S. H. Steel and again carried unanimously, coupled with thanks for his work during the past year.

## 5s. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

The general secretary next reported that the committee had, at its last meeting, given most earnest consideration to a report submitted by a specially appointed sub-committee, dealing with the Association's finances. The report revealed that the upward trend in the cost of printing the annual report had risen by no less than £14 in the last two years, and a further increase was anticipated this year. The cost was now more than double the pre-war figure, and all that had so far been done to offset it was a 50 per cent. increase in the annual subscription rate. When borne in mind that administration costs under other headings, such as postages, fares and notice charges, also continued to rise, the inescapable result was a position far removed from sound economics. A pointed illustration was the fact that the accu-

mulated funds amounted to £324 19s. 3d. in 1939, and had fallen to £249 7s. 2d. in 1955—a net decrease of some £75. Furthermore, remaining assets are still in danger of being further diminished in value by the steady pressure of inflation, even when invested on the most favourable terms, and it may not be inappropriate to comment that today, accumulated reserves would need to be in the region of some £850-£900 at least, to compare in value with their worth in 1939.

Faced with these stark and unpalatable facts, the committee was at once agreed that the situation was not only an alarming one now, but was bound to deteriorate rapidly unless immediate counter-measures were taken, and came to the conclusion that if the Association was indeed to survive, let alone return to a state of financial stability, a drastic revision of the annual subscription rate was inevitable. Accordingly, the general committee recommended for approval by the annual meeting the following proposals with effect from January 1st, 1958:—

- (a) That the annual subscription rate be increased to five shillings, with consequent amendment to Rule 2.
- (b) That the entrance fee be abolished, thereby making a uniform annual payment of five shillings.
- (c) That the cost of the annual report to out-county members be increased to 2s. 6d.
- (d) That the qualifying year for life membership of the Association be raised from 1905 to 1910.

The committee appreciated that at first sight their proposed increase to five shillings did seem rather a lot, and gave careful thought to its likely impact on the membership in general. On analysis, however, the value of the pound now stands at approximately 6s. 8d. compared with 1939 values, from which it must follow that five shillings now represents about 1s. 8d. proportionately, or less in actual value than the 2s. rate that obtained in 1939. The proposed increase, therefore, was in effect more of an adjustment made necessary by the vastly changed value of the pound than an increase as such. The secretary then formally moved adoption of the proposals on behalf of the committee, and Mr. V. Bottomley seconded.

A long and lively discussion ensued, during the course of which many questions and answers were exchanged, and useful views expressed. On being put to the vote, the meeting approved acceptance of the entire proposals by an overwhelming majority. It was unanimously agreed to arrange the next meeting on September 21st, and that an endeavour be made to arrange it at Norton, near Malton.

Mr. N. Chaddock reported that arrangements were already in hand for the Snowdon Dinner to be held at Rotherham on October 26th next. The general secretary said that he had received word from Mr. E. A. Barnett, intimating his hope to be present, to which he had replied on their behalf, extending a hearty welcome to both Mr. and Mrs. Barnett, which they had kindly accepted. Dorothy Wood (Batley), Joan M. Dawson (Calverley), Mrs. W. Cannings (Tickhill), Olive M. Gray (Chapel Allerton), Sylvia Holt (Leeds), J. Newton (Huddersfield) were elected members, and Mrs. B. Holmes (Bolsover), Thomas Ogden (Oldham) and Roger Maher (Haywood) as out-county members, on the motion of Mr. V. Bottomley, seconded by Mr. W. Barton.

**READING, BERKS.**—At the St. Mary's Church, on May 12th, 1,284 Cambridge Surprise Major: R. G. Burton 1, K. Cotterell (first of Surprise 'inside') 2, R. W. Rex 3, Mrs. A. Diserens 4, R. H. Baggie 5, A. Diserens 6, R. F. Diserens 7, N. J. Diserens (cond.) 8.



## LEICESTER RINGERS AT WELLS

With friends from the Cathedral, All Saints', St. John-the-Divine, Anstey, Syston, Wigston (Magna and South), the St. Margaret's, Leicester, Guild, numbering 40., had their annual outing on May 11th.

Starting at 8 a.m., after the usual slight delay for the well-known late-comer, they proceeded to Wells, Somerset, which although a very long distance was duly reached at 2 p.m. A short halt en route at Stow-on-the-Wold for coffee, and a splendid ride through Cheddar Gorge, brought us first to St. Cuthbert's, Wells, whose rather 'springy-going' heavy eight were rung to rounds for learners, Stedman and Double Norwich.

At the lovely Cathedral we were privileged to ring until service time at 5 p.m. The bells—England's heaviest ten—were raised, and after rounds and a bob-course of Grandsire Caters were rung, Cambridge Royal, Bob Royal, Kent T.B. Royal duly came round. To satisfy the notorious John E. C., Bristol Surprise on the back eight was rung, and one wonders if his 'bobs' could not have been heard in the Lady Chapel at the far end of the Cathedral!

After seeing the famous Jack Blandiver kick his bells, and the battle royal on horseback by the clock puppets, tea at the Fountain was very welcome. The long journey home via Bristol (under the suspension bridge), Gloucester, Tewkesbury, with a brief halt at Stratford-on-Avon, was safely accomplished by midnight, and the company, though tired, voted it as a very fine outing. Our thanks to the Wells company for their help and welcome.

## BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

### Chew Deanery Activities

Twenty-nine ringers representing 12 different towers 'signed the book' at the Chew Deanery Branch quarterly meeting at Chew Magna on April 27th. The service followed tea and the business meeting, and at 4.30 the tower was deserted for the Parish Hall for tea, very kindly prepared by the local ringers and their ladies.

The Vicar of Chew Magna (Rev. C. M. Luxmoore-Ball) presided at the meeting, when one new member from Clutton was elected, and it was decided, subject to permission, to hold the next quarterly meeting at Backwell, with practice meetings at Winford (May) and Butcombe-with-Nempnett Thrubwell (June).

The Association service was conducted by the Vicar, and after this the heavy octave was again available and ringing, under the direction of the Branch Ringing Master (Mr. H. W. Knight).

### CORPORATE COMMUNION

There was a good attendance at the Corporate Communion held at Yatton the next morning, a good selection of the towers in the Branch being represented, together with friends from the Bath and Axbridge Branches. Ringing commenced soon after 7 on this beautiful morning, and the ringers then attended the Parish Communion, at which the celebrant was the Vicar (Preb. G. A. Beechey).

On adjourning to the Parish Hall it was pleasantly obvious that Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Knight and helpers had been busy, and the Vicar joined the members for breakfast. Ringing continued for Matins, when the local band were joined by those visitors who did not have to return to their own towers. M. J. H.

## SURREY ASSOCIATION

The spring quarterly meeting of the N.W. District was held at Epsom on May 4th. The counter-attractions of the Cup Final and the opening of the cricket season no doubt accounted for the attendance being only 33, representing 11 towers. Ringing in the afternoon, under the direction of the District Master (Mr. Gordon Peters), was interrupted for half-an-hour at 3.30 for a wedding. At 4.30 Evensong was conducted by the Vicar, who afterwards joined the company for tea in the Scout Hut. This was an excellent meal prepared by the local ringers.

At the business meeting it was decided to proceed with a striking competition on the lines suggested by the committee, which emphasises that the competition is a means to the end of improved Sunday service striking, and was not an end in itself.

On the proposal of the chairman, a motion asking the general committee to consider reverting to the printed report in view of the revised estimate of the cost of printing it in 'The Ringing World' was carried by 12 votes to five. After the votes of thanks and the collection of £1 for the Bell Fund, the company adjourned to the belfry, where ringing up to Surprise continued until 8.25. B. L.

## READING UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

The Reading University Society held its annual general meeting after ringing at St. Giles' on May 10th. Twenty-five members and friends rang and there was a good attendance at the business meeting.

The following officers were elected for 1957-58: Master, Mr. John Coates; secretary, Miss Lucy Allen (St. Andrew's Hall, Redlands Road, Reading); treasurer, Miss M. Twidale.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH

# The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS



# 'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

All communications for publication to:—  
The Editor, 'The Ringing World,'  
c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, Surrey.  
Tel. Guildford 5028 or 5311.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

	One copy	2 copies	3 copies	4 copies
3 months	7/6	—	—	—
6 months	14/6	£1/6/-	£1/15/6	£2/6/-
12 months	£1/8/-	£2/9/-	£3/10/-	£4/11/-

Remittances to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall. Cheques payable to 'The Ringing World.'

Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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The attempt for a farewell peal to the Vicar (Rev. J. T. George) at Cheddar on May 11th came to grief after 2½ hours' good ringing. Those ringers who have rung at Cheddar know of the peculiarities of these bells, especially the rocking tower. Not dismayed, another attempt will be on June 29th, which we hope will be brought to a successful conclusion. The Vicar was a good friend of the ringers, and through his close interest the frame is to be strengthened and the 'go' of the bells improved.

Ladies of the Suffolk Guild rang a peal of Minor in four methods at Polstead on May 4th. The conductor was Miss Rosemary J. Seabrook.

Mr. W. A. J. Knight, of Gillingham, Kent, inquires when Nynehead, Somerset, was made a ring of five.

A father and daughter, Mr. G. Rand and Margaret, rang their first quarter at Steeple Claydon, Bucks, on May 4th.

We are informed that the Christian names of the late Mr. Turner were Ernest Cecil Seymour and not Ernest Charles Seymour, as printed.

The conductor of the peal in 21 Surprise Minor methods at Apsley End on April 23rd (see page 293) states that the third 720 should read: Beverley, Berwick, Hexham and Surfleet, and not as submitted and printed.

Visitors to East Ilsley Church, Berks, will find a new screen covering the entrance to the tower, which was dedicated on May 3rd. Ringing used to take place round the font which has now been removed.

While the wedding of two of their ringers, Mr. John Hill and Miss Marjorie Hunter, was taking place at St. James' Church, Accrington, bellringers of St. Mary's Church, Ewell, rang a complimentary peal. The bride and bridegroom first met while studying at University College, Leicester.

## BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. F. W. Lack, who has represented Ely Diocesan Association on the Central Council since 1951, has been elected an hon. vice-president of the Huntingdon Grocers' Association. While ringing is his chief hobby, Mr. Lack, who lives at Great Staughton, holds the following positions: Churchwarden, secretary of Church Council, chairman of school managers, president of cricket club, and is past chairman of the Parish Council.

The second of the experimental series of combined practices was held at Ewell on May 7th; 19 ringers from five towers were present. Methods practised included rounds, Plain Bob, Stedman, Double Norwich and Cambridge. Double Norwich was especially featured. Mr. John Hill was in charge, deputising for the District Master (Mr. Gordon Peters).

Mr. F. C. Mogford, head ringer, and the Vicar (Rev. D. V. Clatworthy) signed an appeal asking for 1,000 ringers to give 5s. each towards the cost of recasting the fifth bell of All Saints' Church, Publow, Somerset. 'We are determined that the bells, some of the sweetest in Somerset, shall not be left silent indefinitely.' Contributions should be sent to the hon. treasurer of the ringers, Mr. R. W. Treasure, Viaduct House, Pensford, near Bristol.

Peal attempts at Bexhill-on-Sea are rare, the last being on February 1st, 1947. Another attempt was made on May 11th but was lost after some 75 minutes. An appropriate note appeared in the parish magazine, explaining the purpose of the peal to proclaim the Resurrection of Our Lord. 'Let those who hear changes on church bells know that the Church of England is alive and working in their midst, for in no other Church are changes normally rung.' Two of the local band would have scored their first peal had the attempt been successful.

# THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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# BATH AND WELLS HAVE NOW 1,500 RESIDENT MEMBERS

THE 67th annual general meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held this year at Wrington on Easter Monday. The fine ring of ten bells at the Parish Church of All Saints was pealing forth from 10.30 a.m., culminating in a good service touch of Grand-sire Caters prior to the Association service at 12 noon. The service was conducted by the Rector of Wrington (Rev. B. Leigh), the lesson being read by Mr. H. A. Price, lay reader, of Yatton, and the sermon being preached by the Rector of Exford (Rev. Henry Warren). Some 110 people attended the service, the usual lusty congregational singing being led by members of the local choir.

After a very good and substantial lunch, provided by Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Knight and a willing band of helpers, the members adjourned to the Memorial Hall for the business meeting, which was attended by 140 people. Mr. Knight was voted to the chair, in the absence of the Master. Apologies for absence were received from the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, who was recovering from a serious operation, from the Bishop of Taunton and from the former Master (Rev. Michael Hurst-Bannister), who sent a telegram of greetings.

The Master's report, read for him by Mr. Knight, referred to the sad occasion of his having to leave the post of Master on accepting the living of Fugglestone-with-Bemerton in the Diocese of Salisbury. He had felt honoured to be elected Master of the Association and he would look back with many happy memories of his many friends in Somerset. He commended to the members the recommendation of the general committee regarding the alteration of the Rules; these had been arrived at after much careful consideration and thought for the future good of the Association.

The general secretary (Mr. Roger O. Fry) commenced his report by referring to the resignation of Mr. Hurst-Bannister, who during his three years of office as Master had not spared himself in carrying out his duties and attending meetings of ringers throughout the diocese.

The past year had again been a period of much activity in all matters connected with ringing in the diocese. The membership had increased to 1,500 resident members in 184 affiliated towers. Many rings of bells had been restored; the only 12 in the diocese, those at Taunton, were again in good ringing order, as were all the rings of ten, with the exception of Bath Abbey, where the bells were being rehung and retuned, to be ready in the autumn. The rings of eight, too, were generally in very good order, the only black spot being the eight at Christ Church, Bath, where the bells hung in a truly disgusting state in a filthy belfry, despite efforts to persuade the Church authorities to have an inspection by proper advisers. The rings of five and six bells in the diocese would be the subject of an investigation during the next few months, and it was hoped that a report on the state of these would be available by the next meeting.

In concluding his report on the amount of bell-restoration work going on in the diocese, the secretary hoped that the firms at present employed in bell-hanging would take every care to ensure the highest possible standard of work, and would continue to make every effort to ensure that work done would be thoroughly finished in every detail.

## CHRISTMAS DAY RINGING

The ringing on Christmas Day deserved special mention, for two Somerset towers had taken part. Long Ashton bells had been rung during the 9.15 to 9.30 broadcast, along with several other towers. Then Timberscombe bells had rung at 11.30 for the 'People's Service,' and further, a carol had been rung on handbells by the local ringers during the service. In com-

mon with all the ringers with whom he had discussed the matter, he believed that the standard of ringing from both towers was quite high; one should always remember that any band would suffer a little from 'stage fright' on such an occasion, and as the ringing was done entirely by local ringers, their efforts were all the more worthy of commendation.

Mr. Fry continued: 'However, those of us who take "The Ringing World" will have witnessed two controversies recently, and one concerns the first broadcast. A ringer who was described in "The Ringing World" as being "an eminent ringer and member of the Central Council" saw fit to send his observations concerning the quality of the ringing to the Editor under a cloak of anonymity. His observations consisted entirely of disparaging remarks, his most charitable description of any of the ringing being "fair." While nobody should resent or be afraid of being criticised by people who know what they are talking about, since it is only by listening to such criticism that we learn to correct our mistakes, I would respectfully suggest that this particular criticism was in very bad taste. In any case, it is not for Central Council members, eminent ringers, or anybody else to make these declamations, unless they are also prepared to help the people they are criticising, by ringing with them and showing them how things should be done.'

## Ringer Received Royal Maundy

*Among the recipients of the Royal Maundy when the Queen visited St. Albans Abbey was Mr. John Henry Price Conquest, of 64, Stanbridge Road, Leighton. Mr. Conquest, who is 70, has been a ringer for more than 40 years. Born at Streatham, he has lived at Leighton for 23 years. His many friends will congratulate him.*

Referring to the College of Campanology, the secretary said that at a dinner recently he had been privileged to meet the founder of the College and discuss the matter with him at some length. He felt that much sincere hard work had been put into the compilation of the Manual, which had appeared in serial form during the past few months. It might well be that there was much in the Manual which would not be readily palatable, and which might need to be modified, but the point was that a start had been made, and all ringers should guard against dismissing the matter out of hand, since if they thought carefully about it and examined conditions obtaining in the majority of towers, they might feel that there was dire need of a book of instruction on ringing.

The committee had been very busy during the year, debating the proposed changes in the Rules, and the alterations which were to be put to this meeting had been carefully studied and were put forward by the committee as a whole having thought for the future good of the Association. The annual report for 1956 had been printed and distributed to the Branch secretaries and would be available to members very shortly. The secretary's report was received with acclamation and adopted.

## NO INCREASE OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

The treasurer (Mr. L. W. Pullin) presented a favourable report, showing a balance in hand of £135. Two grants had been made from the Bell Fund, and the Association had also subscribed £20 to the Bow Bells Appeal Fund. It was hoped that despite rising costs of reports and so forth, it would not be necessary yet to increase subscriptions; the way to keep the Association financially sound was to increase the number of members.

The peal secretary (Mr. H. J. Sanger) reported that 76 peals had been rung during the past year, an increase of 11 on 1955. Generally, the standard and variety of methods rung had improved, and there was much evidence of marked progress by the younger ringers. The young men from Royal Air Force, Locking, also came in for mention, for their peal ringing and for the help which they gave to local towers.

The Diocesan Adviser on the Care of Church Bells (Mr. W. A. Osborn), in giving his 13th annual report, stated that 1956 had been his busiest year yet, he having given advice in 17 towers. Bath Abbey bells were at the Loughborough Bell Foundry, the founders having been given a free hand to hang these bells to give the best possible results. At Stanton Drew there had been a scheme afoot to sell the existing five bells, in order to buy an electronic chime, but this scheme had been opposed, and a faculty was refused. Mr. Osborn also gave details of his findings in 15 other churches in the diocese, and paid tribute to the help which he had received from Mr. R. Gardiner, who was his deputy and whom he hoped would take on the job in the near future.

The meeting passed on to the election of officers. The Rev. H. F. Warren, Rector of Exford and chairman of the Dunster Branch, was elected Master. Mr. Warren, in thanking the members, said that he was very proud to hold the office which his father, the Rev. W. M. K. Warren, had held before him.

Mr. G. Salmon, of Wells, was elected treasurer in succession to Mr. Pullin, who had asked to be relieved of his duties on the advice of his doctor. All the other officers and Central Council representatives were re-elected.

## FOUR ORDERS OF MEMBERSHIP

Under the new Rules approved by the meeting, the Association now becomes the 'Bath and Wells Diocesan Association of Church Bell Ringers,' with four orders of membership, being

- (1) Honorary Life Members, elected by the committee for outstanding service to the Association, or to ringing;
- (2) Associate Members, who may subscribe 5s. annually;
- (3) Non-Resident Life Members, who may ring peals for the Association, but shall have no part in running the Association.
- (4) Performing Members, who to be eligible for membership must be capable of raising and lowering a bell, and of ringing rounds accurately. This rule now allows members of call-change bands to join the Association.

Three members were elected honorary life members, in recognition of their services to the Association: The Rev. Michael Hurst-Bannister, past Master; Mr. H. C. Lintern, of Ditchat, formerly secretary of the Cary Branch; and Mr. W. J. Prescott, of Bath Abbey, who had joined the Association in 1896 and had served in a variety of offices.

Visitors present at the meeting included ringers from Exeter, Devon, Staffordshire, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Middlesex, Swansea, Berkshire, Glamorgan and Dorset. Mr. W. H. Coles, now nearly fully recovered from his accident, brought greetings from the Middlesex Association.

Before the meeting adjourned, votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector of Wrington for placing his church, bells and hall at the disposal of the Association, and for conducting the service; to Mr. and Mrs. Knight and their band of helpers for the wonderful lunch; and also to Mr. Knight for all the other arrangements which he had made for the benefit of the meeting. The members then dispersed for ringing at Wrington, Nailsea, Backwell, Yatton, Wraxall, Long Ashton, Chew Magna and Congresbury.



## A RECORD YEAR FOR NORWICH ASSOCIATION

THE annual meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association, held in Norwich on May 4th, had a record attendance for many, many years, there being 115 present.

Ringing at St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles' and St. George's preceded the annual service, held in St. Peter Mancroft Church, conducted by the Rev. C. N. Tubbs.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, in his address, took the text (Acts ii, 14) 'Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice and spoke. 'When we ring we are doing exactly what Peter and his friends were doing,' he said. 'Like Peter, we have in our hands the power to spread the news of the Resurrection. What are you doing about it? It's grand to ring the bells put there for us to ring and thus apply the power in the tower. It's grander still to share the Resurrection and thus apply the unconquerable power of Christ to those around us. It is the job of everyone who believes the Christian faith to spread it. That is the power you hold in your grasp, and it must be applied. In Yarmouth we have not the mere task of manning the bells, we have the far greater task of putting them there and the greater task of recreating the life of a church, which is now a ruin. The people of Yarmouth are facing that task. A contract has been signed for restoring the church. A brand new ring of 13 bells has been ordered, and it is said that from the roping position and design of the frame it will be the best layout in England. Yarmouth needs your encouragement. The best thing you can do is to apply the power you have already, to ring the bells in your tower, and like Peter, to proclaim the everlasting Gospel in your words and lives.'

The president (Rev. H. G. Lillingston) presided at the business meeting which followed tea in the Chantry Hall.

### THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PICTURE

In his opening remarks, the president said he would like to give the other side of the picture to the oft-levelled charge that ringers do not take any part in the Church's work after ringing the bells for service. That was just not true. Looking round at the meeting he saw Church workers of every description, both men and women. In his view this should be put on record. Those members—a small minority—who were letting the Exercise down in this respect, should take heed of Mr. Thurlow's words in his address that afternoon.

He congratulated Messrs. A. G. Bason and W. C. Medler on completing 50 years' membership of the Association. Mr. H. Tooke was presented with a smoker's outfit in recognition of his 19 years' service as a Branch secretary, resigning last year.

The general secretary reported that membership now stood at a total of 461, the highest ever recorded. The 87 new members elected during the year was another record. The report drew attention to the disturbing fact that 49 old members had lapsed their membership, and appealed to tower captains to make a determined effort to regain the support of these old and valued members.

Losses by death were: Mr. Chas. E. Borrett, one of the leaders of the Association during the first 20 years of the century, general secretary of the Association 1903-1919, Central Council member 1902-1910 and 1923-1938; Mr. Fred R. Borrett, the most outstanding ringer and personality in Norfolk ringing circles, whose contribution to the Exercise and to ringing was greater than that of any other in the county during this century; Robert Freezer had 75 years' service as Sunday service ringer, and attended his church at all services after ringing; Fredk. W. Munnings; Herbert Nichols, 60 years a Sunday service ringer and chorister; H. R. Cobbin, Geo. R. Daynes, Isaac Emery, Fred R. Dexter, John W. Jones, Ben A. Knights, William J. Thyng, Chas. Whiting, Leslie C. Wightman, Francis S. Wilson and Canon R. L. Whythead. In memory of these, members stood in silence.

The treasurer presented the balance sheet, which showed an excess of income over expenditure of £30 12s. 3d. The General Fund account stood at £190 6s. 1d. and the Belfry Repair Fund at £87 3s. 10d.

### HIGHEST PEAL RECORD

The Ringing Master reported that the peal total of 117 was the highest ever recorded for the Association: 180 members took part in the peals and there were 24 conductors. Gressenhall Delight Major and Mulbarton Bob Triples were firsts in the method. A peal of Erin Caters was the first of Caters in the method. Eleven members rang their first peal. He put on record the congratulations of the Association to Mr. Nolan Golden on his achievement in completing a total of 1,000 peals. The 1,000th was rung at Gressenhall on January 18th, 1956, and was a new method for the Association, named Gressenhall Delight Major, composed and conducted by Mr. Golden.

Branch reports indicated that meetings were well attended throughout the year.

Officers elected were: President, the Rev. H. G. Lillingston; vice-presidents, re-elected en bloc, with the addition of Messrs. H. Tooke and A. G. Harrison; general secretary and treasurer, Mr. W. Love; Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Barrett; hon. auditor, Mr. A. G. Bason; Central Council representatives, the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, Messrs. F. Nolan Golden, H. W. Barrett and N. Harding.

A motion submitted by Mr. B. Thompson at the last annual general meeting, that a non-resident life member's subscription be 5s. instead of 10s., was thoroughly debated. It was pointed out that other Associations made the same stipulation as Norwich, in that non-resident life members' subscriptions should be double that of the annual residing members' subscriptions. The motion was put to the meeting and heavily defeated.

Mr. Harding made an eloquent appeal for more members to take 'The Ringing World,' preferably by post, and emphasised that if the paper went under for lack of support all organised ringing as now known would collapse.

## COLLEGE YOUTHS' WEST COUNTRY RALLY

For the spring country meeting Yeovil was the venue. A very cordial invitation had been extended to the Society to visit this charming town two years ago, but it was not until May 4th that it was possible to go there. A large party of London members met at Waterloo Station, and travelling in reserved accommodation, spent a pleasant time in yarning on the journey to Somerset.

On arrival they were met by Mr. Tom Setter and members of the local company, and the glorious ring of ten was soon set going to various methods. On coming down, photographs were taken, and the company, numbering about 60, sat down to a substantial lunch at a nearby hostelry. Promptly at 2 o'clock the Master called on all present to raise their glasses and drink the health of that Midland stalwart and most loyal College Youth, Albert Walker, who was at that time toasting the Society in Birmingham.

The business meeting was held in the School Room, and the Master (Mr. J. S. Mason) presided. Several more West Country College Youths had arrived by this time, and were able to see the expeditious way in which the Master disposed of the business. Mr. Setter formally welcomed the visitors and the Master suitably replied. Three new members were elected. It was announced that invitations had been received from Henfield, Sussex and Cambridge for the Society to visit them. The Master promised to investigate the possibility of going to both places this year.

Mr. Setter and his friends had kindly arranged motor transport to take the members to and from Sherborne and Queen Camel. Justice was done to these noble rings and good striking showed up their fine quality to advantage. The party left with many happy memories, and the thanks of all concerned are due to Tom Setter and his colleagues for their efforts to ensure a most enjoyable meeting.

J. F. S.

## EAST DERBYSHIRE & NOTTS

A large circle of members and friends, numbering about 100, attended the annual meeting of the East Derbyshire and Nottingham Association held at Clay Cross on Easter Monday. Ringing commenced at 2 p.m. and this gave a good send off to Miss C. Fletcher, a former member of Clay Cross, who was married just previously.

The service at 4.15 p.m., conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Wynford Phillips), who also gave an address, was well attended. Mr. J. W. Price, the local tower captain, read the lessons. Full justice was done to the well-filled tables at the tea.

At the business meeting the reports of the officers were adopted. The general statement of the accounts showed £26 17s. 4d. in the Bell Fund and £12 3s. 3d. in the general account. Mr. J. W. England, of South Normanton, was re-elected president and Mr. C. M. Heathcote hon. treasurer for the 21st year. Vice-presidents elected were Messrs. W. Dobb, J. E. Hobbs, J. Brothwell, A. Elliott, J. W. Price and T. H. Radford. Mr. B. A. Sollis was returned unopposed as hon. secretary.

Further ringing until 9 p.m. brought to a close a very happy 70th birthday. B. A. S.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## WHEN WRITING FOR TOWERS

Dear Sir,—The recent letters on this subject prompt me to quote a case which was brought to my notice recently. A well-known Midlands Association applied for the use of the bells at Tilsforth-with-Stanbridge for a Branch meeting. The reply they got from the Vicar (Rev. M. J. Shiner) was to the following effect:—

'Dear Sir,—I am afraid I cannot grant permission for you to ring at Tilsforth and Stanbridge owing to the sad fact that during the past few weeks we have had visits from several teams of ringers, and the standard of behaviour and treatment of God's House leaves so much to be desired that I have for the moment decided to close both towers to ringers' visitations.

'I am sorry your Society is the first to feel the weight of this decision, but when, after ringing for nearly three hours, a team left the ringing chamber in a state of chaos, and 3d. in the Church Offertory box. I feel the time has come to say that the church bells are not a form of amusement but an aid to worship, and are to be used for the greater glory of God. My decision will remain in force for at least six months. I regret the necessity for this decision, but if you can through your journal make it known, then perhaps in the future it may help to make members of ringing societies approach the work they enjoy with a more Christian and careful attitude. I hope it will be possible to welcome you at a later date.'

The letter needs no comment from me, but I trust its lesson will be learned by all who aspire to visit new towers.—Yours faithfully,

J. FRANK SMALLWOOD.

## SILENT PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS

Dear Sir,—I would like to congratulate the band that rang the peal of Bob Maximus at High Wycombe, non-conducted and silent. I admire their grit and determination, but why the explanation in 'The Ringing World' (page 295): not even 'Go.' 'That's all,' or 'Stand' being said?

I always took it for granted that not one of these words of command is used, or any other for that matter. Please don't tell me there have been silent peals rung with one of the ringers giving a running commentary on the weather.—Yours faithfully,

SAMUEL J. TWITCHETT.

Sudbury, Suffolk.

## BELL DISAPPEARS FROM IPSWICH TOWER

Dear Sir,—'The Church Bells of Suffolk,' J. J. Raven (1890), quotes as follows:—

'No. 287 Ipswich St. Mary Stoke, 2 bells, 1 No Inscription. 2 Miles Graye made me 1615. Item bells in the stepl IIIJ Return of 1553. Another removed 1887, which Davy 2 Aug. 1824 notes "plain" —Yours, etc., Torquay. W. SIMMONDS.

**EYE, SUFFOLK.**—On May 11th, 1,264 Bob Major: T. C. Ford 1. A. E. Cook 2. A. G. Harrison 3. C. Catchpole 4. R. Plummer 5. H. Moss (cond.) 6. L. E. Etheridge 7. L. E. Last 8. Rung for choir's festival at Eye, and for the birth of a grand-daughter for the 3rd ringer, born on April 19th.

## GONGS IN CHURCH TOWERS

Dear Sir,—With reference to the article 'Ringing in England 80 Years Ago,' I was interested to read the late C. A. W. Troyte's description of the invention of Mr. Seage, of Exeter, whereby a gong in the ringing chamber could be operated by the swinging of a silenced tower bell.

There is in my home tower—St. Peter's, Tiverton—a set of gongs as described by Mr. Troyte, although unfortunately they became redundant when the bells were rehung in 1923. I should be interested to know if any of your readers could tell me of any tower that has, in working order, a set of gongs similar to those of Mr. Seage.—Yours faithfully,

R. J. BOWDEN.

Plymouth.



**YORKSHIRE LADIES' PEAL.**—The band that rang the peal of Bob Major on May 4th at Handsworth, Sheffield, for the Ladies' Guild and Yorkshire Association.

Back row (left to right): Susan Chaddock (Rotherham), Mrs. B. Holmes (Bolsower), Miss Sheila Schofield (Pudsey), Miss Elizabeth A. Wardill (Rotherham), Mrs. D. E. Matuli (Sheffield).

Front row: Mrs. N. Chaddock (Rotherham), Miss Elizabeth Bate (conductor, Handsworth), Mrs. D. E. Kelly (Handsworth).

[Photo by permission of 'South Yorkshire Times.'

## FOUR-BELL TOWERS

Dear Sir,—Further to the correspondence concerning 4-bell towers: I can give information concerning four such towers:—

Plumstead (St. Nicholas'), Kent. — Frame fairly sound; most of the wheels broken; one bell cracked.

Icklesham, Sussex.—These appear to be ringable, but the tower is reputed locally to be unsafe.

Addington, Kent.—I believe the tower is unsafe, but there is a plan for renovation and making the ring up to six.

Biddisham, Somerset.—I can confirm that these are perfectly ringable, with almost new fittings throughout.—Yours sincerely,

I. H. ORAM.

Bempton, E. Yorks.

## GUILD OF MEDICAL RINGERS

The second annual meeting of the Guild took place at Stevenage on May 11th. Ringing began on the octave of the Parish Church of St. Nicholas soon after 3 o'clock, and continued until 4.30. The Rector (Rev. E. W. B. Cordingly) conducted Evensong.

After tea, provided by Mrs. D. L. Gullick, the party returned to the church for further ringing, until the time came for the business meeting. In the tower the Guild enjoyed the assistance of members of the local band, notably the captain (Mr. W. Lawrence) who has, for more than 50 years, set such a fine example there. Also, throughout the day, the Guild was honoured to have as its guest Mr. E. G. Buck, president of the Hertfordshire County Association.

The most notable items of business were the election of a new president, Dr. P. T. Spencer-Phillips, and that of the first associate members, provided for under the recently adopted Rules. The retiring president, Dr. F. S. Poole, stating that he did not think that he should hold office indefinitely, proposed the election of his successor, which was carried with enthusiasm, together with a vote of thanks to Dr. Poole for his services to medical ringing. The meeting welcomed the names put forward for associate membership, which included those of four nurses, and hoped that others would be elected in the future. The other two officers, viz., Drs. R. E. Price (Master) and D. L. Gullick (secretary), were re-elected.

Finally the company proceeded to the Coach and Horses Hotel for dinner. After a very enjoyable meal, a few short and informal words were said by the new and old presidents, and by Mr. Buck, who remarked how pleased he had been by this his first official engagement since assuming office. The evening ended, as it began, with a touch 'in hand' to send us homeward in the right mood.

D. L. G.

## JOINT MEETING AT HEPTONSTALL

A joint meeting of the Archdeaconry of Halifax Guild and the Rochdale Branch of the Lancs Association was held at Heptonstall on May 4th. The bells were put to good use during the afternoon under the direction of the Rochdale Branch Ringing Master.

Adjourning to the Co-op Cafe at 5 p.m., an excellent tea was enjoyed by 40 ringers and friends. While the

Lancs ringers carried on ringing, the Halifax Guild held their meeting. The secretary noted that two members who had been ill were now making progress towards recovery. A vote of thanks to Mr. C. Ashworth for the splendid arrangements made for the meeting was proposed and seconded by Messrs. G. Briggs and A. Rogers. One new member was elected and this concluded the business.

The bells were kept going with only a few seconds between touches until 8.55 p.m. Methods rung ranged from Plain Bob to Cambridge and Yorkshire Major. As more experienced ringers came along in the evening the standard of striking improved, and a good lower in peal at 9 p.m. concluded tower ringing. Handbell ringing to Stedman and Plain Bob finally brought this successful meeting to a close.

A. W. B.



## DEDICATIONS

### New Ring of Six for St. Albans

An interesting event took place on May 11th at the Church of St. Stephen, St. Albans, in the dedication by the Rt. Rev. C. T. T. Wood, M.C., Assistant Bishop of St. Albans, of a new ring of six.

The bells were cast from the metal of the former ring of six. The tower originally contained four mediaeval bells. In 1803 they were recast by Thomas Mears into a ring of six (tenor 9½ cwt., total weight 40 cwt.). About 60 years ago a larger tenor was added by another founder, the metal of the old treble was incorporated and the old fourth was recast a semitone lower. The new tenor weighed about 15½ cwt. and the total weight was increased to 50 cwt. The bells were rehung with completely new fittings in a cast-iron 'H' frame on oak sole plates. The tower was, however, unable satisfactorily to carry the increased weight, and ringing was very hard work.

For some time the movement of the tower has caused increased anxiety and it was finally decided to put in a lighter ring. The new tenor weighs 8 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. The bell-frame has been retained but altered in design to reduce the stresses on the tower, which has been strengthened with additional bracing. The result is that the movement in the tower is now negligible.

The bell work was carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who were warmly congratulated in the excellent 'go' and fine tone of the bells.

### Churchill, Oxon

A new ring of eight bells was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Oxford at All Saints' Church, Churchill, on May 9th, in the presence of a full congregation which included 50 ringers representing many Districts of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. A Confirmation preceded the dedication. The opening rounds were rung by local ringers. In his address the Bishop commented on how proud Churchill should be to have so many friends and ringers who, with help from other sources, had raised the amount needed in such a short time.

After the service, ringing of rounds, Grand-sire, Stedman and Bob Major took place, with Mr. J. P. Fidler, of Messrs. John Taylor and Co., in attendance. Visiting ringers were entertained to refreshments, during which a presentation was made to Mr. W. Clark, for many years tower foreman and a chorister, who had now left. The Vicar thanked Mr. J. Keyte, Branch secretary, who was in charge of the ringing, for the efficient arrangements.

## LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

St. Denis' Church, Silk Willoughby, with its beautiful spire rising over the green fields that surround it, proved a popular meeting place for the Southern Branch of the Guild on May 4th. Over 70 ringers representing 25 towers attended, and were welcomed by the Rector (Rev. H. Bailey), who also officiated at the choral service. An excellent tea followed, served by the ever-faithful ladies, and was enjoyed by all, 'the handstroke leads' being exceptionally good.

The Rector presided at the business meeting and was unanimously elected an honorary member. A pleasing feature was the number of young and enthusiastic members present. Methods ranging from Grandsire Doubles to Spiced Surprise were enjoyed until 9 p.m.

J. H. M.

**SANDON, ESSEX.**—On Mar. 9th, 1.260 Bob Minor: M. Golding (first quarter) 1, R. J. Harrison (first 'inside') 2, R. Kemp 3, B. G. Brinkley 4, M. J. Edwards 5, I. J. M. Saunders (cond.) 6.

# PROSPECTS OF NEW BELLS IN COVENTRY

## Promise of New Installations

THE 49th annual meeting of the Guild was held at Southam on April 27th, at which only 32 members attended, travel difficulties being the reason for such a poor attendance. The bells of St. James' Church were kept going to various methods until service time at 4.30 p.m. The service was conducted by the Rector, who in his address gave a warm welcome to Southam. Tea, which had been arranged at a local hostelry, was followed by the business meeting. In the absence of the president, who was visiting East Africa, Mr. A. H. Beamish was voted to the chair.

Arising from the minutes, members' attention was drawn to two items: That the Central Council representatives be elected at the January meeting, and that the office of hon. secretary and treasurer be divided. These changes were approved by the meeting.

The balance sheet, which had been circulated, was discussed. The General Fund stood at £49 and the Bell Repair Fund at £10.

The hon. secretary, in giving his first report said how pleased he was with the year's working in spite of petrol rationing, which had a restraining effect of visitation, but he hoped to remedy that. The Guild membership stood at 205, which was only an increase of one, and 16 peals had been rung. The losses in membership had been made up by new members, and the peal total compared favourably with other years. The annual dinner, held in Coventry in October last, had been a most enjoyable evening, with the Assistant Bishop (the Very Rev. Newnham Davies) as the principal guest.

The Guild had the pleasure of meeting the new Bishop (the Rt. Rev. Cuthbert-Bardsley) at a special meeting and service at St. Mary's Church, Warwick. Over 250 attended the service from parishes within the diocese. It was regrettable that no peals were rung to welcome the Bishop to the diocese, as his arrival coincided with the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth to lay the foundation stone of the new Cathedral. He has shown his keen interest in bells, and had already been of considerable help. The Bishop had promised to attend the 50th anniversary dinner of the Guild, to be held at St. Mary's Guildhall, Coventry, at the invitation of the Civic Authorities.

During the year the Guild had sustained the loss of Mr. Harry Webb, who had maintained the Guild peal book right up to his death. He had undoubtedly written his own epitaph in the loving care and pride he took in its maintenance. The passing of Ray Lydster, of Bedworth, at such an early age was a heavy loss to his church and fellow bellringers.

## MANY RESTORATIONS

Bell restorations had been completed at Long Compton, Stoneleigh, Honiley and Southam, and work was in hand at Brailes, Napton, Bedworth and St. Nicholas' Warwick. It was hoped that a ring of bells will be re-installed in Holy Trinity Church, Coventry, in the not-too-distant future. A frame for eight had been placed in the new Christ Church, Coventry, and these may be installed within the next two years. A number of towers in the diocese required attention and it was up to local ringers to give all the help they could, and arouse local interest. 'I am sure there is a revival of interest in church bells, so do all you can to get work started.'

Instructors' classes would be started again in the autumn if there was sufficient demand. Quarterly meetings had been well attended, and the standard of ringing had been very high, young members giving a very good account of themselves. Combined practices had been tried out and their popularity was borne out by the attendances. In some cases they had more than at a monthly meeting. 'In this, our 50th year, I hope that great efforts will be made by all to

rope in new members, as only by a large and virile membership can we hope to keep our church bells ringing for Sunday services, which is our first duty as bellringers.'

The Northern Branch secretary (Mr. D. Carpenter) in his report stressed the need for sending names for teas at meetings, as it was difficult to arrange catering in some villages. At no meeting this year had more than two cards been received, always from the same people, several regular attenders being as guilty as the chance visitor.

Mr. H. Windsor, Branch secretary of the Southern section, in giving his report said that the year had been one of good progress, and meetings had been well attended. He was particularly pleased with the support given by young ringers, both at meetings and at their own towers.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mr. F. W. Perrens; hon. secretary, Mr. J. L. Garner-Hayward; Ringing Master, Mr. C. Underwood; hon. treasurer, Mrs. D. E. Beamish; Northern Branch secretary, Mr. D. Carpenter; Southern Branch secretary, Mr. H. Windsor; hon. auditor, Mr. F. Pervin; Central Council representatives, Mrs. D. E. Beamish and Mr. F. W. Perrens.

New members elected from Allesley, Brinklow, Willowby, Nuneaton and unattached totalled 18—a good start to the new year.

The chairman expressed on behalf of the company present his appreciation to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Hobley for arranging such a bountiful tea. The place of the next meeting would be Stratford-on-Avon if it could be arranged.

## ST. MARY'S, TWYFORD, OUTING

The annual outing of Twyford ringers was held on Easter Monday, when they were accompanied by friends from neighbouring towers.

Ringing took place at East Ilsley, Stanford-in-the-Vale, Faringdon (where an almost perfect touch of Grandsire Triples was rung), Witney, Woodstock, Kirtlington and Radley.

Miss M. R. Cross, an ex-member of Twyford band, joined the party at Witney and kindly acted as guide until tea time. Tea was taken at Woodstock, and after a very pleasant hour at Radley the return journey was made via Abingdon and Henley.



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## WEDDINGS

### At Oswaldtwistle

The wedding of Mr. John Hill, B.Sc., son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hill, of Ewell, Surrey, and Miss Marjorie Hunter, daughter of Major and Mrs. W. A. Hunter, of Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, took place at St. James' Church, Accrington, on April 27th, the service being conducted by the Ven. C. H. Lambert, M.A. (Archdeacon of Blackburn) and Canon W. E. Cunliffe, M.A.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a gown of heavy ivory brocade embroidered with mother-of-pearl and silver. The full-length veil was held in place by a coronet of diamante and pearls. The bouquet was of deep red roses and lilies-of-the-valley. The bridesmaids were Miss J. M. Earnshaw, B.A., and Miss M. J. Hellewell.

Mr. John Chilcott efficiently fulfilled the duties of best man. The ushers were Dr. Iwan Jenkins and Mr. D. Earnshaw.

About 60 guests attended the reception, which was held at the Swan and Royal Hotel, Clitheroe. The honeymoon was spent touring the West Country.

Both the bride and bridegroom are regular ringers at St. Mary's, Ewell, where a complimentary peal of Bob Major was rung during the afternoon. J. E. B.

### At Swanage

Friends from Northants and Lincolnshire were among those who rang for the wedding at St. Mary's Church, Swanage, Dorset, of two well-known ringers on April 27th—Mr. James William Haw, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Haw, of Mablethorpe, Lincs, and Miss Ruth May Morgan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Morgan, of Swanage. The Rector (Rev. Norman Miller) officiated at the choral service, with Mr. Geoffrey Times as organist.

Given away by her father, the bride wore a dress of white brocade with a short veil. The bridesmaids were Miss Margaret Gosling, of Swanage, and Miss Jill Neal, of Peterborough, and the best man Mr. William Redhead.

The bells were fired after the ceremony, and as the bride and bridegroom left for their honeymoon in Southern Eire, well-struck Grandsire Triples sped them on their journey.

### At West Wickham

On Easter Saturday, April 20th, the wedding took place at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, West Wickham, Kent, of Mr. Richard W. Stephens, of Kempston, Bedford, and Miss Mary Fuller, of West Wickham. The bride, given away by Mr. A. S. Richards, wore a dress of ivory grosgrain and carried a bouquet of orange blossom, and was attended as bridesmaid by Miss Mary Stephens, sister of the bridegroom, in a dress of pale gold brocade.

The Rev. J. B. Shortt, M.A., Rector of West Wickham, officiated at the choral service with Mr. S. F. Edom as organist. Duties of best man were carried out by Mr. J. Michael Stephens, brother of the bridegroom, and Mr. J. E. Cannell acted as usher.

The bridegroom has for the past few years resided in Kent, and is now secretary of the band at Hayes. Thus both bride and bridegroom are equally well known and popular in Kent and Bedford, and this was testified by the gifts and telegrams of good wishes they received. Both are also members of the University of London Society.

Major repairs to the church tower, begun only the previous week, unfortunately silenced the bells, but in their place handbells were rung before and after the ceremony by Miss Susan Porter and Messrs. W. A. Hughes, M. F. Oakshott and L. W. Skinner. After the reception, the couple left for a honeymoon in Kent and the Norfolk Broads.

To the gratification of Hayes and West Wickham ringers, Mr. and Mrs. Stephens are to remain in the district, their new address being 35, Woodland Way, West Wickham.

A peal of Bristol Surprise Major was attempted on the following Friday at St. John's, Erith, but was lost through a miscall. Yorkshire Major was arranged for Friday, May 10th, but on that afternoon a derailment near Dartford delayed trains so that the band met short, and a peal of Cambridge Minor was rung instead. Ralph Bird conducting seven different extents, despite his protests that he needed prior notice. This enabled Arthur G. Mason to complete the quartet of peals of Cambridge from Minor to Maximus.

### A SUSSEX VETERAN

Mr. Henry Stalham, for his 85 years, is indeed a remarkably able person and an active member of our Art. This alone is confirmed by the peal of Bob Major rung at Crawley on April 27th, in which he took part.

At the conclusion of the peal his fellow ringers at once showed their respect and appreciation in offering hearty congratulations, not only for his achievement in ringing yet a further peal but also for the splendid power of concentration and physical ability he displayed.

'Harry,' to his many ringing friends, maintains a very active interest in his tower—St. Nicholas', Brighton—where his duties of head ringer and tower keeper are maintained in no uncertain way. At 85 his interest in the St. Nicholas' band is still 'just part of his life.' Young ringers always find Harry giving them more than a helping hand.

Friday evenings find him in attendance at St. Peter's practice and, when ringing, invariably around the back end.

A very proud College Youth of many years' standing, Henry Stalham is also a Central Council representative for his county Association. Well done! and many happy returns.

### Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—Lancashire Association £3 3s., K. Arthur 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Shaftesbury 3s., Penn 5s., Chilcompton 3s., Longstanton 3s., Ashbrittle 3s., Accrington 5s., Church Stretton 3s., Rainham 4s., Bath 4s., Curry Rivel 4s., Frome 4s., Chalfont St. Peter 2s. 6d., Lamas 3s. 6d., Holywell 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Wandsworth 3s., Epsom 5s., Brampton 2s. 6d., Nailsea 3s., Fenny Stratford 2s. 6d., Bexhill-on-Sea 4s., Hastings 2s., Kendal 2s., Rickmansworth 4s., Steeple Claydon 2s. 6d., Mangotsfield 4s., Walthamstow 4s., Wimbledon 2s. 6d., Reigate 4s., Stratton 2s. 6d., Rushden 2s., Worpleston 2s., Huish Episcopi 3s. 6d., Bushey 4s., Porthkerry 2s. 6d., Ashwick 3s., Cheddar 4s.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

### Canterbury District Visit Dover

A meeting of the Canterbury District was held at Dover on May 4th. The town is rapidly recovering from the bomb and shell damage, evidence of this being seen in the ancient church of St. Mary, with its new east window and recently restored organ. It was here that the usual service was held, after ringing during the afternoon, with a welcome from the Vicar (Canon A. S. Cooper), himself a ringer. During the service a prayer was said to the memory of Frederick Leonard, a ringer of many years' standing at Ospringe.

Tea in the Parish Hall was an excellent meal, prepared by Mrs. George, the local secretary, and friends from the M.U. Mr. John Willis took the chair for the business meeting. Three new practising members from the local band were elected. A letter from the recently-appointed Bishop of Dover was read, thanking the members for their letter of welcome.

Petham was chosen for the next quarterly meeting, with Sturry for a by-meeting, on June 29th. A welcome was given to Dennis Chapman, of Doncaster, who had recently come to live in the area; also a welcome home from honeymoon to Mr. and Mrs. M. Stephens.

Further ringing was held during the evening. The thanks of all were given to Mrs. George and her helpers for the tea, also to the former for making the local arrangements. B. J. L.

### Seven Cranbrook Ringers, Including Vicar, Join

The quaint old town of Cranbrook was the venue of a joint meeting of the Hawkhurst Guild and the Tonbridge District of the Kent Association. It is a long time since a meeting has been held in this grand old church, dedicated to the Saxon St. Dunstan.

The Vicar (Rev. R. S. G. Bradshaw) warmly welcomed the visitors when he very humorously presided over the business meeting. Seven Cranbrook ringers, including the Vicar, were elected members of the Kent Association. The Vicar promised that the Church Council would pay their subscriptions.

The lovely-toned eight (23 cwt.) were kept going from 2.30 p.m. in rounds, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman, Double Norwich, Superlative, etc. To hear the bells it is necessary to leave the door open. A curious muffling of the sounds occurs if a person stands in the doorway.

A. F. W.

**WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.**—On May 8th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: R. Ludford-Brooks (aged 14, first quarter) 1, E. Leggett 2, B. Gibbons 3, D. Mills (cond.) 4, A. Cansdale 5, J. Macbeth 6. Followed by 1,260 Bob Doubles: J. Leggett (aged 11, first quarter) 1, E. Leggett (cond.) 2, B. Gibbons 3, A. Cansdale 4, D. Mills 5, J. C. Macbeth 6.

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## OBITUARY

### MR. H. L. MARTIN

The passing of Mr. Harry Lionel Martin, secretary of the Cambridge District of the Ely Association, has dealt a hard blow to the Cambridge district, and it will take some time to recover from the loss sustained. He had been ill for some time with recurring abdominal trouble, and entered Addenbrookes Hospital for treatment on April 17th, necessitating two operations which so weakened his vitality that he collapsed, and died on May 3rd from pneumonia at the early age of 47. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his widow and four young children in their bereavement.

The funeral was held at Fen Ditton, where he learnt to ring under the tuition of his father. The Rev. R. H. Harrison officiated, assisted by Canon A. L. Woodard (president of the Branch), who read the lesson. Psalm 23 and hymns 'God moves in a mysterious way' and 'Hark, my soul,' were sung impressively by a large congregation of friends, colleagues from Pye's, Ltd., and members of the Association from Cambridge, Fen Ditton, Sawston, Newmarket, Huntingdon, Sutton, Meldreth, Harston, Wisbech, Chesterton, Trumpington and Cambridge University Guild. As the cortege left the church for cremation, the bells were rung half-muffled. During the evening quarter peals were rung at Great St. Mary's and the Church of Our Lady (where he had acted as steeple-keeper for the past ten years).

Harry joined the Association in 1932, and became District secretary in 1932. He rang his first peal in 1933, and up to the time of his death rang 34, his last being at Ely on February 2nd, on the occasion of the new Bishop's enthronement. He had also been interested in rowing, and rowed in an eight for Pye's in the C.R.A. races.

Of his 17 years of faithful service as District secretary, his interest in promoting the welfare of the Association was unflagging, and he was never happier than when rewarded with good attendances at the meetings and making arrangements for their needs; and although to our great regret he was absent at the last A.G.M., it was largely due to his efforts, and Mrs. Martin with her helpers, that the meeting was brought to a successful issue on Easter Monday last.

An adept in the art of rope-splicing, with a good engineering knowledge, one always felt a sense of security when Harry was about, and his annual reports on the progress of his District were straightforward and well worth listening to. His loss will be keenly felt throughout the District, and his work gratefully remembered by all.

### MR. W. V. D. FLOWER

Mr. W. V. D. Flower, for whom a muffled peal was rung at Frome on May 11th, was a ringer for 68 years, 53 of them at Frome. He learnt to ring at All Saints', Nunney, at the age of 11, and on moving to Frome joined the band of ringers at St. John's Parish Church, where he was vice-captain for 30 years—for 19 of these tower secretary as well. He was always the first to arrive, waiting at the door for the band to assemble, then he would take the treble to lead the bells up and afterwards the sixth (a 17 cwt. bell) for a touch of his favourite, Grandsire Triples. Never late or absent for practice or service ringing was his fine record, until the last few months when his health began to fail. He leaves a widow and two sons, both ringers—Mr. W. E. Flower at Paulton, and Mr. D. H. Flower, captain of the Frome ringers.

E. D. O.

## UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY

On May 11th 20 members and friends of the Society visited the Newport, Mon, area on an outing, which for most of the party provided a brief respite from examination studies.

The Cathedral Church of St. Woolos (12, 2½ cwt.) was first visited, and after admiring its Norman architecture we opened our day's ringing with a touch of Grandsire Cinques. Stedman Caters and Cinques were also rung, and a half course of Cambridge Royal brought round. During the ringing the Dean visited the ringing chamber and welcomed us to the tower.

A good light Taylor eight (tenor 8½ cwt.) awaited us at Caerleon, and after a due note of warning on the weight of the bells, they were got going to Bob Major. This was followed by Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich, and finally a course of Superlative. Our return bus to Newport seemed rather late in arriving, and it was not until two buses had departed in the opposite direction that we realised we were waiting in a one-way street to Usk!

However, we eventually arrived on time at All Saints', Newport, where a Warner eight (tenor 14½ cwt.) were got going to Spiced Cambridge and Yorkshire. Stedman and Grandsire Triples were followed by courses of Superlative and Bristol, and before the bells were lowered a course of Duffield Major was rung. We were most impressed by the upkeep of the ringing chamber, and those not ringing were always entertained examining the cuttings and photos pinned to the wall, and the visitors' book dating back to 1902. Surely this is a fine example of what can be done to make a large ringing chamber most interesting.

The party returned to Bristol by train to various musical accompaniments, and the outing was voted a 'major' success. Finally the Society would like to thank all local ringers for their kind welcome, and the clergy for allowing us to ring.

At the Society's A.G.M. on May 7th a vote of thanks was expressed to the retiring Master (Miss P. M. Bourn) for her hard work during two years of office. The Society's very best wishes for the future were conveyed both to her and Mr. A. R. Wright (tower secretary), who is also going down.

The following officers were elected for the next session: Master, D. Heighton; secretary, P. J. Bird; tower secretary, A. J. Smith; treasurer, B. J. Wylde. A first year representative remains to be elected, and enquiries from intending students would be welcomed by the secretary, Society of Change-Ringers, c/o Victoria Rooms, Clifton, Bristol, 8. P. J. B.

## SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

The spring quarterly meeting of the Salisbury Branch was held at Hindon on May 4th, when 'musical honours' were accorded to Mr. Frank Haines, the 'father' of the Wilton band, whose 71st birthday it was. Mr. Haines has been ringing for 60 years. The chairman had received with regret the resignation of Mr. Jim Maidment as Ringing Master, and was also sorry to have to report that Mr. William Chalk (vice-president) was not so well. A certificate of proficiency had been gained by Miss Irene Bush, of Damerham, who has recently left to start work in Bath.

The new Vicar of Hindon (Rev. C. A. Duke-Baker) was there with the captain to welcome the visitors, and took the Guild service. The small ringing room was packed both afternoon and evening, and a variety of methods rung, up to courses of Cambridge and Beverley.

## 20 TOWERS (PLUS 1) IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Tower-grabbers from seven counties met in Bucks on Easter Monday for their annual dashabout tour.

The first tower was Great Horwood, where Cambridge Minor was rung and consternation caused by the non-arrival of the organising secretary (who was still many miles away, having overslept). He did turn up, however, in time to ring at the next tower, Winslow, on the augmented eight. The gated roads and lanes delayed some in reaching Aston Abbots, but everyone rang there in the end.

Our disappointment at finding Mentmore bells (on Lord Rosebery's estate) unringable was more acute as it was to have been one of only two new towers for 'A. P. C.'! Aston Clinton was our next call, and good ringing was accomplished. How noisy Walter Lee's bells at Wendover are! Nevertheless, we enjoyed meeting Walter again, and his bells. We found the next tower, Ellesborough, to contain six rather rough bells—partly due, perhaps, to sway of the tall brick-faced tower.

By the time we reached Great Kimble the pubs were open, and some delay to the ringing was caused by having to drag our weaker brethren from the bars! We were welcomed at Monks Risborough by the Vicar. Our poorer ringing there may have been due to the weariness of the party, who had, after all, rung in nine towers since breakfast!

After lunch the pleasant six at Little Missenden were rung to Spiced Surprise Minor. Naturally, we were sorry that permission was not forthcoming to ring at Great Missenden on the 26½ cwt. six, but the six at Chesham, and its beautiful park, were most enjoyable. At Chenies, with its church close by the great house, we were met by the bell major, and were told that a peal had been lost there that morning.

In Chalfont St. Giles, as well as ringing on the six bells we saw the Morris men performing their ancient dances in the square, and sympathised with the fiddler who was trying to play against our racket! Fulmer proved another elusive tower for some, but most of us rang on the peculiar six, with their strange whistle, caused by rubber buffers on the clapper ball.

Excellent Yorkshire was ringing across the Eleggic churchyard at Stoke Poges when the writer arrived, and indeed, these lovely eight were well rung by everyone (except those listening to the Archers in R. G. E.'s car!). Farnham Royal's, close by, were also pleasant, but our stay was too short to bring out the best of the eight bells.

George Gilbert's 'musical box' at Burnham (Taylor's, 1949) sounded well to Bristol, and though G. G. complained at having to meet ringers on a Bank Holiday, he made us so welcome it was obvious he didn't really mind.

The recently rehung eight at Woburn were nice, too, but Superlative went better than Stedman. Mears' eight at Great Marlow came next, and we were pleased to meet and ring with Dennis Poole and other local ringers. Lane End, with its saddleback tower and handy six, was new for Mr. Edwards' friend, who thereafter rode no more with us, but went sadly home!

What a shame we left Hughenden till last! No less than three vehicles failed to locate the church in the park, even though we rang short touches till 9.15, hoping they would hear the bells and be able to enjoy them as much as we did, helped out by Roland Biggs and Walter Lee.

We must express our grateful thanks to all who met us at the towers and prepared for our visit.

Thank you, Buckinghamshire! P. I. C.



## NOTICES

## New Scale of Charges

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

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## ENGAGEMENT

**BORDER—JACKSON.**—The engagement is announced between Ruth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Jackson, of Sale, Cheshire, and Peter, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Border, of Trumpington, Cambridge. 295

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. R. Stilwell on and after May 27th, 1957, will be: 34, Bramber Road, Worthing, Sussex. Tel. Worthing 4594. 274

## HANDBELLS WANTED

**WANTED.**—Set of handbells, 12, 16 or 20, in good condition. Tenor not more than 4½ in. in diameter. Please write.—Mr. S. Webb, Corner House, Staverton, near Daventry, Northants. 296

## PERSONAL

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**CENTRAL COUNCIL'S HANDBOOK.**—A valuable guide to every secretary and tower captain. Contents include: Aims, History and Procedure of the Council; Rules and Decisions of the Council; Active Committees of the Council and their work; Law affecting Church Bells; past and present officers and members since 1956; past and present affiliated societies. Price 2s. 6d. from Mrs. J. G. Steeples, Hall View, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK TOUR.** June 8th to 14th.—Anyone interested in joining party of West Country ringers? Limited transport available. Will send programme as soon as completed. Write R. Short, Quantock View, Chilton Trinity, Bridgwater. 289

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

**COMPLETE YOUR FILES.**—Back numbers of 'The Ringing World' are available for most issues of 1956, 1955, 1954 and 1953. Also odd copies back to 1945. Price 6d. per copy post free.—'Ringing World' Office, c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Onslow Street, Guildford.

## MEETINGS

**DEVON GUILD (N.E. Branch) and BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION** (Taunton Deanery).—Joint meeting. Sampford Peverell, Saturday, May 25th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea by 20th to W. H. Ware, 1, Holly Road, Cowley Moor, Tiverton. 234

**ELY ASSOCIATION.**—Cambridge District. —Meeting, Bourn (8), Saturday, May 25th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—W. J. R. 249

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District. —Meeting at Braintree, Saturday, May 25th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Numbers for tea, please, to G. Wiffen, 13, Warren Road, Braintree. 194

**GUILDFORD GUILD.**—Chertsey District. —Meeting at Send-with-Ockham on Saturday, May 25th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Ockham 2.30 to 4 p.m. and after meeting. Service, Send, 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. 236

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District. —By-meeting at Minster on Saturday, May 25th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea as soon as possible to Mrs. F. E. Baker, 334, Minster Road, Minster, Sheppey.—T. Barton, Asst. Dis. Sec. 211

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District. —By-meeting at Ulcombe on Saturday, May 25th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Please bring your own tea.—R. L. Sills. 196

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Practice, Chesham (6), Saturday, May 25th, 3.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Further ringing after till 8.30 p.m.—W. Butler.

**SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.**—Meeting at Holme Pierpont (6) on Saturday, May 25th. Bring own food: cups of tea available. Subscriptions for 1957 required.—J. K. Wagstaff, Hon. Sec. 276

**SOUTHEND AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—Meeting at Rayleigh, Saturday, May 25th, at 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Mr. Blower, 37, Highfield Crescent, Rayleigh. 272

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—Meeting at Salford Priors, Saturday, May 25th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting. 250

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—There will be a district practice at Ewhurst on Thursday, May 30th. 7.30–9 p.m. All welcome.—A. M. Cox, M. E. Collins, Joint Hon. Dis. Secs. 307

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Saturday, June 1st: St. Mary Abbots, Kensington. 3 p.m.; Ship, Talbot Court, 6 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Sec. 299

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Crewkerne Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Shepton Beauchamp, Saturday, June 1st. Service 4.30 p.m. Usual arrangements. Notify for tea.—J. T. Locke, Hon. Sec. 280

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bedford District.—The meeting will be at Harrod on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday to Miss Phyllis Gray, 18, Durler Avenue, Kempston, Bedford. 282

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Northwich Branch.—Meeting at Weaverham, Saturday, June 1st. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea not later than May 29th to W. Hornby, 33, Forsters Avenue, Weaverham, Northwich. 304

**DEVON GUILD.**—Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—Meeting, Clyst St. George, Saturday, June 1st. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by May 30th to W. Wills, Restholme, Clyst St. George, near Exeter. 252

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—Meeting at Cramlington on Saturday, June 1st. Bells from 3 p.m. Names for tea to G. S. Deas, 65, Elsdon Road, Gosforth, Newcastle, 3. 284

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ely District.—Meeting at Strettham (6) on Saturday, June 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Wilburton (6) available from 7 p.m.—D. E. R. Knights, Dis. Sec. 294

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—S.W. Crusader meeting, Langdon Hills, Saturday, June 1st. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mr. C. Willmington, 79, Wallwood Road, Leytonstone, E.11. 266

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol City Branch. Saturday, June 1st, Stoke Bishop (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, Church House, 5.15 p.m. Meeting follows.—A. Bennett. 288

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Bridgnorth District.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, June 1st, at Madeley (8), 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names for tea by previous Wednesday to H. Edge, 10, The Crescent, Much Wenlock, Salop. 279

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Watford District.—Meeting at Elstree (6) on June 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5.—K. R. Dunstan, Dis. Sec. 308

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—Meeting at Little Chart (6) on Saturday, June 1st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by previous Thursday to me.—C. T. Hillis, 244, Hythe Road, Willesborough, Ashford. 300

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at East Peckham on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, May 29th, to Mr. T. Saunders, East Peckham, Tonbridge. No name no tea. 265

**LADIES' GUILD.**—West Midland District.—Meeting at Solihull (10) on Saturday, June 1st. Service 3 p.m. Bells from 4. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by May 29th, please, to Diana Perrins, 153, Plank Lane, Water Orton. 292

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Whalley on Saturday, June 1st. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 283

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Lancaster Branch.—Meeting at Silverdale on Saturday, June 1st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to W. Bolton, Kirkmeade, Cove Road, Silverdale.—R. F. Eccles, Sec. 291

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan Branch.—Meeting, Emmanuel, Southport, on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those notifying, by Wednesday, May 29th. Mr. R. Kenrick, 19, Glenpark Drive, Southport.—M. E. Ridyard. 305

**MARKSBURY, NEAR BATH.**—Annual ringers' service on Saturday, June 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea early as possible to W. A. Prescott, Elmleigh, South Road, Timsbury, near Bath. Tel. Timsbury 287.

**NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at Biddulph on Saturday, June 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, May 29th, to J. Stanway, School House, Biddulph, Stoke-on-Trent.—E. H. Edge, Hon. Sec. 297

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—Annual meeting at Newport Pagnell, Saturday, June 1st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Please notify for tea by May 27th R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. 255

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Salisbury Branch.—Saturday, June 1st, practice meeting, Codford. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. for those who send names by May 28th. Boyton (5) also available evening.—Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Devizes Branch.—Meeting, West Lavington (6), Saturday, June 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service and tea. Names for tea to S. Cockell, 19, Craybourne Road, Melksham, Wilts. 277



**SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Cotgrave (6) Saturday, June 1st. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by previous Tuesday to Mr. L. Henson, 14, Scrimshire Lane, Cotgrave, Notts.—C. W. Towers. 256

**SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Cup contest meeting at Thrybergh, Saturday, June 1st, 3 p.m. Cups of tea available—bring food.—J. Seager, Sec. 269

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Stowmarket District.—Meeting at Cotton on Saturday, June 1st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., Names for tea by May 28th.—B. Chilvers, Dis. Sec., Cotton, Stowmarket. 259

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Sudbury District.—Meeting at Cowlinge (5), Saturday, June 1st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Miss R. Seabrook, Clare. 263

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Withyham (8), Saturday, June 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by previous Wednesday, please, to Mr. J. Butcher, 14, Withypitts, Turner's Hill. 298

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Christchurch District.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, June 1st. Hordle (6) bells from 2.30 p.m. Service, tea and meeting at Milford. Milford bells (8), evening. Notify for tea to Admiral Everett, Gillinghams, Milford-on-Sea, Hants. 285

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—Meeting at Tring on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, June 5th, to Mr. B. Barker, 26, Haverlock Road, Kings Langley. No names, no tea.—J. Good, Dis. Sec. 287

**MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.**—Diamond Jubilee, Saturday, June 8th. Ringing arrangements: St. Olave's (Hart Street) and St. Giles-in-the-Fields, 2.30 to 4 p.m. Service, St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, 4.30. Dinner, Fanmakers' Hall, 6 p.m.—F. W. Goodfellow, 46, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks. Tel. Iver 1039. 293

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—South Norfolk Branch.—Meeting at Long Stratton, Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, June 5th, to C. F. Phillippo, 1, Council Houses, Bunwell, Norwich. 303

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch.—Meeting, Whilton, Saturday, June 8th. Names for tea by Monday previous to Mr. H. Haynes, Whilton, Daventry.—F. W. Hancock 286

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Dorset Branch.—Quarterly meeting, June 8th. Hazelbury Bryan. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea. Visitors welcome. Please notify the Rev. R. A. Wells, Iwerne Minster Vicarage, Blandford, Dorset. 310

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—General meeting. Long Melford, Saturday, June 8th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in Church School. Names by Thursday, June 6th, to Mr. V. Ambrose, 2, Westgate Street, Long Melford.—J. Blythe. 290

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—Annual joint meeting with District Societies and LADIES' GUILD (Yorkshire District) at Whiston, near Rotherham, June 8th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. T. E. Cutts, 15, Stag Lane, Broom, Rotherham, by 6th. Subscriptions now due and annual reports available. A good attendance is hoped for and a pleasant afternoon guaranteed.—Elizabeth Wardill and J. J. L. Gilbert. 309

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Annual general meeting on Whit Monday, June 10th, at Chelmsford. Service at 11 a.m. in the Cathedral, conducted by the Provost. Address by the Bishop of Barking. Meeting immediately

afterwards in the Chapter House. Cathedral bells available from 9.30 to 11 a.m. and from 5 p.m. From 3 to 6 p.m. the following towers are available: Galleywood (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Danbury (6), Sandon (6), and from 6 to 9 p.m.: Boreham (8), Great Waltham (8), Broomfield (6), Little Waltham (6), Springfield (6). Coffee and biscuits available in the Cathedral Hall from 10.15 a.m. to 10.45 a.m. Lunch, 1.30 p.m.—cost, 4s. 6d. Tea to be served at a running buffet from 5 to 6.15 p.m.—cost, 2s. Tickets for lunch and tea must be obtained prior to the day. Please apply early and by June 3rd, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—F. V. Gant, 3, Central Drive, Hornchurch, Essex. 241

**THE GUILD OF RAILWAYMEN CHURCH BELL RINGERS.**—Provisional arrangements for the annual meeting at Crewe on June 22nd, full day.

The tower and bells and parochial buildings will be available from arrival to lunch time, approximately 1 p.m. Meeting at 2 p.m. Service (Guild office), hallowing by the Vicar of Christ Church (Rev. Francis G. Gentry), and dedication of peal board and photograph at 3 p.m., after which Christ Church bells will again be available; also Nantwich and Sandbach, both eights, not more than half-an-hour away.

A running buffet will be available from 4 p.m. Tea will be available on arrival and throughout the day. 273

**GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.**—The annual festival will be held at Teignmouth on Whit Monday, June 10th. Service at St. Michael's Church, 12.15 p.m. Lunch at Gervy Café, 1 o'clock. Tickets (5s.) obtainable in advance from Mr. E. M. Atkins, Rock Cottage, Woodland Avenue, Teignmouth. Business meeting afterwards. Ringing at St. Michael's (8) and St. James' (8) from 11 to 12, and after the business meeting.—Preb. E. V. Cox, Hunthav Close, Axminster. 277

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual meeting and festival at Bridgnorth, Whit Monday, June 10th. Service 3.30 p.m., at St. Leonard's. Towers: St. Mary's, Bridgnorth, Claverley, Quatt, Chetton, Worfield. Bells available 11 a.m. Names for tea to H. G. Thomas, 104, Victoria Road, Bridgnorth, Salop. 154

**WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—Meeting at Wolverley, Saturday, June 15th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business. Names for tea by Thursday, June 13th. Catering difficult here.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Lane, Stourbridge. 306

## QUARTER PEALS

**WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.**—On Mar. 24th, 1,300 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure: R. J. Carlton (cond.) 1, Miss R. E. Gower 2, M. S. Lancelfield 3, A. J. Lancelfield 4, W. P. Garner 5, W. Gill 6. First in the method for the band. Also on Mar. 31st, 1,272 Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Spliced: Mrs. M. Pope 1, Miss R. E. Gower 2, A. J. Lancelfield 3, M. S. Lancelfield (cond.) 4, W. P. Garner 5, L. T. Pope 6. For Evensong. Also on April 7th, 1,280 Bob Doubles: R. J. Carlton (cond.) 1, Mrs. M. Pope (first in method) 2, Miss R. E. Gower 3, W. P. Garner 4, W. J. Lancelfield 5, W. Gill 6. For Evensong. Also on April 7th, 1,260 Bob Minor: E. S. Ruck 1, Miss P. Lowes 2, M. S. Lancelfield 3, C. T. Hillis 4, L. C. Smith 5, L. T. Pope (cond.) 6. For Matins. Also on April 14th, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob: E. S. Ruck 1, Miss P. Lowes 2, Miss R. A. Gower 3, C. T. Hillis 4, L. C. Smith 5, L. T. Pope (cond.) 6. Also on April 21st, 1,320 Bob Minor: Miss P. Lowes 1, E. S. Ruck 2, Miss R. E. Gower 3, C. T. Hillis 4, L. C. Smith 5, L. T. Pope (cond.) 6. For Matins.

## DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION

Ringling history was made on May 4th when the Northern District held what is believed to be the first-ever meeting of the Association at Embleton, Northumberland. Embleton, or Emeldon as it is also known in official documents, lies near the sea coast almost in the shadow of Dunstanburgh Castle, one of the outstanding examples of the majestic Northumbrian strongholds, and described by Freeman the historian, as 'surpassing all other Northumbrian castles in the grandeur of its site and abiding as a castle should abide in the majesty of a shattered ruin.'

The parish church of the Holy Trinity is of ancient foundation, and the advowson is held by Merton College, Oxford. The tower contains a ring of six bells (tenor 11 cwt.), installed by Mears and Stainbank in 1894. Two peals of Minor have been recorded, in 1896 and 1935, but in recent years the bells have been going badly and little or no ringing has been done on them. Now, however, a scheme of restoration of the fabric of the tower and the rehanging of the bells has been completed, at a cost of over £1,000, and the bells were reopened last Christmas. At the invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. P. Karney), the Association arranged this meeting to try the bells and give a stimulus to ringing in this out-of-the-way village.

A full bus-load of ringers travelled from Newcastle. They and other members were met with a warm welcome from the Vicar and the local ringers and were accorded the freedom of the belfry. A little difficulty was experienced on first ringing owing to the maladjusted ropes, the sally of the treble being so low that the first touch was rung literally 'aux genoux.'

A picnic tea was taken in the Vicarage, the study, conservatory and kitchen being overrun for the purpose. Following this, a ringers' service was held in church, conducted by the Vicar of Embleton who, in an address, expressed the appreciation and thanks of the parish for the Association's visit. Mr. J. Brewster (hon. editorial secretary) officiated at the organ, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbell in the chancel by P. Giles 1-2, C. N. Lea 3-4, K. Arthur 5-6, E. N. Harrison 7-8. A collection realised £2 2s. 6d., of which £1 was allocated to the Association bell restoration fund and the remainder to the local belfry maintenance fund.

Further ringing continued until 8.30 p.m., when the order to re-embark was given and the journey back to Newcastle was made by a route of longer length when the driver missed a bob early on in the course!

Embleton now has a pleasant, easy-going six and looks like becoming the venue of many future Association meetings. It is planned to supply instruction in change-ringing to the local ringers, and it is hoped they will become members of this Association when qualified.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD Bicester Deanery Branch

A pleasing sign at the quarterly meeting of the Bicester Deanery Branch meeting at Piddington on May 11th was that one-third of those present were young members of school age. Their keenness and good progress were commented upon.

The wives of Piddington ringers, under the supervision of Mrs. Jones, provided an excellent tea. The Rev. H. J. B. Elkerton presided at the business meeting, when arrangements for the outing on July 13th in the Bibury area were agreed and the annual meeting fixed for September 28th. He thanked the Vicar (Rev. A. F. Gatehouse) for conducting the service, Mrs. Bayliss (organist), Rev. H. Benson, for preaching the sermon, the ringers' wives and Mr. E. G. Jones.



# RINGING IN ENGLAND 80 YEARS AGO

## Extracts from 'Church Bells,' 1875-76

### THE SALUTARY INFLUENCE OF BELL-RINGING AND ITS MELODIES

(Continued from page 285)

A correspondent, George Gregory, M.D., of Brackley Park, Great Lever, near Bolton, writes: '... I doubt if there be any physical exercise to equal bell-ringing for keeping the body in health ... In bell-ringing, the important muscles of the chest, the spinal column and the arms are brought into powerful, steady and regular motion—usually at regular intervals. The length of time which bell-ringers keep their muscles in exercise is generally sufficient to produce a wholesome effect; seldom, I presume, so long as to cause a feeling of exhaustion.

'The majority of our belfries are on elevated ground, that is, where the air is purer and lighter. ... The temperature of the ringing rooms, with their thick walls, is not influenced by alternations of heat and cold, but should the weather unduly affect them, its influence can be easily modified. The mental effort to ring in order, together with the harmony of the bell-sounds, produces a beneficial effect, both on the mind and body. I certainly know of no "all-the-year-round" exercise which is as good for the health (especially of those persons who lead sedentary lives) as bell-ringing.

'The above thoughts were suggested by reading that a concert was to be given for the benefit of the bell-ringers of a neighbouring church in a town of about 100,000 inhabitants. However necessary it may be to pay working men for ringing church bells in rural places, I am sure that in towns and crowded villages there are many men who ought to consider it a privilege to be bell-ringers, and who should expect no reward except such as springs from the consciousness of having done good, in however humble an office, especially if connected with the service of their Maker. ...

'... To the public, especially those who have "an ear for music," the sound of bells has a cheerfully soothing effect, sometimes diverting our thoughts from needless cares and anxieties, to calm and tender moods and pleasant remembrances; old thoughts and scenes are brought back fresh and new almost as in days long gone by ...

### CHURCH BELLS AND HOW TO USE THEM

This appeared to be a big item at the Sixteenth Church Congress which was held at Plymouth in October, 1876, the opening service being at St. Andrew's Church. Mr. C. A. W. Troyte's paper followed others, and it included:—

'... There are few of the qualities God has given to man which are not exercised and improved by the practice of this art. Patience ... sharpness of the eye and ear ... strength of muscle ... skill and judgment ... presence of mind, endurance and memory ... concentrating the attention ... Yet, in many parishes, from the parson and most influential inhabitants down to the school children, everyone is proud of the bells and loves to hear them ... few but the ringers themselves care what goes on in the steeple or know anything about the ringing, the state of the bells or the character of those who perform them ... this state of things is altering for the better ... It is no longer allowed—as a rule that the ringers should be the roughs of the parish, and that, as such, they should be banished to a dirty loft in the tower, there to drink and smoke as they please. ... There are few parishes which do not possess a sufficient number of respectable

and intelligent young men to ring the bells in the proper way, and to put them to their full use by practising change-ringing upon them. ... I have enjoyed and been proficient in many sports and pastimes ... and for the encouragement of would-be change-ringers, I may say that some of my happiest and most exciting moments have been in a church tower. The excitement lest a "crab" should be caught in a boat race; a catch sent at the end of a cricket match; a shoe thrown towards the end of "the best run of the season"; to any of these may be fairly compared the end of a peal. ... A man need not necessarily be a "peal ringer" to enjoy all the greatest pleasure of change-ringing. Is he fond of music? ... Is he an athlete? ... the indescribable charm in the study for the methods and compositions ... the greatest of its charms, it may be a great Church work ... The merry peals at Christmas, the muffled peal which should be rung on Good Friday; the silence now so often enforced during Lent ... How is it then that they are so often allowed for most despicable of uses? To ring for races—to ring because one's sewerage scheme is passed and another rejected; because this gentleman is returned to and that gentleman is turned out from the Town Council—and, worst of all, to be rung whole days and nights in miserable ups and downs and rounds and rounds in contests for a few paltry money prizes got up by beer-house keepers! ... We (the Devon Guild of Ringers) consider it most unfit that God's House should be made a contest at all ... They are invariably got up by the publicans, and lead to drunkenness, fighting and all kinds of excesses. ... I make an earnest appeal to those who have the entire power over the bells to encourage with all their great influence the practice (of using these beautiful instruments to do much good), and at least to use the absolute power of veto which they possess to put an end to the abuses which still so largely exist in our steeples.'

Mr. Troyte's paper was followed by an address from Rev. F. H. Fisher, M.A., of Fulham.

Regarding ringing and chiming, he said that he thought our English church tower-bells were *always* meant to be rung. Then he gave his opinion as to the proper uses of church bells. 'First ... chief and primary use, to summon our people to church ... the external voice of the Church, as Catholic as the Church itself ...

'Second. The Church's voice should be lifted up, especially on her great festivals. The higher festivals might be marked by either a short touch in the early morning, or before one of the early celebrations; and the penitential seasons might be marked by the ringing giving place to the less joyous chiming.

'Third. There are occasions when most appropriately our bells may send forth in public our national joys and sorrows.

'Fourth. It is right that on certain occasions the voice of the Church should be heard proclaiming the happiness or the losses of her faithful children ... only it must be remembered carefully to what joys and sorrows the Church's voice may proclaim her sympathy. They must be such as connect the *private* life with the *privileges* and offices of the Church ... the Church as such, cannot rejoice over the return of a parishioner to represent a portion only of a constituency in Parliament, although she may very well express her gladness at the safe return from travel of someone whose position gives him influence, or the happy coming-of-age of one upon whose after-life much of the happiness of his native place may depend. The difficult points which will arise will be most easily met by remembering that the bells speak for all and to all and that their voice is the Church's note of feeling. ... No one should

be allowed to ring the Church's bells who is not a *bona-fide* member of the Church, and who does not take a pleasure in devoting whatever talent he may have to the service of the Church and the glory of God. The same attention should be bestowed upon the selection of the ringers as upon that of the choirmen ...

The Rev. B. L. Langdon Fulford, M.A., of Brodbrey, Devon, followed:—

'... the ringers have been almost universally forgotten, because the clergy have become ignorant of the art which in former ages of the Church they practised ... I earnestly plead, therefore, for the recognition of the ringers by the Church at large—making societies either coterminous with deaneries, archdeaconries or (far better than either) dioceses. ... There must be found men of good social position ... then the hearty sympathy and co-operation of Church authorities must be sought for, and surely cannot be refused ... Such societies will render possible the presence of the parish priest in the belfry at many impressive times. ...

'In another way the duty of the Church towards the ringers has been imperfectly fulfilled. The annual supervision by the rural dean of the fabrics and ornaments of our churches has rarely, until of late years, extended to the belfries or bell-chambers, and churchwardens ... have neglected their steeple, until the surrounding tokens of carelessness and indifference have had their effect upon the ringers, and have prevented the more respectable parishioners from entering the tower ... Let the Church of England put the noble rings of her parochial steeples in order, and we shall see a like change in the character of the ringers as is discernible in the case of members of our choirs. Ere I conclude, I would venture to suggest that a recognition of the ringers as Church workers by bishops on the occasions of their visits to the different parishes would be highly esteemed. ...

(To be continued)

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

### South and West District

Perhaps because a number of neighbouring Societies were also holding meetings on that day, the attendance was not as good as usual at the South and West District meeting at Heston on April 27th.

Ringling was confined to the standard methods in which, however, there was some good striking, and was somewhat curtailed by a broken rope. After this, the Association form of service was conducted by the Vicar (Preb. F. W. Ferraro); the organ was played by Mr. F. C. Price. The local band arranged an excellent tea which was fully in keeping with this band's fine tradition of entertainment.

The business meeting opened with the members standing in silence in memory of Ernest C. S. Turner. A letter was read from old friends Mr. and Mrs. Webb, who apologised for their absence, but who appeared to be having a very pleasant holiday. One new member, Mrs. Gotham, of Uxbridge, was elected. The vice-president (Mr. W. H. Coles) then referred to the wedding of Miss Barbara Thrush, of Cranford, which had taken place that afternoon, to whom the meeting extended their congratulations and best wishes. He also mentioned how pleased they were to find Mr. Ernest Gladman with them; he has been a member of the Heston band for over 60 years. 'I have enjoyed every minute of it,' Mr. Gladman said in reply. The secretary (Mr. F. A. Finch) announced that the next meeting would be at Ealing on June 15th; and the meeting concluded with votes of thanks to all those concerned with the arrangements for the afternoon. W. T. C.



### 5,152 WHITCHURCH SURPRISE MAJOR

By R. F. B. SPEED

2	3	4	5	6	B	5/4	W	M	H
4	2	6	3	5			—	—	
3	6	2	4	5		2			2
2	6	5	4	3			—		
6	4	2	3	5	X				
4	3	6	5	2	X				
5	6	3	4	2		X		—	
2	3	5	6	4			—	—	—

Repeat twice, omitting 2B 5/4 in last part.  
Rung at Willesden on May 2nd, 1957.

### 5,056 CASSIOBURY SURPRISE MAJOR

By JOHN R. MAYNE

2	3	4	5	6	M	W	B	H
4	2	3	5	6			—	
4	3	5	2	6		—		2
(4	3	2	6	5		—	X	
2	6	4	3	5		—		—
(2	6	3	5	4		—	X	
5	2	3	6	4		—		3
5	3	6	2	4		—		2
6	2	5	3	4		—		—
2	4	5	3	6	—			2
(2	4	3	6	5		—	X	
6	2	3	4	5		—		3
6	3	4	2	5		—		2
(3	2	6	5	4			X	
(2	5	3	4	6			X	
2	3	4	5	6	—			2

Rung at Willesden on September 20th, 1956;  
conducted by the composer.

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