



'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. 2419 Vol. LIII

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1957

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

6d.

POINTS FROM RECENT PEALS

FIRST, let me correct a mistake in my last article on this subject. Terrington should have read Tarrington. It was my mistake and not a printer's error. The Terringtons (St. John and St. Clement) have had many peals rung at them, of course. I am grateful to Mr. J. Wilson, of Terrington St. Clement, for pointing the mistake out.

One of the most interesting happenings of the past few months is the changing of the 'lead' as far as most peals in any church is concerned. Erith, St. John Baptist, has once again become the church where most peals have been rung, displacing Crayford. It may be of interest to compare the towers throughout their history. Crayford appeared first in the peal lists (of church bells) in 1877, and 8 peals had been rung there by the time we have the first at Erith (in 1882). Erith first passed Crayford in 1892 with its 48th peal, and then quickly forged ahead, passing its first century in 1896, Crayford's score being then 67. The 200 peals came in 1906, before Crayford had reached 100, being then 85. Thus it can be seen how much more prolific the former was at that time. It was at the end of 1909 that Erith was the farthest ahead it has ever been, its score being 218 when Crayford's was 92—126 peals more.

Crayford reached its first 100 in July, 1911, and then up to the first world war, it very slightly narrowed the gap to 122 peals, thus Erith was 241 at the end of 1914 and Crayford 119. After the war it was fairly even 'pegging' in the 1920's. Thus Erith reached the 300 mark in 1928, having had 59 peals since the end of the war. In this time Crayford had had 73 peals and was still 108 behind. It was then that Crayford really got cracking. Its 200th came in March, 1929, when its rival was at 304 peals. Crayford's next 100 only took five years, and so 300 was reached in August, 1934, and the deficit had been reduced to 70 (Erith was still doing about 10 a year!). Twenty-five peals were rung at Crayford that year and there were 24 in both the years 1937 and 1938! Thus when Erith passed the 400 mark in July, 1938, Crayford was then 374 and only 26 behind. Then came the Munich crisis and fewer peals all over the country, and only three more were rung at Erith before the war came, making its pre-war total 403. Crayford had not been quite so severely 'hit' and was only four behind when ringing ceased—its last pre-war peal being its 399th!

After the ban was lifted, it was Crayford which got away to the better start, and in 1945 it took the lead again after being behind for over 50 years. As most readers will know, it was the first church tower to have 500 peals, and this was in 1952 (these last 100 peals came in 10 years). Erith was then 472—28 behind, and this is, I think, the most it has had to make up. The latter's 500 came early in 1955, its rival then having 512 peals. There have not been many peals at Crayford this last year or two, and so Erith has once again managed to go into the lead in May last, when the former's total of 519 was passed. So congratulations to Erith on again leading the way. I wonder which tower will reach 600 first!

Whilst talking of large numbers of peals, I confirm the 350th at Willesden. At the present rate, this tower might have to be watched as far as the 600th peal is concerned! Over 160 peals have been rung here in the last 10 years.

Then we come to landmarks. Hadlow, Kent, has just had its 50th peal, the first being as long ago as 1884 (unless there were some before

ringing journals were in existence). Ringing has been fairly consistent here—20 peals up to 1914, 21 between the wars and 9 since 1949. Ashbocking also has reached 50 peals on June 4th, 29 of them coming since 1949. The next peal at the following towers will be the 50th they have had: Upchurch, Colchester (St. Peter), Great Bentley. Two towers will reach the century with their next peal. Thus the peal at Whitwick on May 24th was the 99th, as was that at Milton-next-Gravesend on June 1st. Forty-eight peals at the latter tower were rung when it had six bells from 1891 to 1930.

Now for rare visitors to the peal lists. The claim for the first peal on the bells at Eastchurch (Kent) I fear cannot be substantiated (unless they have been recast). Five peals were rung there from 1911 to 1914, but there haven't been any since, so here we have the tower with the longest silence in the period under review. Bradford-on-Tone has not appeared for 37 years. The two previous peals (both Grandsire Doubles) were in 1913 and 1920. There was a slight exaggeration about the claim at Leaton—first peal for 50 years! The only previous peal (Doubles in four methods) was on July 1st, 1922. South Cerney's last appearance was also in 1922—on September 6th. There have been four peals in all here. The only previous peal (also of Bob Minor) at Millom (Cumberland) was on November 28th, 1925.

The three 'in Gordanos'—Clapton, Easton and Weston—remind us that these do not often appear in these columns. It is 30 years since Clapton was there, although there have been 12 peals in all (seven from 1904 to 1912). The other two have each appeared once since the last war—Easton in 1953 and Weston in 1951. Otherwise the former last had a peal in 1928 and the latter in 1910. All three towers have had most of their peals from 1904 to 1913—there have been 12 at Clapton, 16 at Easton and 5 at Weston. Shaftesbury Holy Trinity's only previous peal (of Grandsire Doubles) was in 1928, whilst the four previous ones at Blo-Norton were in 1911, 1912, 1923 and 1930. Aston (Herts) has not been heard in a peal for 25 years. The recent one was the fourth, the others being in 1907, 1920 and 1932. Whepstead's only other peal was in 1933, and two towers have had a peal silence since 1934—St. Nicholas-at-Wade (only other peal in that year) and Embleton (three in all now—1892, 1934 and 1957). Woolhope and Shepton Mallet had their last peals in 1936 (seven in all at the former and 11 at the latter). I can confirm that the peal at Broomfield was the first since 1938.

For an 8-bell tower, peals have been few at Cheddar. The recent one was only the third; the other two (all three have been Grandsire Triples, by the way) were in 1914 and 1954. Although there have been 15 peals at Morpeth (the first in 1892), the one rung on June 5th was the first of Grandsire there. That is most unusual. Other points noticed: Wrexham has had its first since 1946—London Royal, too! It was the 50th peal on the bells (since 1883). Twenty-five peals were rung up to 1913, then 23 from 1920 to 1938 and two in 1946. The only previous Surprise peal was of Cambridge Royal in 1927. The last peal of Treble Ten at Derby Cathedral was in 1885. The peal at Cuddington, Bucks, was the first on the bells as well as the first in the method (Edinburgh Delight). The peals at Newland and Pinhoe were the first of Minor on the bells.

Finally, two 5-bell towers worthy of mention again. Marston now has 24 peals and is third on the list of 5-bell towers for number of peals, only Warkton and Barton Segrave beating it. Then Kirby Bellars is now numbered amongst the select few 5-bell towers which have reached double figures.

TEN BELL PEALS

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 24, 1957, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

A PEAL OF 5120 LITTLE BOB ROYAL

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

*ERNEST MORRIS .. Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON .. 6
†BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 2	†BRIAN S. CHAPMAN .. 7
†CECILIA COWLEY .. 3	*HAROLD MARCON .. 8
†MALCOLM F. COWLEY .. 4	†ERNEST J. JELLEY .. 9
†PHYLLIS POOLE .. 5	*G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by G. RONALD EDWARDS. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal of Royal in the method. † First peal in the method.
‡ First peal on ten bells.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF 5043 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

ELISABETH A. G. GRIME .. Treble	JOAN GRAY .. 6
MARY H. HALL .. 2	FRANK D. MACK .. 7
ALBERT M. TYLER .. 3	DAVID HEIGHTON .. 8
MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING .. 4	PERCIVAL W. CAVE .. 9
TUDOR P. EDWARDS .. 5	F. CECIL MOGFORD .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHT. Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

ALAN A. POTTS .. Treble	JOHN WORTH .. 6
FRED DUNKERLEY .. 2	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. 7
BASIL JONES .. 3	PETER LAFLIN .. 8
JAMES FERNLEY .. 4	BRIAN HARRIS .. 9
C. KENNETH LEWIS .. 5	EDWARD JENKINS .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 37 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.

CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. Treble	CHARLES N. LEA .. 6
KENNETH ARTHUR .. 2	KENNETH LAWSON .. 7
W. NORMAN PARK .. 3	ROLAND PARK .. 8
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON .. 4	DENIS A. BAYLES .. 9
GEORGE S. DEAS .. 5	J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON.

In memoriam Joseph E. R. Keen, sometime Ringing Master at this Cathedral, died July 17th, 1957

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 24 cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY .. Treble	*E. MARTIN FIELDEN .. 6
RONALD KENRICK .. 2	*CYRIL LOW .. 7
*JOHN NELSON .. 3	JOHN F. GROVE .. 8
JACK ASHCROFT .. 4	EDWIN C. BIRKETT .. 9
HENRY J. FIELDEN .. 5	JOSEPH RIDYARD .. Tenor

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

* First peal of Surprise Royal.

E. Martin Fielden was proposed a member of the Association before the peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

KIRTLINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 17, 1957, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's transposition.

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb.

FREDK. A. H. WILKINS .. Treble	MICHAEL J. HALLETT .. 5
DAPHNE R. CASTELL .. 2	FRANK A. BARRETT .. 6
J. RICHARD CHAUNDY .. 3	WALTER F. JUDGE .. 7
EDGAR J. SMITH .. 4	FRANCIS A. WHITE .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 17, 1957, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

JOAN K. BROWN .. Treble	SHIRLEY BURTON .. 5
*ROGER K. STRETTON .. 2	JOSEPH W. COTTON .. 6
BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 3	ERNEST J. JELLEY .. 7
PHYLLIS POOLE .. 4	BRIAN S. CHAPMAN .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal of Cambridge 'inside.'

HEYDOUR, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb.

FREDERICK W. PINCHBECK .. Treble	WALTER WESTON .. 5
RONALD RUSSELL .. 2	H. LESLIE SQUIRES .. 6
BERNARD H. DALTON .. 3	H. REGINALD WOODS .. 7
PERCY D. BALDOCK .. 4	JAMES H. MUSSON .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., July 20, 1957, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5136 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. in D flat.

WILLIAM J. BUTTON .. Treble	GILBERT R. GOODSHIP .. 5
ROBERT E. LESTER .. 2	RONALD A. BUGG .. 6
IVAN COOPER .. 3	KENNETH G. BROWN .. 7
HARRY D. LISTER .. 4	EDWARD E. DAVEY .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

WOODSTOCK, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., July 22, 1957, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5008 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES COLES .. Treble	EDGAR J. SMITH .. 5
CHRISTINE M. WOODWARD .. 2	CYRIL H. KINCH .. 6
DAPHNE R. CASTELL .. 3	FRANK A. BARRETT .. 7
*REV. A. S. ROBERTS .. 4	ALAN R. PINK .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES TOPP.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* 200th peal.

Rung on the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene.

CHILVERS COTON, NUNEATON.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., July 23, 1957, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOHN E. S. MORETON .. Treble	MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 5
*JOHN E. LLOYD .. 2	GEORGE A. BELL .. 6
ARTHUR H. BEAMISH .. 3	JAMES F. CLARKE .. 7
DOROTHY E. BEAMISH .. 4	JOHN A. L. THOMPSON .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by ARTHUR H. BEAMISH.

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

Rung to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the granting of a charter to the Borough of Nuneaton.

LECKHAMPTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Wed., July 24, 1957, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (seventh observation).		Tenor 8½ cwt. in A.	
ALBERT J. NEWMAN Treble	CYRIL A. WRATTEN 5		
E. TREVOR NEWBURY 2	STANLEY C. MILTON 6		
SHIRLEY M. PARSONS 3	LESLIE BARRY 7		
G. LEONARD HEWITT 4	HARRY NEWMAN Tenor		

Conducted by CYRIL A. WRATTEN.

Arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Boreham on the eve of their silver wedding.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 25, 1957, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt.

*JANE LANGTON Treble	EDGAR RAPLEY 5
JUNE M. CLEMENTS 2	LEONARD STILWELL 6
MERVYN FROMM 3	†DENIS R. MITCHELL 7
*PETER H. LANGTON 4	GEORGE FRANCIS Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by DENIS R. MITCHELL.

* First peal in the method. † First peal. Mr. Leonard Stilwell has now 'completed the circle.'

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.		Tenor 12½ cwt.	
*BERNARD E. MATTHEWS .. Treble	DONALD SMITH 5		
MERVYN FROMM 2	RICHARD WILSON 6		
HENRY C. WEAVER 3	RAYMOND P. WOOD 7		
LEONARD STILWELL 4	*RAYMOND A. BROWN .. Tenor		

Conducted by RAYMOND P. WOOD.

* First peal.

Rung to welcome the Rev. R. Evan Hopkins to the living. Also a compliment to the Rev. and Mrs. Peter Blackman on the birth of their daughter.

CARBIS BAY, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANTA AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Hubbard's Five-part.		Tenor 9½ cwt.	
*ANTHONY G. J. EDWARDS .. Treble	V. MARY MATTHEWS 5		
†P. RUTH HOSKEN 2	MARGERY A. BIRCH 6		
ALAN CARVETH 3	REV. A. S. ROBERTS 7		
ARTHUR F. BURLEY 4	DAVID N. PENROSE Tenor		

Conducted by ALAN CARVETH.

* First peal. † First peal of Plain Bob 'inside.' The 25th peal on the bells.

DEDDINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5072 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 17 cwt. 10 lb. in E.

CHARLES COLES Treble	*CHRISTOPHER C. CLARKE .. 5
MRS. G. F. BURTON 2	*ROBERT A. REEVES 6
*JANICE GRIMSLEY 3	GEORGE F. BURTON 7
EDMUND E. PEARSON 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal of Major.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Shipway's Five-part.		Tenor 11½ cwt.	
RUTH HIGHLEY Treble	JOHN W. MEADE 5		
CYRIL S. JARRETT 2	TERENCE BARTON 6		
THOMAS BEAUMONT 3	GEORGE KENWARD 7		
ALBERT J. DUNK 4	WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT .. Tenor		

Conducted by WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the second ringers' mother.

HITCHIN, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in D.

MARY ANDREWS Treble	KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. 5
JOAN M. WILCOCKSON 2	JACK S. DEAR 6
*PATRICIA DOORN 3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES 7
WILLIAM WENBAN 4	PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Composed by CRAVEN (arr.).

Conducted by PHILIP MEHEW.

* First peal of Surprise. First of Yorkshire as conductor.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Roy Meheew and Margaret Hilton, married at St. Mary's earlier in the day.

Composition believed rung for the first time, a variation on Craven's by Stephen Ivin.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.		Tenor 25½ cwt. in E flat.	
*MARION PARKER Treble	HAROLD A. NOBES 5		
E. KEITH JORDAN 2	FREDK. W. BURNETT 6		
ALEC PAGE 3	JOHN H. HUNT 7		
RUSSELL PARKER 4	ARTHUR HOODLESS Tenor		

Conducted by JOHN H. HUNT.

* 25th peal.

A farewell peal to J. H. Hunt, who is leaving for the Persian Gulf. Also the last peal on the bells prior to rehanging and augmentation.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS.

A PEAL OF 5056 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

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

*BRIAN G. WARWICK Treble	†G. HARRY BRAY 5
†MRS. F. E. WILSON 2	†RUSSELL S. MORRIS 6
*BRIAN S. CHAPMAN 3	*ERNEST J. JELLEY 7
JOSEPH W. COTTON 4	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN.

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal of Major in the method. † First peal in the method.

HUNTINGDON.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 29, 1957, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 21 lb. in F sharp.

JOHN R. KETTERINGHAM .. Treble	HAROLD S. PEACOCK 5
HUGH NEILL 2	GEOFFREY A. LUCAS 6
MICHAEL W. CROWDER 3	GILES C. GALLEY 7
PETER J. COLES 4	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by GILES C. GALLEY.

First peal as conductor.



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FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

OSMASTON-BY-ASHBOURNE DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., June 29, 1957, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

PAMELA J. PEARSON Treble	P. G. BELLAMY-KNIGHTS .. 4
ARTHUR R. WRIGHT .. 2	BRIAN R. MANNING .. 5
*W. ARNOLD MORLEY .. 3	DAVID K. WALKLATE .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID K. WALKLATE.

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

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-A-BECKET.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being two 2.160's and one 720.

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

*WILLIAM H. DOWSE .. Treble	†BERNARD GROVES .. 4
†ROBERT SMITH .. 2	†ALAN McFALL .. 5
*FRANK OSBALDISTON .. 3	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES.

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Surprise Minor.

DERSINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 13, 1957, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt. 8 lb.

FRIEDA A. FROST .. Treble	NORMAN V. HARDING .. 4
SAMUEL H. WATERFIELD .. 2	TONY OWEN .. 5
MICHAEL GATHERCOLE .. 3	CECIL V. EBBERSON .. Tenor

Conducted by CECIL V. EBBERSON.

Rung for St. Swithin's Day.

RADSTOCK, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 24, 1957, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

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

RONALD G. BECK .. Treble	DAVID HOARE .. 4
*PETER J. WYCHERLEY .. 2	GWILYM SALMON .. 5
EUNICE D. OVEREND .. 3	*†ROGER H. ABBOTT .. Tenor

Conducted by ROGER H. ABBOTT (aged 15).

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Minor.

The bells were raised, the peal rung, and the bells lowered again without a break.

NEWTON HALL, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 25, 1957, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of an extent each of Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford T.B., Single Oxford, St. Clement's, Kent T.B. and Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. Treble	*GEORGE S. DEAS .. 4
ERIC N. HARRISON .. 2	KENNETH W. CHEESEMAN .. 5
CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB .. 3	KENNETH ARTHUR .. Tenor

Conducted by KENNETH ARTHUR.

* First peal in seven methods 'inside.' First peal on these bells for 23 years.

Rung for the Feast of St. James.

WIGGENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 25, 1957, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and St. Clement's, and four extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

MICHAEL GATHERCOLE .. Treble	R. W. SPENCER .. 4
*ERNEST H. MASTIN .. 2	M. R. REED .. 5
GRAHAM J. MANN .. 3	NORMAN V. HARDING .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST H. MASTIN.

* First peal in four Minor methods.

TILNEY, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 26, 1957, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 16 cwt.

*FREDA P. GREAVES .. Treble	LESLIE W. HOUGHTON .. 4
EDWARD GREENACRE .. 2	WILLIAM ROSE .. 5
MICHAEL GATHERCOLE .. 3	NORMAN V. HARDING .. Tenor

Conducted by NORMAN V. HARDING.

* First peal and first attempt.

ALDEBURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

C. JACK GIBSON .. Treble	*EDWIN T. CHAPMAN .. 4
JACK PILGRIM .. 2	JOHN W. BLYTHE .. 5
RAY PECK .. 3	PETER S. BEDFORD .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER S. BEDFORD.

* First peal of Surprise. First peal as conductor.

SCOTTOW, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of St. Clement's and four extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

HERBERT G. SMITHSON .. Treble	DERICK W. PARDON .. 4
HANBURY F. CARTER .. 2	WALTER C. MEDLER .. 5
MRS. HANBURY F. CARTER .. 3	WILLIAM R. CATCHPOLE .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM R. CATCHPOLE.

Rung half-muffled for Mr. Arthur S. Currall, churchwarden at this church for 14 years, whose funeral took place during the week.

SKILLINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Being 42 extents, each bell taking its turn in the hunt (20 callings).

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

DENIS A. FRITH .. Treble	BRIAN HUNT .. 3
*PETER A. HILL .. 2	*BRIAN BUTTERY .. 4
W. RUSSELL READ .. Tenor	

Conducted by DENIS A. FRITH.

* First peal of Doubles. First peal in this variation by all.

WOLVERCOTE, OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 27, 1957, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being ten extents of Grandsire seven of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob, four each of Plain Bob, St. Simon's and Southrepps, three each of Reverse St. Bartholomew, April Day and Clifford Pleasure and two extents each of Stedman and Northrepps. Tenor 8 cwt. in B flat.

WILFRED C. GODWIN .. Treble	DERMOT J. ROAF .. 4
NORMAN CHAMBERLAIN .. 2	MICHAEL J. HALLETT .. 5
HARRY P. FLOYD .. 3	ALBERT COSTAR .. Tenor

Conducted by MICHAEL J. HALLETT.

The first peal on the recast bells.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. N. Chamberlain on the occasion of their silver wedding.

YATESBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., July 29, 1957, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 21 extents Grandsire (ten callings and Morris' and Pitman's 240) and 21 extents Plain Bob (four callings).

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in G.

*MICHAEL J. AUSTIN .. Treble	†RAYMOND G. SMITH .. 3
*DAVID C. MANGER .. 2	JOE E. G. ROAST .. 4
JAMES C. TAYLOR Tenor	

Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles.

Rung by an R.A.F. band from Yatesbury, Cherhill and Compton Bassett.

BLYTHBURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wed., July 31, 1957, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

SYDNEY J. MERRY Treble	FRANCIS R. LOWE 4
PETER KINDRED 2	WALTER RUFFLES 5
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN 3	JOHN W. BLYTHE Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. BLYTHE.

A birthday compliment to the ringer of the fifth.

HANDBELL PEALS

FAIRFIELD, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 12, 1957, in 2 Hours.

AT 37, GRETTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor size 14½ in C sharp.

ALEX. RICHARDSON 1—2	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. 3—4
WILLIAM A. SMITH 5—6	

Conducted by WILLIAM A. SMITH.

First peal of Minor on handbells by all. First peal on handbells as conductor.

WHITWORTH PARK, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 22, 1957, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes.

AT WESTON HOUSE,

A PEAL OF 5152 BELGRAVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

DEREK OGDEN 1—2	ROBIN G. TURNER 5—6
WILFRED L. ROBINSON .. 3—4	FREDK. WM. GROCOTT .. 7—8

Composed by J. Cox.

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

First in the method 'in hand' for the Lancashire Association.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On July 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: H. W. Brown 1, I. C. Forrest 2, Gwyneth R. Brown (first 'inside') 3, R. D. Brown 4, S. W. Brown (cond.) 5, Valerie Mephram 6. Rung as a welcome to Lynne Mary, born the day before, at Leeds, daughter of Mary and Bryan Turnbull (former ringers in this tower).

ASH, SOMERSET.—On July 23rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: M. E. Turner (first of Minor) 1, Miss J. E. Gladman 2, F. A. Strickland 3, R. P. Setway 4, W. E. Turner 5, J. W. C. Sinfild (cond.) 6.

BEXLEY, KENT.—On July 28th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Miss S. P. Nicholson 1, Miss B. A. Thompson 2, Miss J. R. Cox 3, Miss M. R. Andrews 4, J. L. Morris 5, S. J. Woodcock (cond.) 6. Rung for Evensong.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—On July 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Whitby (first of Grandsire) 1, H. M. White 2, R. Hayden 3, H. Bird 4, R. H. Young 5, H. Groom 6, F. Bird (cond.) 7, W. Wheeler (first of Grandsire) 8. Rung as a farewell to the curate, the Rev. P. Minall.

BOLNEY, SUSSEX.—On July 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Shirley Radmore 1, J. Gasson 2, T. Gasson 3, Mrs. F. Cruttenden 4, E. Packham 5, F. Cruttenden 6, F. Godsmark (cond.) 7, G. Gasson 8.

BOURNEMOUTH.—At St. John's Church, on July 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. R. Boyce 1, G. M. Rouse 2, Mrs. F. J. Marshall say (cond.) 3, Mrs. C. N. Boyce 4, A. H. Cross 5, S. Walmesley 6, E. Booth 7, H. A. Mitchell 8.

CHESTER-LE-STREET, CO. DURHAM.—On July 26th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: R. Haigh 1, Miss M. A. P. Bertie 2, Mrs. D. A. Bayles 3, J. W. Robson 4, W. Nicholson 5, S. C. Walker 6, C. Mordue 7, D. A. Bayles (cond.) 8. Rung for the silver wedding on the previous day of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Robson.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKS.—On June 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. A. L. Thompson 1, Miss D. J. Clarke 2, J. E. S. Moreton 3, Mrs. D. E. Beamish 4, A. H. Beamish 5, J. F. Clarke 6, J. Draycott (cond.) 7, G. A. Bell 8. Rung for morning service on the occasion of the Sunday School anniversary.

CLUTTON, SOMERSET.—On July 25th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: J. M. Stallard 1, F. C. Mogford 2, Mrs. D. G. Mayell 3, A. A. Hilliar 4, D. G. Mayell (cond.) 5, J. Owen 6. A birthday compliment to Mrs. D. G. Mayell.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—On July 21st, at the Parish Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Keyte (Charlbury) 1, F. J. Lewis, sen. (cond.) 2, P. J. Lewis (first 'inside') 3, B. Wakefield (first of Triples) 4, A. Painter 5, P. Morgans (first quarter) 6, W. H. Hayward 7, F. J. Lewis, jun., 8. For evening service and also to celebrate the christening of Julie Carol, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. Morgans.

DUBLIN, EIRE.—At St. Patrick's Cathedral, on July 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. H. Brown 1, E. G. Buchanan 2, W. H. Wilson 3, C. J. Reede 4, T. McMorran (cond.) 5, A. R. Polkington 6, J. A. Atkinson 7, J. Click 8. Rung to celebrate the 43rd anniversary of the wedding of the ringer of the third bell.

EAST-DRAYTON, NOTTS.—On July 27th, 1,260 Minor (720 Single Oxford and 540 Plain Bob): Pat Grady 1, D. McNeil (first in two methods) 2, Margaret Ross 3, Terence Randall 4, A. Wilson 5, R. Hobbs (cond.) 6.

EATON, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On July 27th, 1,260 Minor (540 Plain Bob, 720 Single Oxford): Miss J. Owen 1, J. Morris 2, J. E. Cook 3, J. H. Cook 4, F. J. Williams 5, R. H. Cook (first of Minor as conductor) 6. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. Morris for the birth of their daughter; also for the first birthday of John, son of the Vicar (Rev. G. S. D. Turner).

GOATHURST, SOMERSET.—On July 19th, 1,440 Double Court Minor: H. Pople 1, D. Miller 2, J. Walton 3, K. Prime 4, C. Clarke 5, R. Short (cond) 6. First in the method by all and on the bells.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On July 21st, 1,260 Minor (720 Oxford Bob, 540 Plain Bob): Jean Croft 1, L. Runnacles 2, S. H. Ashton 3, A. C. Harris 4, K. C. Timbury 5, P. W. Croft (cond.) 6. Rung for Evensong.

HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.—On July 25th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Kathleen M. Yeo 1, Mrs. Betty Percy 2, Joan M. Downing 3, J. Downing 4, R. W. Pankhurst 5, C. Verdon (first in method) 6, F. Dallaway (cond.) 7, L. Baldock 8. First quarter of Stedman for 1 and 2.

HATCH BEAUCHAMP, SOMERSET.—On July 29th, 1,260 Doubles (240 April Day, 360 Bob Doubles, 360 Stedman, 300 Grandsire): A. H. Reed 1, D. F. Sheldon 2, W. H. Tarr 3, J. E. Brewer 4, W. G. Gigg (cond.) 5. Rung as a compliment to Mr. W. Mills, captain of the local ringers, who has just completed 60 years as a chorister at this church.

LEEDS, YORKS.—At St. Chad's, Headingley, on July 25th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss S. Pettingell 1, Mrs. D. Skelton 2, Martin Davies 3, Miss Sheila Schofield 4, Miss Rosemary Hick 5, R. Bettley Cooke 6, A. I. Johnson 7, L. Drake 8. Rung to welcome the birth of Lyn Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Turnbull, members of the above tower.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.—At the Church of St. James, Benwell, on St. James' Day (July 25th), 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Wilkinson 1, F. Ross (first quarter 'inside') 2, A. Wallace 3, C. Carse 4, R. S. Mallaburn 5, R. Barrow 6.

SOUTHGATE, LONDON.—On July 28th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mary Piper 1, Ann Aldridge 2, S. G. Peck 3, J. Wallman (cond.) 4, M. Stanyon (first of Minor) 5, C. Aldridge 6. Rung for the Parish Communion and a 77th birthday compliment to A. Glasscock, a member of the Southgate band for 60 years.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICS.—On July 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: V. Norman (first away from tenor) 1, Joan K. Brown 2, E. J. Jelley 3, R. K. Stretton (first 'inside') 4, R. Jelley 5, A. E. Bodycote 6, B. G. Warwick (cond.) 7, P. Norman 8. For Evensong.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.—On July 14th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: Margaret A. Ladd 1, R. E. Wood 2, E. J. Brunger 3, A. F. Wellington 4, S. G. Ponting 5, E. J. Jenner 6, S. Jenner (cond.) 7, B. V. Collison 8. First in the method for all except ringers of 1 and 8. For Evensong.

WESTON FAVELL, NORTHANTS.—On July 29th, 1,260 Doubles (600 Plain Bob and 660 Grandsire): E. Rudkin 1, L. Earl 2, Miss G. Ashby 3, A. Jones 4, P. Amos (cond.) 5. Rung half-muffled for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Cecily Hills, a respected member of this church.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—J. B. 10s., J. Fuller 2s.
 Peals.—Edenham 7s. 6d., Marsham 1s., Chilvers Coton 2s., Gillingham 4s., Radstock 2s. 6d.
 Quarter Peals.—Dublin 4s., Bolney 2s., Chilvers Coton 2s., Hailsham 2s., Bishop's Stortford 4s., Ash, Somerset, 2s., Cirencester 2s. 6d.

PEAL RINGING AT WAKEFIELD 1801-1815

By David Cubitt

The following notes are in the form of newspaper extracts, with some parenthetical comments, and are not claimed to be a complete list of peals rung in these 15 years at Wakefield (or by Wakefield ringers elsewhere). During this period the newspapers quoted were published weekly, the Wakefield ones on Fridays, 'The Leeds Mercury' on Saturdays.

There were two rings of eight in Wakefield at the time: All Saints' bells (tenor 24 cwt.) were by Pack and Chapman and had been opened in July, 1779; St. John's were cast by Thomas Mears in 1794 and had a 23 cwt. tenor.

The first three extracts are from 'The Leeds Mercury.'

April 11th, 1801: On Friday the 3rd inst. was rung at the Church of St. John's, Wakefield, by the Society of Ringers, an abstract of 5040 changes, of Bob Major, in three hours and twenty-three minutes, being the first peal, eight in, rung upon those bells, which was executed with the greatest exactness, and to the pleasure of all who heard them.

July 11th, 1801: On Sunday evening last, the inhabitants of Wakefield were agreeably entertained by eight of the company from St. Peter's Church, in this town, ringing a true and complete peal, consisting of 5280 changes, on the bells of St. John's, being the first five thousand of treble bob ever rung in that town, and which was performed in three hours and forty-one minutes, by

W. Ellbeck	treble
J. Sawyer	2
J. Whitaker	3
T. Bedford	4
B. Skirrow	5
W. Preston	6
J. Tebbs	7 and
conducted the peal	
T. Normington	tenor

June 4th, 1803: On the morning of Sunday last, was rung at St. John's Church, Wakefield, by the society of ringers at that church, an abstract of Bob Major, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and 25 minutes, in a very masterly stile.

The next seven extracts are from 'The Wakefield Star.'

September 25th, 1805: On Saturday was rung at our Parish Church, a new peal of tripples, consisting of 2575 changes, on the occasion of Dr. Munkhouse being inducted into the vicarage by the Rev. Mr. Herron, of Pontefract; and on Sunday morning, in honour of his Majesty's Coronation, a complete peal, called The Coronation, in 3 hours and 16 minutes, with the greatest exactitude and distinctness, by 1st, Richard Wilkinson; 2nd Jos. Penny; 3rd, James Robshaw; 4th, Geo. Priestley; 5th, Rich. Collet; 6th, Wm. Day; 7th, Wm. Hewitt; and 8th, Thos. Herrinton.—Conducted by W. H.

(The Rev. Richard Munkhouse, D.D., was the first minister of St. John's, Wakefield, before his promotion.)

November 8th, 1805: Last Sunday morning was rung at St. John's Church, in this town, by the society of ringers at that place, a complete peal of 5040 changes, in three hours and one minute, called St. John's Pleasure, or Bob Major Tripples, being the first time it was ever rung in Wakefield, by the following persons, J. Scott, W. Carter, J. Gill, R. Daff, J. Woodhead, J. Gill, W. Woodhead and B. Gill.—W. Woodhead conductor.

December 6th, 1805: Yesterday . . . After divine service a mourning (or dumb) peal was rung at both churches in commemoration of our fallen Hero.

January 10th, 1806: Yesterday being the funeral of the ever-to-be-lamented hero of Trafalgar, a solemn peal, with muffled bells, was rung at both churches in this town, as a mournful tribute to the memory of the departed Earl.

(These last two may well not have been full 5,000's.)

June 13th, 1806: On Wednesday, was rung at St. John's Church, in this town, by the Society of St. John's Youths, in three hours and thirty minutes, a peal of old Tripple Bobs, consisting of 5088 changes, in a complete stile, being the first peal ever rung in that method in Wakefield.

November 14th, 1806: On Tuesday last was rung at the Old Church in this town, by the Society of Wakefield youths, a complete peal of grandsire tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in three hours and sixteen minutes; with great exactness, performed by Benjamin Gill, Richard Wilkinson, James Gill, Robert Daff, Thomas Rinnington, Joseph Gill, John Woodhead and Wm. Woodhead.

January 30th, 1807: On Sunday evening was rung at St. John's Church, by a select company of St. John's ringers and St. Peter's, of Leeds, a true and complete peal, consisting of 5280 changes of Union Treble Bobs, eight in, which was performed in 3 hours and 35 minutes with the greatest exactness, by Robert Daff, Jas. Gill, Joseph Gill, Wm. Woodhead and Benjamin Gill, of Wakefield; and William Preston, Joseph Tebbs and John Hudson, of Leeds, conducted by W. Woodhead.

('The Leeds Mercury,' of January 31st, 1807, reporting the peal, places the ringers: Daff, treble; Hudson, 2nd; James Gill, 3rd; Tebbs, 4th; Preston, 5th; Joseph Gill, 6th; Woodhead, 7th; Benjamin Gill, tenor.)

'The Leeds Mercury,' April 4th, 1807: Monday last was opened at Keighley, a Peal of Bells, augmented from six to eight, by Mr. Mears, of London, universally allowed to be as fine toned as any in Yorkshire. The bells were opened by six ringers from Leeds and two of Keighley, who completed 5088 changes of New Treble Bob, in 3 hours and 7 minutes, conducted by Mr. Jos. Tebbs. The Youths from St. John's, Wakefield, next took the ropes, and rung a peal of Oxford Treble Bob, consisting of 5280 changes, in 3 hours and 19 minutes, conducted by Mr. W. Woodhead. The company from Halifax concluded the day by ringing 5120 changes of New Treble Bob, in 3 hours and 21 minutes, conducted by Mr. James Hudson. Tuesday the company of ringers from Sowerby performed one of Mr. Holt's peals, Grandsire Trebles, consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hours and 53 minutes, conducted by Mr. Nicholas Wild. The Bradford company concluded the performance, with a peal of Grandsire Trebles, and rung well upwards of 4000 changes, but by a mistake of one of the performers the peal was lost.

(On May 3rd following the Keighley Society rang their first peal on this eight.)

The six following passages come from 'The Wakefield Star.'

September 11th, 1807: On Wednesday was rung at Pontefract, by a select company of St. John's Youths, Wakefield, a complete peal of New Treble Bob, consisting of 5088 changes, in three hours and six minutes, with the greatest exactness, being the first peal ever rung in that method at Pontefract.

October 2nd, 1807: On Sunday last was rung at St. John's Church, in this town, by the desire of a great many of the Society's friends, a complete peal of new Treble Bob, consisting of 5088 changes, in 3 hours and 23 minutes, by T. Rafton, J. Scott, J. Woodhead, R. Daff, Jas. and Jos. Gill, W. Woodhead and B. Gill; conducted by W. Woodhead.

(Continued foot of next column)

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY VISIT CHAPEL ALLERTON

The Society were fortunate in having the July meeting planned in such pleasant surroundings as Chapel Allerton. Although one can see the tower from a great distance, the actual approach to the church is a different matter, as building has taken place on all sides. The bells, a memorial placed in the church some three years ago, are light, and with the construction of the tower do not cause any disturbance outside.

The business meeting was held in the Parish Rooms; the president (Mr. I. Slack) was chairman. Members were present from Armley, Bramley, Calverley, Headingley, St. Chad and St. Michael, Leeds Parish Church, Rothwell, Sherburn and Thorner. Visitors touring Yorkshire helped to swell the numbers, somewhat depleted owing to the bus strike. (We in Leeds have been very fortunate in not being affected by the strike.) Apologies were received from Mr. T. W. Strangeway and Mr. J. Hodson.

Three new members were elected—Messrs. Frank Waterfield, of Bramley, Robert Appleby and John Rhodes, of Calverley.

The vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and local company was ably proposed by Mr. Thorley, who specially thanked the ladies for the splendid tea and the small charge made. Mr. L. Drake seconded.

The next meeting is due to be held at Colingham on August 31st. Members are asked to watch the columns of 'The Ringing World.' Ringing was continued until 8.30 p.m.

5,120 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

By ERNEST W. TIPLER
(No. 30)

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

First rung at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, on July 3rd, 1957, conducted by Brian G. Warwick.

(Continued from previous column)

February 26th, 1808: On Monday last was rung at our Parish Church, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Tripples, consisting of 5040 changes, in a style that did credit to the performers in three hours and twenty minutes, by T. Rafton, J. Scott, J. Woodhead, R. Daff, W. Woodhead, B. Gill, T. Herrington and B. Whitehead; conducted by W. Woodhead.

May 6th, 1808: On Sunday morning last, was rung at St. John's Church, in this town, by five of St. John's Company and three Independent Ringers from Leeds, a new peal called New Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5144 changes. The peal was composed and conducted by Mr. Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds; and was performed and completely brought round in three hours and twenty-one minutes, being the first peal in that method, ever rung in England.

(A curious claim; perhaps the first time the composition was rung.)

(To be continued)

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

By-Meeting at Norton Subcourse

After an interval of four years, the Eastern Branch held a by-meeting at Norton Subcourse on July 6th, where the ring of six bells was kept busy by ringers of all tastes and talents.

The Association's order of service was conducted by the Rector (Rev. F. Tattersall), the lesson being read by the Association Ringing Master (Mr. H. W. Barrett).

Such an excellent and huge tea had been prepared by the willing ladies, recruited by Mr. G. G. Walpole, the local Ringing Master, that a second sitting was arranged after further ringing had worked up another appetite.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Rector, the organist, Mr. Walpole and the ladies, for their help in making this interim meeting such a success.

The next full meeting is at Carlton Colville on September 28th, with Pakefield bells available in the evening.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION

The usual standard methods were rung until 5 p.m. at St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway, when the Northern Branch held their July quarterly meeting.

Tea and a short business meeting followed, with the Master (Mr. C. A. Hughes) in the chair. Mr. Peter J. Shipton, of Bedford, was elected a member, and a vote of thanks accorded to the Vicar (the Rev. R. E. Simpson) and Miss Doreen A. Deverell for the use of the bells. Ringing followed until 8 p.m., and included a touch of London Surprise Major.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

The quarterly meeting of the West Dorset Branch was held on July 20th at Loders. Members present from Beaminster, Broadwindsor, Charmouth, Loders, Lyme Regis, Powerstock, Netherbury and Evershot were joined by visitors from Stalbridge, Yetminster and Swindon.

The service was conducted by Rev. O. L. Willmott (Vicar of Loders) and Canon C. G. Cox read the lesson. The collection amounted to 17s. 6d. Tea was served in the Vicarage, 30 members partaking.

At the business meeting the next quarterly meeting was fixed for September 21st at South Perrott.

Canon Cox drew the attention of the meeting to the fact that September 14th was the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Salisbury Guild, and he hoped all towers would have some special ringing on that day.

It was agreed that Mr. Barrett be paid the £1 2s. 6d. deficit on the festival 'bus trip to Salisbury in May, and appreciation was expressed for his arrangements for the day.

In conclusion, Canon Cox expressed a warm vote of thanks to the Vicar and his wife and family for their warm hospitality and for the 'sumptuous repast which was on the house.'

He thanked the Rev. Mr. Willmott for taking the service and for his helpful address, and hoped the meeting would take to heart much of what was said. Mr. Elsworth was also thanked for playing the organ.

Handbells were rung in the Vicarage before members returned to the tower for further ringing. Methods during the afternoon and evening included Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Cambridge and London Surprise Minor, and most other standard methods. E. G. P.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

St. Albans District

North Mymms, set in its beautiful surroundings, was chosen for the July meeting of the St. Albans District on July 20th. Ringing commenced soon after 3 p.m. and continued to a large number of methods until 8 p.m.

Seventeen members sat down to an excellent tea, which was held in the school, arrangements for which had been made by Mrs. T. J. Lock. At the business meeting which followed, the chair was taken by Mr. S. Hoare, of Watford. A collection for the Voluntary Bell Fund amounted to 11s. 6d. Votes of thanks to those who had made possible such a pleasant meeting were duly proposed, and it was hoped that arrangements could be made to hold the August meeting at Kimpton. M. A. C.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

The sound of the bells from Christ Church, Esher, heralded the start of the Northern District quarterly meeting on July 13th, held under the guidance of the Ringing Master (Mr. G. Peters). A short service at St. Nicholas', Thames Ditton, was conducted by a lay reader, Mr. Young.

In the Church Hall the ladies provided the tea, which members and visitors enjoyed; after which the business meeting commenced. Silence was observed for the death of two members—Mr. John Crawford and Mr. Reg Lathbury. The collection during the meeting amounted to 21s. for the Bell Fund. The next District meeting will be held in Guildford on September 28th.

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:

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

In the memorial peal to Mr.
J. E. R. Keen at Newcastle
Cathedral on July 27th, the
band wish to associate the names of Mr. Ed-
mund P. Crowdy, who was away on Naval Re-
serve duties, and Mr. John Anderson, who is
unable to ring peals for health reasons.

Mr. John H. Hunt is leaving for the Persian
Gulf. A farewell peal was rung at Portsmouth
Cathedral on July 27th.

Because of the bus strike, Ringwood ringers
had their outing cancelled. In lieu a peal was
arranged at 17 hours' notice, which is reported
in our peal columns.

A peal of Spliced Surprise a day was achieved
during Mr. Tom Cullingworth's tour centred on
Redhill. Nine peals were scored and four at-
tempts failed during the week, one of which
was due to a broken rope.

Theberton, Suffolk, bells will be rededicated
on December 14th by Canon J. R. Chapman,
who started the restoration fund when he was
rector, and is now rector of Great and Little
Wheltenham. An invitation is extended to all
ringers to be present.

Was the peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at
Chapel-en-le-Frith the first 'barefooted peal'?
All the ringers in it cycled there in pouring rain,
with the result that all footwear was removed.
At one point the conductor thought he 'smelt'
the ringers of 4 and 5 cross over!

As a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and
Mrs. T. Boreham, a peal was rung at Leck-
hampton. The band would like to express their
gratitude to Mr. Albert Newman, of Leckhampton,
who very kindly made up the band at five
minutes' notice when it met short. Mr. Boreham
is a member of the band of St. Mary's,
Cheltenham.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. Percival W. Cave is
back in this country after ex-
tensive overseas travel. He
was in India and Pakistan in February, Italy in
May and Russia in July. Last week he called
a peal at St. Stephen's, Bristol, and writes: 'It
seems difficult to believe that less than three
weeks ago I was standing inside the Kremlin,
gazing at the King of Bells—Tsar Kolokol—all
197 tons of him, with the broken piece still
lying at the foot of the pedestal on which the
bell stands.'

Mr. J. Michael Stephens expresses regret that
in the report submitted of the peal of Plain Bob
Minor at Husborne Crawley on July 22nd
an inaccuracy occurred. It was Robert
Churchill who rang his first peal and not Arthur
Kershaw as published.

Among West Country young conductors is
Roger H. Abbott, aged 15, of Frome. He
called his first peal of Surprise at Radstock in
what some might regard as the ideal method.
The bells were raised, the peal rung and the
bells lowered again without a break.

As a result of a visit to Morpeth belfry on
February 1st a number of boys of Greystoke
Preparatory School evinced an interest in ring-
ing. At the School's open day, senior boys
played handbells creditably. Perhaps we shall
hear of their progress on tower-bells.

The American W.A.F. have a band of hand-
bell ringers who have performed in 28 states,
from Alaska to Puerto Rico. They have four
chromatic octaves of bells and their repertoire
includes hymns, Christmas carols, folk tunes
and instrumental numbers, writes Capt. Mary
Belle J. Nissly (director of the U.S.W.A.F.
Handbell Ringers) in 'Overtones.'

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THOSE I REMEMBER

By ERNEST MORRIS

AT the request of many readers—as far removed as Australia, South Africa, America, as well as here in England, I am asked to give some account of the various ringers I met and rang with over 50 years ago. Many of these 'old-timers' were picturesque characters, and their memory lingers on; but as *tempus fugit*, they will be forgotten and lost 'in the sands of time.' Thus it is with grateful happiness I record some of these bygone ringers who, in their day, did so much to foster the art and carry on the traditions of their forbears.

As already I have told, I was introduced into the belfry by my late beloved father, Josiah Morris (whose obituary may be found on page 301), in the early part of 1900. This was at St. Mark's, Leicester, where my father was for eight years steeple-keeper. I was taught at first to chime, and used to go regularly to do so for both Sunday services. After chiming I was given lessons on how to ring in full-swing on the tenor or 'sermon' bell. Father taught me in the true 'Cathedral' style, hands together, well up at both strokes, and a clean, regular pull. No sloppy or dilatory handling did for him!

Then followed my initiation into the art of change-ringing. This was at St. George's, Leicester, which then possessed a ring of six and where learners had a better chance than in the 8- and 10-bell towers. About this time, Father asked me to bring along my school friend, Fred Staniforth (now leader at Kibworth), and we went regularly to St. Mark's every Friday evening. We were allowed to assist in pulling the bells up, then sent downstairs to open and close the doors, seeing that only ringers came in, as at that time there dwelt around St. Mark's many undesirable characters—so much so that they had their own police station nearby! If we were lucky we were allowed to ring in a few rounds and call-changes.

CAUGHT UP BY A ROPE

On one occasion I went up to help in a 'rise' and all went well till the bells were about three-parts up, and I was congratulating myself on a splendid ring when, by some mischance, my rope got under my foot, and on ascending at back-stroke (I still holding the tail end) it naturally became taut between my legs, and taking me up some five or six feet, turned me completely over and dropped me 'bump' on my back on the floor, right across the belfry! For some moments pandemonium reigned, some pulling their bells up, others down! My father rushed across to me, and finding I was not seriously hurt, although shaken badly, said: 'Now you will make a ringer!'

I remember in St. George's ringing my first 120 on tower-bells, and there was present that venerable figure of a man, with long-flowing white beard—Stephen Cooper, at that time president of the Leicester ringers, and at one time on the Central Council. My father proudly introduced me to him, and he, gravely stroking his beard (a habit he had when conversing), said: 'May he make a better man than his father!'. Dad did not quite know how to take this ambiguous remark, but took it in the right spirit.

Mr. Stephen Cooper was a publican, and for a time kept the Craven Arms nearby St. Margaret's, but later the King and Crown in Town Hall Lane (now Guildhall Lane) by the Cathedral. Needless to say these 'pubs' were the headquarters of the Leicester ringers, and in the clubroom there many handbell peals were

run, including the notable *silent* peals of Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques. Mr. Cooper held every office in the Ancient Order of Foresters up to that of High Chief Ranger for many years. He rang in a number of peals and died on February 18th, 1905.

TAKEN FOR THE VICAR!

He had a brother, William Porter Cooper, who also was a tall, upright-standing man of the old school, with 'whiskers round the rim' and face deeply marked with smallpox scars. He was the verger of St. Leonard's Church for many years, and used to wear the parson's left-off clothes—flat, round hat and all! and often was taken for the vicar! He was an inveterate snuff-taker and a grand ringer who took part in many peals, his first being in 1868 and his last (the first on Anstey bells) in 1906. He nearly always took the treble at St. Margaret's when falling the bells, and it was not a rushed affair either! often taking ten minutes or more, but done most beautifully. Woe betide anyone who mis-struck his bell in the most perfect rounds. In his later years he became an inmate

Not Fumigated!

The quarter peal at Chester-le-Street, rung on July 26th for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Robson, was the second part of the normal practice night. As the bells were about to be pulled up a message was received that it would be dangerous to remain in the ringing chamber for long because of fumes from treatment of the timber against woodworm.

'However,' writes our correspondent, 'two learners had sat up there before the message was received, and survived, and as silver weddings of ringers did not occur every week, we decided to chance it, opening the windows and ringing with a minor gale blowing through the place.'

'All survived to report for ringing on Sunday.'

of Wyggeston Hospital, and often organised concerts for the aged inmates, in which handbells were always a prominent feature. I often helped in this. 'Wm. P.' as he was called, died on May 30th, 1924, aged 86.

Another of the 'old-timers' was James Jarvis—my uncle 'Bob Jarvis's' father. He was only a slightly-built man and usually found at the light end in both practice and peals. He had a store of anecdotes on ringing and never tired of telling how once at St. Martin's he was calling a 'date' touch, and he took his son—my uncle—then a boy, with him. This date touch took a long time, and Bob fell asleep. After a time he was roused by his father calling 'Bob,' and jumping up said, 'Here I am, Dad!' which so upset the ringing that the touch was lost in confusion. He used to tell also of a peal rung by Leicester ringers at Coventry (now the Cathedral). One of the ringers—not one of the strongest physically—insisted on ringing the tenor (32 cwt.) to the peal. Grandsire Caters. He stuck to it for 3 hours when he exclaimed: 'I've had enough,' and set his bell. The others carried on without him and finished the peal!

NESTING BOXES FOR PIGEONS IN BELL FRAME

Another 'character' of the old type was Joseph Sarson Needham, who at one time was attached to St. Martin's Society, but in his later

years became steeple-keeper of St. Saviour's. He had an ambition to call Holt's 10-part, and tried scores of times, always failing! I was in many of these attempts; then he got together a team of experts, each of whom had called peals, and succeeded in his effort. 'Old Joe' collected coins and had a valuable collection. At St. Saviour's he used to like to see the pigeons flying around, and even made nesting boxes round the bell frame, and up there among the bells it was a dreadful mess—it was a wonder the bells went round at all!

I remember, too, old Tom Holmes. In the 'eighties' and early 'nineties' few names were more familiar to readers of 'The Bell News' than that of this well-known ringer. He was a 'woolly back' (native of Leicestershire) who mixed with the company of that time at St. Margaret's, under the leadership of Edward Biggs and Stephen Cooper; but chiefly was he connected with the famous band at Burton-on-Trent, where between 1882 and 1896 he rang 150 peals, no fewer than 60 being Surprise Major: 20 Double Norwich and about 40 Stedman. He had a ready wit and an apt quotation for every occasion. He died on September 3rd, 1905, at Loughborough.

Perhaps the most 'picturesque' of all the old Leicester characters was John Buttery (of whom I have before written, but it will be worth repeating). He was a well-educated man, and in his early career was a tea-taster. Alas! after a domestic tragedy he was driven to tasting other beverages! He married a cousin, 'Fanny,' who after the loss of her first-born became mentally unbalanced, and 'Jack' had an awful time. In spite of all this he always kept his gentlemanly appearance up, and always 'wore' his walking stick. He was a fine ringer and conductor, both on tower- and handbells. Among his exploits he conducted the first peal of Stedman Triples and Caters, also Grandsire Caters for the Midland Counties Association, and turned in St. Margaret's tenor to the first T.B. Royal in Leicester. He was one of the famous company who rang in the *silent* handbell peals of Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques—still an unbeaten record.

When I rang in my first touch of Caters I asked him how many changes it was. He said he did not know, just made it up as he went along. Next week he brought the figures pencilled on the back of an old voting paper. He then called another touch, and the following week brought it pencilled on an old sugar bag! Once, after a practice, the ringers coming out of the belfry door (which at that time came outside into Church Gate) held 'Jack' back—the police were taking 'Fanny' to jail, blind drunk on a hand-cart! Another time, after 'celebration ringing,' the band had adjourned to Queen Victoria Inn opposite, where it was found that Jack was missing. An intensive search was made and eventually he was found fast asleep in the well of the spiral staircase. He had missed the outer door exit and gone down to the bottom, but the church exit door was locked so he just slumped down to sleep it off!

PEAL TABLET COLLECTION

John Buttery was a real lovable character, nevertheless, and had an ingratiating way with him and could wheedle money out of anybody. When he had called the first peal of Stedman Caters in Leicester he went round all the factories, offices and shops—not only in the parish but all over the city—collecting for a tablet to record this 'unique performance.' The ringers of other churches found out, and threatened to expose him unless he disclosed what amount he had got. Eventually he not only had the most elaborate peal board we have in St. Margaret's erected, but he treated all the Leicester ringers to a tripe-and-onion supper!

(Continued next page)

THOSE I REMEMBER—Cont.

On the occasion of the King's Coronation, ringing was going on all day (by rota) at each church. We at St. Margaret's started off at 8 a.m. for an hour, then others in turn. Our next spasm was from 1 to 2 p.m., but old Jack, instead of going home, spent the time in the nearby 'Queen'; then St. Martin's rang a full peal, and Jack went to the 'King and Crown' to listen to it! We finished the day at St. Margaret's, and I shall never forget seeing him (from the belfry window) coming down Church Gate rolling all over the pavement with his walking stick held straight out before him as though it was pointing the way! How they got him up the belfry stairs I do not know, but on entering he dropped down in the window-seat, and while we rang Stedman Caters he went to sleep. He was aroused and made to ring in the last touch of the day. It was amusing to see him trying to find the rope-end, which he failed to do. It was put in his hand, and then he evidently could see several sallies, for he could not get the right one. When he did (on the 2nd) we set off, and he rang a perfect touch, never missing a dodge or making a mis-blow—it was simply amazing! With all this, notwithstanding, he was a grand man, and one could not help admiring his wonderful gifts. Under better circumstances in home life there is no doubt whatsoever he would have been an outstanding character. He died on December 19th, 1913, aged 62.

An amusing episode that stands out in my mind is that, when ringing at Aylestone on the old six, which at that time went very heavy and had a long draught of rope, Mr. Bell, of Knighton, came there, and he, being used to a short pull on five bells, was soon in difficulties. He was an awkward handler at best, but here—well it can be imagined. I rang next on 2nd and called a six-score and was scared stiff at his flying rope. He wore one of the old-fashioned starched collars with front attached (called a dicky), and there he was with his 'dicky' sticking out straight in front and flaying his rope in an alarming manner. He got 'ragged' over this more than once!

SONGS AT SOCIALS

In those days (early 1900) we had two 'Ted Smiths' at St. Margaret's—one we called 'Big Ted,' on account of his great stature, the other 'Belgrave Ted' because he lived here. The latter was a big, hefty man also and entirely bald—as my late father used to say, 'bald as a bladder of lard!'. He was a plasterer by trade. Big Ted (Edward Elijah Smith) was an engineer and brass fitter; yet despite his size used to always sing 'Baby, close your pretty blue eyes' at all ringers' socials.

All the old boys had their own particular songs. For instance, my father's was 'Johnnie used to grind the coffee mill, and mix the sugar with the sand.' Alfred Martin, many years tower keeper of St. Martin's, with his deep bass voice always obliged with 'The Holy Friar.' My uncle's father, James Jarvis, had 'Keep up your pecker, boys—never be downhearted.' Alfred B. Moss (who later migrated to Notts) sang 'In the smoke,' while William Willson recited a racing ballad, 'Kissing Cup.' They had great fun did those old boys!

(To be continued)

COMPOSITION QUALITIES

By Nolan Golden

From the earliest days of change-ringing, when Stedman claimed in his 'Tintinnologia' (1668) that 'Grandsire and Tendring Sixscore on eight Bells makes good Musick, 748 lying behind every change,' it has been traditional for composers to point out the properties of their figures. The celebrated authors of 'A Key to the Art of Ringing' (1788) make a number of observations, such as 'In the above peal the sixth is at home twelve times right and is the greatest number of changes that can be so obtained in fourteen courses' and 'the following is the first part of 8448 (being the full extent of changes that can be obtained in this method with the tenors together),' claims which were sometimes neither clear nor accurate. Ninety years later Jasper Snowdon was classifying all the peals of Treble Bob he could find, with particular reference to their musical qualities, declaring in the introduction to Part Two of his 'Treatise' that he was 'always desirous, should I have anything to do with the selection of a peal, that it should present some distinctly musical feature. . . .'

In my experience there are few ringers who are as selective as Jasper Snowdon in their choice of composition or in the appreciation of its qualities, the deciding factor often being the ease of committing the necessary courses to memory rather than the music they produce.

The difficulty arises as to what constitutes bell-music, and a wide divergence of opinion exists. Some will tremble at the presence of 82's in a composition of Major, while others will tolerate them, provided the sixth is coursing the seventh. Some demand, where possible, 'all combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6,' while others would rather listen to the '6th the extent in 5-6'; some find pleasure in the introduction of 7468's and 7568's, others consider this an impertinence; a present day composer of great practical skill and experience—and a number of excellent composers could claim neither—introduces 6578's with reluctance, whereas I would not, unless their inclusion was an impossibility, begin a peal without them. Then there are those who subscribe to the opinion of the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who roundly declared that 'real "music" is conspicuous by its absence in even bell ringing.'

Some methods, particularly the Surprise group and Stedman's principle, present problems associated with their construction. Once the heavy bells are split up in Royal or Maximus ringing, it requires a good deal of imagination and a tremendous amount of sentiment to suggest, however excellent the striking may be, that methods such as Cambridge are musical. The plain Royal and Maximus methods are usually not difficult enough, and so music must be sacrificed for intricacy. With regard to Stedman ringing, controversy has always raged as to the placing of the sixth and the treble in Caters, but everyone is agreed with the 'Clavis' that the harmonious tittums 'most likely ever will remain.' In Stedman and Grandsire Triples composers have made claims about the number of 74's and 67's at backstroke. In Minor compositions the 65's at backstroke is the only feature to which one's attention is drawn, while on five bells points of distinction concern questions of construction only.

Most plain Major methods give excellent music, but the qualities of Treble Bob methods, especially of the Surprise group, are less apparent. This is due to the fact that the internal places dictated by the term often destroys the regular coursing order of the bells. Consequently the familiar claim 'the 6th the extent in 5-6,' by which is meant all the course-ends ending in 678 and 6x78 are included, can be applied to comparatively few Surprise Major methods unless the phrase 'within the limits of the method' is added. This refers to the prevalence in many methods of false courses which reduces the possibility of obtaining compositions with the qualities looked for in Plain Major methods. The present vogue of producing peals of the Cambridge group (15738264 lead-end) with multi-bobs 'before' sacrifices a great deal of internal music, notably at the 'middle' and 'wrong' positions. A composition with, say, 'the 6th the extent home in natural courses,' would be one in which the 12 possible courses ending in 678 would be complete. This is a feature not always considered by composers. The phrase 'all combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6'—in which the course-ends ending in 56-, 65-, 46-, 64-, 45- and 5478 are present—is a familiar one. When a composition, in addition, claims to include the '6th the extent in 5-6,' the music content is beyond doubt. As this means 60 course-ends in Plain Major, it is inevitable that 'short courses,' i.e., courses which by bobbing cuts out certain leads of the plain course, must be introduced. But such qualities are a commonplace in compositions of 'lengthening lead' methods (i.e., methods with 14263857 as the lead-end and a 4ths place bob), and this undoubtedly contributed to the past popularity of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and the growing interest in Bristol Surprise. The freedom of the latter method from falseness with the tenors together has prompted the use of 6ths place bobs, which enables the composer to produce peals with the 6th the extent in 6ths in natural courses, an impossibility with the 4ths place bob. A quality occasionally met with in Treble Bob, and by no means an easy one to produce, is 'the 6th the extent in all positions,' a phrase which means that all the 867's, 7x86's and 678's are present.

Peals of Major are occasionally noted as containing the Queens (13572468), Whittingtons (12753468) and Tittums (15263748). Standing alone this is a dubious quality, for the evolutions necessary in composition in some methods result in a 'filling in' of poor music.

ST. PETER'S DOUBLES

1 2 3 4 5

2 1 4 3 5

2 4 1 5 3

4 2 5 1 3

4 2 5 3 1

2 4 3 5 1

2 4 3 1 5

4 2 1 3 5

4 1 2 5 3

1 4 5 2 3

1 4 2 5 3

Bob

1 4 5 2 3

1 4 5 3 2

Eight callings.

Call any bell to make 2nds three times, or any bell into 5th, 3rds and 4ths three times.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOS

Dear Sir,—Whilst looking through an old notebook of mine recently I came across the following record of a 'peal' which I copied from a board on the belfry wall of Bourton-on-the-Water Church, Gloucestershire. The board is really only noteworthy from the point of view of the spelling of certain words contained thereon:—

'Grandsier Bob was rang in Bourton Tower February 10th, 1849, by:

J. Berry	1st	T. Mosen	4th
D. Day	2nd	D. Hall	5th
J. Palmer	3rd	G. Hall	6th

The peal consist of 16 Bobs, 42 Doges, and 2 Singels.

The Peal was conducted by T. Mosen.'

Also in the same notebook I came across some 'ringing rules' which I must have obviously copied down on my one and only visit to Bourton-on-the-Water; I cannot think where else I could have possibly copied them from: 'Whosoever will practice to play on these

[strings,

Must these orders observe amongst other things;

He that rings with his hat, boots, spurs or likewise,

To the Sexton shall pay two pence excise;
For smoking tobacco and drinking of drink
To the Sexton shall pay sixpence in chink;
He that is heard to curse or to swear,
Shall twelve pence among the company share;
He also that does a bell overthrow,
A groat to 'the Sexton' shall pay ere he go;
And he that will not to these orders attain,
Let him never come hither to practice again.
1793.'

Yours sincerely,

PETER J. CAME.

Danbury, Essex.

ANTI-CLOCKWISE

Dear Sir,—On page 465, July 19th issue of 'The Ringing World,' there appears an interesting report of the new bells of St. Lawrence Jewry. The old bells, we learn, were hung in an anti-clockwise direction. There are many other rings of bells hung in an anti-clockwise direction, e.g., Lavenham, Southwell Cathedral, Richmond (Surrey), Chepstow, Langley (Bucks), Stone (Staffs) and in my home town, St. Nicholas'.

Sir, is there some scientific or technical explanation to account for these anti-clockwise hangings? Or were the bells so hung to gratify a whim of an incumbent, the eccentricity of an 18th century bellhanger, or possibly the 'anti-everything' of a left-handed pre-Victorian tower captain?

If anti-clockwise hanging is better for ringers and ringing, why hang bells the right way round? Conversely, if clockwise hanging is . . . ?—Yours truly,

F. MORRIS.

Burghill, Hereford.

GUILD NOT RECOGNISING PEAL

Dear Sir,—The peal of 5,040 Cambridge Surprise Minor rung at Swanmore, Hampshire, on Saturday, June 22nd, 1957, and reported on page 443 of 'The Ringing World,' cannot, I'm afraid, be recognised as having been rung for this Guild.

One member of the team had allowed his membership to lapse, and his belfry election was an infringement of the rules.—Yours faithfully,

J. A. C. KING, General Secretary,
Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL APPEAL

Dear Sir,—As many of your readers must know, the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield Cathedral recently inaugurated an appeal for £200,000. Of this sum £150,000 is required for very urgent work to the fabric of the Cathedral during the next few years; the remaining £50,000 would be set aside as a capital sum for future maintenance. The ravages of the death-watch beetle were so serious that work was commenced at the time the appeal was launched. The roof of the north transept has been completed and work is continuing over the choir and lady chapel. The Appeal Fund stands at the moment at about £86,000.

On Saturday, September 14th, a 'Cathedral Autumn Fair' is being held in the Close; this is the first big effort that the various Cathedral bodies have arranged. In connection with this fair I have been asked to run a 'Men's Stall' as the Cathedral ringers' part in the effort. I should therefore be grateful for any gifts to help. There must be many ringers in all parts of the country who have rung on our bells who might like to contribute. Would they please send their contribution to me, when each gift will be acknowledged: F. A. Sedgwick, 10, Dam Street, Lichfield, Staffs.

'LISTENING OUTSIDE'

Dear Sir,—No doubt your front page always appeals to some of our fraternity as a real inspiration and the reason for my note is that this article does appeal to me and my sort very much. A good number of our fraternity may think us (yes, I will use the word) 'cocky,' but I do appeal to those who do think so to forget it.

It may be because I was lucky enough to be born near a tower, and joined as a lad a tower company who used to pride itself on being heard outside. I trust that those whom I have taught, and any of our fraternity to whom our striking has appealed, will try to accept it, for the simple reason that you have stated.

I have mentioned previously in your paper and have asked those who do ring 1, 2 and 3 to Minor, Major, Royal, etc., to hold a little more over what I may term tenors 10, 11, 12, 6, 7, 8 or 5 and 6, and keep them distinct from each other. Your own tenor ringers would greatly appreciate this. I mention this not as a 'cart-wheel' but for everyone's sake, which includes the

'OUTSIDE LISTENER.'

Greenfield, Lincs.

RINGERS' EMBLEM

Dear Sir,—May I suggest a handbell as the obvious choice for ringers to carry as their emblem in procession, in answer to Mr. A. W. Holden's inquiry? A proper ringers' handbell, however—not 'bells, school and A.R.P., for the use of,' as was once inflicted on me at a retreat house.—Yours faithfully,

PHILIP I. ADDISON.

Newcastle upon Tyne.

P.S.—I shall look forward to reading other suggestions. A personal opinion is that a Guild of ringers should have its own banner. This should be quite small—many banners in use today are far too large.—P. I. A.

QUOTATION WANTED

Dear Sir,—Can any reader of 'R.W.' complete these lines given me by a visitor a few years ago:—

'With arms upstretched to clutch
The rattling ropes, that race
Into the darkness above,
And the mad romping din.'

Yours sincerely,

V. SHEPPARD.

Cape Town.

MANCROFT RINGERS' OUTING, JULY 27th

From under 'Mancroft' mighty tower,
We left as 8 struck; 'twas the hour,
Work and cares were all forgotten
As on our way we went to Coffon.

Through Norfolk's fields, by pastures green,
Thatch cottages with eaves that lean,
To Suffolk; Cotton's tower of eight,
The tenor just ten hundredweight.

Bristol, Cambridge, Stedman, rounds,
For young and old the art abounds.
'All hold,' the treble starts again,
The ringers here can feel the rain.

No room enclosed where they can stand,
Is there another in the land?
The church inside we viewed as well
Then left to ring Stowmarket bells.

With spire above and bells below
St. Mary and St. Peter.
A lovely ring of eight struck well,
Can anything sound sweeter?

Through Needham Market, Monks Eleigh,
In sunshine to Long Melford.
To where the church of 'Trinity,'
For centuries has stood.

High in the tower the bells are eight,
Their history is long and great.
We stayed, rang out the bells of old,
Stoke-by-Nayland next we're told.

A landmark here, a church of fame,
The tower of warm red bricks;
Now houses a new steel frame
And eight bells; where once were six.

From Nayland's bells so clear and loud,
Through Higham, Stratford, and Capel,
To where 12 bells, a tower proud
Stands; where once there stood a steeple.

The only 12 in Suffolk found—
St. Mary-le-Tower.
Where ringing histories abound,
We spent a happy hour.

Then on to Ufford, our last call,
Eight bells, a village small;
With history and treasures rare
Amongst the others she can share.

Before we finish, day is done,
Our grateful thanks to everyone.
Then back to Mancroft's tower grey—
We all had shared a happy day. D. M.

LINCOLNSHIRE BELLS

Dear Sir, — At Mumby, Lincolnshire, is another four-bell tower. In 'Dove' this is given as a five, but the fifth bell is, in fact, a small 'Priest's' bell. Details are as follows:—Treble, Harrison, 1820; 2 and 3, undated; tenor, Hedderley, 1737 (approx. 17 cwt.).

For the information of anyone who may be thinking of organising tours in this area, the following bells are unringable:—Fives: South Ormsby and Saltfleetby All Saints'. The five at Saltfleetby St. Clement's are just ringable! Sixes: Coningsby, Addlethorpe, Hogsthorpe, Hedlethorpe All Saints'.

At Croft the treble is cracked but the back five are ringable.—Yours sincerely,

JOHN R. KETTERINGHAM.

Lincoln.

A SELECTION OF RINGERS' OUTINGS

BECCLES, SUFFOLK

The Beccles company, together with ringers from Norton Subcourse, Pakefield and Lowestoft, had their annual outing on July 20th. Leaving Beccles at 8 a.m., the first call was at Ufford (8, 13 cwt.), where we were met by Mr. C. E. Fisher, a friend of some of the party. Ringing here included Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major. The pretty coastal visit of Hollesley, with a fine ring of eight (tenor 17½ cwt.), was next visited, and touches in various methods brought round.

(8, 25 cwt.). The high tower here swayed slightly, but this proved no disadvantage to the 'go' of the bells, which constitute a really excellent ring in every way. Lunch was taken in Woodbridge, after which came the novelty of the day, Grundisburgh (10, 8 cwt.). Contrary to expectations, the light bells here proved easy to handle, and Kent Treble Bob Royal was accomplished without difficulty. Mrs. C. Pipe met us and rang in a touch of Cambridge Minor on the musical front six. One member was so delighted with the bells that he expressed a desire to remain there for the rest of the afternoon.

We drove through the rain to Ipswich. St. Margaret's (8, 15 cwt.), where we were met by several Ipswich ringers, including Mr. G. E. Symonds. These bells are in poor condition now, and have to be rung fast to be appreciated. They are shortly to be rehung. After tea at Ipswich the party assembled at the Church of St. Mary-le-Tower (12, 32½ cwt.), where some had their first ring on 12, a course of Plain Bob Maximus being brought round. Other methods rung here were Grandsire Caters, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Royal. The ringing chamber was literally walled with peal boards recording feats of the past, when Ipswich possessed the country's leading 12-bell band. After parched throats had been moistened, the coach left for home, which was reached at about 11.15 p.m.

The thanks of the party are due to Mr. E. R. Goate for arranging such an enjoyable day, and to the clergy for the use of the bells.

T. N. J. B.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX

The county regimental march commends 'Sussex by the Sea,' and the writer has memories of parading to these strains along the front at Brighton from H.M.S. King Alfred during a wartime savings drive; but Sussex has more than its coastline to offer—and more than Brighton. There's some wonderful scenery away from the coast, and some fine bells.

St. Andrew's, Hornchurch, sampled some of these delights on July 6th, and indeed some grand Sussex hospitality. East Grinstead, Balcombe, Cuckfield, Bolney, Slaughman and Crawley were all visited in turn and on time. Incidentally, if other bands would care to note, an excellent lunch is obtainable at Cuckfield. Of course, we preferred some bells to others, but where the striking was not quite up to standard one is tempted to ask how much was due to faulty handling.

Outings usually follow a set pattern, but this was different in the fact that the Master, owing to domestic reasons, was unable to be present, thereby upsetting our intended tea-time presentation. However, time was found before the party set off to lure him into the coach and present a 'Parker 51' to mark the tenth post-war outing.

Thank you, Sussex, for a good day: we'll be out your way again one of these days.

L. V. G.

GAMSTON, NOTTS

Just over 40 ringers and friends from Gamston (Notts) and district toured the churches of N. Lincolnshire on July 20th.

Owing to the 'bus strike, our coach had to do a tour of the surrounding villages to pick up ringers and their friends, and after a slightly delayed start we were on our way and arrived at Messingham almost on time. Here we had a good ring until the oldest member of the party accidentally broke the stay of the second bell—his first in 62 years of ringing!

Our next tower was that at St. John-the-Evangelist, Scunthorpe, and here the ladies in the party were delighted to see the arrival of two brides for their double wedding just after we had finished ringing. Then to Burton-on-Stather—a very nice eight—and to Winterton, where those ringers who prefer six bells were in their element.

The two churches at Barton-on-Humber were next on our list. We rang at St. Peter's first, and although the two iron ladders up to the ringing room prevented some of our members from ringing there, we still had enough for an hour's good mixed ringing.

A dash through torrential rain was necessary to St. Mary's, and these bells were voted the best eight of the day by some of our ringers, although others preferred those of Barrow-on-Humber, which we visited after tea. Here we were able to have a ladies' band for rounds and queens, and the menfolk were forced to admit that they were the best of the day!

The local ringers then joined us for some Stedman Triples and we all finished up at the home of one of them for a cup of tea, which was very much appreciated by all. Our last call was at Goxhill, where we rang until 8 o'clock.

We should like to express our thanks to all the local ringers who were there to greet us at each of the eight towers we visited, and to say that this was one of the best outings we have had for some time.

M. R.

GRIMSBY

Meeting at 1 o'clock, we proceeded by coach to Caistor to pick up a local ringer. By now we were ten minutes behind schedule, but due to some miraculous feat by the driver we arrived at Horncastle 30 minutes early! After looking at the interior of this old and beautiful church we had some 45 minutes' good ringing. This, we were told, was the first time for quite a while that all the six bells had been rung together, ringers there being very scarce.

It was a hot afternoon, and after purchasing ice-creams and ice lollies we carried on to Sleaford, stopping on the way for the pleasure of climbing the 264 steps to the top of Yattersall Castle! A violent rainstorm occurred on the outskirts of Sleaford, but luckily we soon found the hotel for tea, and when we had satisfied our hunger the sun actually began to shine! The fine eight at St. Denys' Church were all ready for our use. We rang here for about an hour and then quenched our thirst before returning to the bus.

At Harmston we had just accustomed ourselves to the fact that here the bells do not need the hefty pull that ours do when the rope on the sixth broke. This put an end to our ringing, so we went to see if we could spot any Vulcans at Waddington Aerodrome; we were, however, unlucky. Nearby Bracebridge village possesses a good fried fish and chip shop, to which we did justice. Finally we headed for home, narrowly missing running over several rabbits.

Our thanks go to Mr. Frank Kennington, who made such good work of the organisation, and to those at the towers we visited for meeting us.

M. H.

BICESTER AND DISTRICT

The Bicester and District Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild held their annual outing on July 13th. In spite of the date, we had a fine day touring the beautiful Gloucestershire countryside. Leaving Brill at 12.15 p.m., the coach picked up members and friends en route, and after passing through Witney and Burford we pulled up in the 'gem' of Gloucestershire, the village of Bibury.

Owing to the number of visitors who visit Bibury our time was limited, but good use was made of the bells although some of the ringers found the long draught and light bells tricky. The church and churchyard were much admired, the latter being an example of how a churchyard should be kept. In view of the time limit, some members regretted that they were not able to 'tickle' a trout or two.

We arrived late at Hatherop due to a signpost arm at a cross-road, which is so placed that it can be seen only from one direction. Mr. Shephard met us and we enjoyed good ringing. Time passed quickly, and we had to move on to the White Hart at Fairford, where an excellent tea was served in the 'Olde Barn.' Our thanks are due for a 'ringers' tea.

The younger members of the tour enjoyed the delights of a fair being held at Fairford, whilst the more serious members were shown the beautiful stained-glass windows of the parish church and given a most interesting lecture on these by Professor O. L. Richmond, to whom we are most grateful. The windows were made in about 1490, and have survived the Civil War and the 1939-45 war. Some were damaged during the great storm of 1703. They are arranged to illustrate the main events of the Christian Faith, from Adam and Eve to the Last Judgment.

From Fairford we retraced our steps to Meysey Hampton, where we found the key under the tower door. On this good-going six we had an hour's ringing with good striking. The last tower of the day proved to be a good six but left much to be desired in the 'go.' It took the 'experts' all they knew to strike these bells in any sort of rhythm. We left Lechlade at 9 p.m., with a request that a stop be made for 'solid' refreshment somewhere on the way home. The request was duly honoured.

Our thanks are due to the tower captains and incumbents for the use of the bells, to Professor Richmond and to the organiser.

C. H. K.

REDENHALL AND DISS

Redenhall and Diss ringers had a very full day for their outing on July 20th, when towers in Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire were visited.

Leaving Diss at 7 a.m., Eaton Socon was reached at 10 a.m., and after ringing for one hour the party moved on to Bromham and then to Bedford for lunch. During the afternoon Woburn, Maulden and Dunstable were visited, and various methods were rung. Tea was served on arriving at Luton at 6.15 p.m., and this was followed by a visit to the parish church, and touches were rung on the fine ring of ten bells (tenor 25½ cwt.). The seventh and last church for the day, Barton-le-Clay, was reached at 8.30 p.m. Here the bells, with a tenor of 10 cwt., were rung until 9.15 p.m., when the party set off for 'home,' reaching Diss at 12.45 a.m.

To the incumbents, who so readily granted permission to ring, and to the ringers who met us, we would say 'Thank you' for your warm welcome. Also our grateful thanks to the South Norfolk Ringing Master (Mr. Wm. Flatt), who again made all the arrangements for such a successful outing.

A. G. H.

'PER ARDUA' — THE ADVENTURES OF EGBERT

Egbert was doing his National Service, and had been posted to a large R.A.F. station situated somewhere in the south-east Midlands. Being a keen 'tower-grabber' he utilised such leisure as came his way by adding to his 'bag' where possible, and thus, one Saturday afternoon, he might have been seen steadily pedalling a borrowed cycle of somewhat antiquated design along a rather monotonous series of lanes such as this part of the country seems to abound in. Towers, however, were his objective, and so far as he was concerned the scenery just happened. He appreciated good scenery where he saw it and put up with its lack where he did not.

His objective on this particular Saturday afternoon was Little Taterfield where, his 'Ringing World' informed him, a branch meeting of the area Association was to be held; also that the tower contained five bells, and that tea would be provided for those who advised the secretary of their intention to be present, all being welcome. It did not, however, seem really necessary for Egbert to advise the secretary of his intended visit. After all, one more or less would not make any difference to that gentleman's plans for the meeting, and anyway, thought Egbert, he might not get there on this old 'bone-shaker.'

Egbert was reasonably proud of his prowess although he was not necessarily a 'big-head.' He had not learned his ringing via recently well-publicised methods, and although he had browsed through them he did not think they could teach him very much. His tuition had been given him by a well-known 'old timer' in his native north of England; he knew he was a safe method ringer (he had already added several Surprise peals to a fairly respectable total) and it was generally conceded, where he was known, that he handled a pretty rope.

While he thus mused, Egbert came within the sound of the bells he was after, faint as yet but steadily increasing, until at length he was able to form some opinion of their quality. It left

him cold. He could only hope they went better than they sounded. Thank goodness they were being well struck or, he thought, the effect would have been dreadful.

After listening a little longer, he decided that they were a minor five with a very slightly flat treble and a very slightly sharp tenor, and of really wretched quality; but at least one could tell that they were meant to be a five. After all, had he not heard the contents of a certain 12-bell tower, reputed to consist of six trebles, some of them flat and some of them sharp, and six tenors with somewhat similar shortcomings?

However, he was now nearing the tower and he put these thoughts away. In any case, he would not stick his neck out by voicing any opinion of the bells, if only for the fact that somewhere in this part of the country there dwelt an Oracle who would most certainly — but here he was at the church, the bells had just run into rounds, and any thought of what the Oracle might have said, written to 'The Ringing World,' or done, blew away with the last 'rounds' before the bells stopped, and he dismounted.

He set his ancient steed against the churchyard wall. One or two small groups of people stood around chatting (obviously ringers, thought Egbert, for who else would come to this dump?) but did not appear to notice Egbert's arrival. Egbert looked around as he went up the three steps to the churchyard gate, but could see no sign of a village. On the right was an enormous barrack of a house, obviously the burden of the unfortunate incumbent, and over to the left was a small farmhouse with its outbuildings. Two rather ugly red brick cottages a little way along the lane completed the signs of human habitation in the vicinity of the church, while in the distance, apparently in the middle of the sandy, hedgeless fields, a few more stood out stark and bare. The terrain looked strangely treelless and uninviting. So this, thought Egbert, is Little Taterfield.

B. C. A.

(To be continued)

THE NORWICH ASSOCIATION IN ESSEX

Almost 12 years ago somebody in the Norwich Association suggested that an annual outing might be arranged open to any member, and it was decided to give the idea a trial. It was feared that, with characteristic East Anglian courage, the round-ringers from the 5- and 6-bell towers would catch hold in their octaves for demonstrations of Double Norwich and Bristol, and proceed to ban the party from the area for ever, so its members were divided up into groups with the ominous prefix A, B, C, D and E (rounds)! In spite of this regimentation, the outing became a popular one—as many as 15 towers on occasion having been represented.

The 1957 outing of the series, in spite of taking place on what appeared to be the hottest day of the century, was voted as successful as any of them. The coach left Norwich on time and arrived early at the first stop, where David Heighton was already waiting, having left Bristol in the small hours of the morning for the rendezvous at Harlow Common. This delightful ring was soon pleasing the party, after the cricketering enthusiast of the local band had performed the usual ritual. Rounds to Bristol Surprise were enjoyed by all, and this procedure took place at all towers except Waltham Abbey, where the 12 bells were heard only in rounds. We could have rung the top six and the back six to Plain Bob Minor, but this outrage was not contemplated.

Pride in punctuality was severely shaken by the late arrival of the party at Brentwood, an unusual occurrence for us, but a bore for Mr. Frank Gant, who had gallantly offered to meet us and later acted as pilot to Hornchurch, to tea and then to Barking, saving us considerable time en route, so that the schedule became normal again.

The last tower to be visited was Loughton. Here the noise of the bells in the ringing chamber is greater than normal, but the tone is fine, and together with the warm welcome of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Smith, no persuasion was needed to stay longer than was originally intended. In addition, the members of the Youth Club in the hall opposite kept down the temperature of the ringers by brewing large quantities of tea. Here David and Helen left the party to return to their respective domiciles. The coach reached Norwich at 12.45 a.m., and the unofficial taxi, belonging to the well-known Loddon proprietor, helped in dispersing those who had ventured from the more remote parts of the Commonwealth.

Tower captains, steeple-keepers, incumbents and others have been thanked either personally or by letter; but we should like to say once again 'Thank you so much for the warmth of your welcome. You gave us a most enjoyable day.'

N. G.

WALTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY

The 'Sussex Fields' was the title of the Walton-on-Thames bellringers' Whit Monday outing. After an early start by coach, we made our way to the first field in Sussex, which was Holy Trinity, Cuckfield, where an hour's ringing was enjoyed, then on to All Saints', Lindfield, for further ringing, and to our last tower before lunch—Holy Cross, Uckfield.

An enjoyable time was spent after lunch at All Saints', Heathfield. St. Dunstan's, Mayfield, was also visited before tea. The last tower of the day was at Rotherfield (8), where a young lady, hearing the bells, came along and joined us for a ring. On the way home we had a short break at Forest Row, arriving back at 10.30 p.m. after an enjoyable day.

Many thanks are due to Mr. Peter Alderton for making the arrangements, also to those who met us at the various towers, and to the incumbents.

A. J. W.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD

Saxmundham District

The meeting of the Saxmundham District, held at Leiston on July 20th, was well attended, with ringers coming from many parts of Suffolk, including Halesworth, Framden, Bury St. Edmunds and Stratford St. Mary.

Ringing was from 3.30 until 8.30 p.m., with a break for tea at 5 p.m. Many methods were rung, including Plain Bob, Kent T.B., Double Norwich, Cambridge and Superlative.

Tea was taken at a local café, where a juke box was playing hot music most of the time, much to the displeasure of most of the ringers, who took a 'live and let live' attitude.

At the business meeting in the ringing chamber (to get away from the juke box) Mr. T. G. Page was made a full ringing member, and Mr. R. T. Tovell a non-resident life member. Alan R. Bridges announced that as the result of a gift day in aid of the Theberton bell fund, £1,174 had been received; this included a cheque for £1,000. He explained that the work to the tower of taking down and replacing the battlements, putting on a new concrete roof and other minor repairs, had been completed, and the bells were due back from the foundry by December. A collection, taken in aid of the Guild bell restoration fund, raised 12s. 6d. After a vote of thanks for the use of the bells, Tunstall and Blaxhall were chosen for the next meeting on September 28th.

A. R. B.

WHY REPORTS ARE CUT

Certain readers have taken exception to their reports, especially of outings, having been cut and a greater freedom of space allowed to similar activities in recent weeks.

The answer is that from Easter, when the majority of Guild annual meetings are held, to be followed at Whitsun by the Central Council meeting, the pressure on our space is very heavy. In consequence tower activities regarding outings have to be curtailed during this period. The situation in August and September is easier.

Twineham, Sussex, Ringers' Outing

Accompanied by friends, the ringers of St. Peter's, Twineham, had a very enjoyable outing on June 29th. Some very good ringing took place at Hascombe, a very light 5-bell tower: rounds, to get used to the light bells; Grandshire, Plain Bob and Stedman. At Grayshott (8) there was only time for Grandshire Triples.

At Farnham (8), a rather heavy ring of bells to what we are used to, several Triples methods were rung before departing for St. Mary's, Guildford, a very good ring of six bells. Here Grandshire, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Bob were rung. Thanks are due to incumbents for permission to ring, and local ringers for their welcome.

G. W. M.

OBITUARY

MR. JOSEPH E. R. KEEN

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association has lost an outstanding personality by the death on July 17th of Mr. Joseph E. R. Keen. His funeral service was held, prior to cremation, in Newcastle Cathedral on the Saturday following.

The service was conducted by the Archdeacon of Northumberland (the Ven. I. R. White-Thomson), and the family mourners were joined by a good company of officers and members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, led by Mr. K. Arthur (president) and Mr. D. A. Bayles (secretary).

Joseph Ernest Reid Keen was trained as a ringer at North Shields, and after a sojourn in Pontefract in early manhood, he returned to Newcastle, where he commenced his business as a master plumber. His business he carried on until a few weeks ago, and he had a very high reputation for the quality of his work.

He then joined the St. John's company, that brilliant group which ran such a rivalry with the famous Gofton family. So intense indeed was the fight for the first peal of London in the north, that both bands rang their first peal in the method on the same day.

His skill in ringing, his immaculate handling of a bell, particularly at the heavy end, and his ability as an outstanding conductor, soon stamped him as a man of note in the D. and N. Association, and his warm companionship won him a niche in the hearts of all.

He always was willing to forgo conductorship to his old friend, that genius of ringing, the late W. H. Barber, but his competence can be gathered from his performance of Carter's Odd-bob One-part Stedman Triples, and in the next few days, of calling Holt's Original to the first single, when a rope broke.

He took part in the first peals of Little Bob Maximus, Kent Treble Bob Granta Maximus, Spliced Caters (Stedman and Erin), Real Double Superlative Surprise Major, Erin Caters, Erin Triples, and all short-course Stedman Cinques. He had rung over 300 peals.

He became a member of the Durham and Newcastle Association in 1892, and was an original member of the Newcastle Cathedral company, formed in 1912. For many years he was deputy Ringing Master at the Cathedral, and he became Master on the death of C. L. Routledge.

Mr. and Mrs. Keen celebrated their golden wedding in 1950, but Mrs. Keen died some months after that. Joe was never the same after her death. He leaves a son, who though not a ringer, is well known to many ringers as an organist and accompanist at ringing functions.

His favourite method, Stedman, was rung for the service, and as the cortege left the church for the last time, through the great west door, the ringers bade him a farewell on the handbells, while the 'Major' tolled its mournful strokes. It is hard to realise that no more will he be seen placing his bell with calm and masterly accuracy, nor no more hear his stern injunction, 'Listen to them.'

To those who knew him he gave a happy friendship; a great ringer, a great conductor, and a man we all loved well.

A peal of Stedman Caters was rung to his memory on the bells of Newcastle Cathedral on the Saturday following the funeral.

ALLESLEY, COVENTRY.—On July 28th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Harris (first quarter) 1, J. W. T. Taylor 2, D. A. Carpenter (cond.) 3, G. Gardner 4, P. Stone 5, J. L. Garner-Hayward 6. For Evensong.

MR. FRED HAYES

The Oxford Guild has lost one of its stalwarts in the death on July 24th of Mr. Fred Hayes, of High Wycombe. Mr. Hayes was not only a specialist on the conducting of Stedman, but had various compositions, mainly Stedman and Grandsire, to his credit.

The day following his funeral ten members of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch, representing a number of towers, rang at Slough a beautifully-struck quarter peal of Stedman Caters, arranged by Mr. Hayes from his peal of 5,019. It was conducted by the Guild's general treasurer (Mr. A. D. Barker), and in the band were Mr. W. F. Butler (Branch secretary) and Mr. J. C. Birt (Branch Ringing Master). Details appear in our quarter peal columns.

MR. WILFRED OVERTON

The death occurred on July 23rd of Mr. Wilfred Overton, of Bridgnorth, after a brief illness. Aged 76, he had been a ringer at St. Leonard's for 60 years, and for the past 18 years he followed in his late father's footsteps as foreman of the tower.

Well known as a conductor (especially of Stedman Triples), he conducted his first peal of Stedman at the age of 18. This was also the first peal of Stedman by the whole band. Always an enthusiast for good striking, ringing by his Sunday service band was always a pleasure to listen to.

For a number of years he was Ringing Master of the Bridgnorth District of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, and was made a Freeman of the Guild on last Whit Monday. A very keen church worker, he raised a considerable sum of money for the restoration of St. Leonard's tower by conducting visitors to the town to the top of the tower to see the view.

He was laid to rest on July 25th, and in the evening a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled by the following band: T. Broome 1, B. H. Head 2, A. Jones 3, J. Newsome 4, W. D. Fowkes 5, W. G. Head 6, H. G. Thomas (cond.) 7, R. Winwood 8.

St. Mary's, Portsea, Ringers' Outing

On July 13th, the ringers of St. Mary's, Portsea, with friends from Portsmouth Cathedral, Chichester, Shedfield and Wickham, left headquarters at 7 a.m. A pleasant run through the Meon Valley and Ascot brought us to Windsor where, after difficulty in parking the coach reasonably near the church, the bells of St. John-the-Baptist were rung well for rounds, Grandsire, Stedman, Yorkshire and Cambridge.

From Windsor on to Luton, where we had an excellent lunch, after which we proceeded to Totternhoe. This light ring of eight proved difficult for some, but some good rounds, Bob Major, London, Grandsire and Stedman were rung.

Now misfortune befell us. We lost our way between here and Marlow, where we were due at 4.30 for ringing at All Saints' before tea. However, due to the kindness of the local ringer who met us, we were able to ring after tea instead. We would like to place on record our sincere thanks for this act of kindness. Methods rung here were Stedman, Grandsire, Superlative and some rounds. Naturally our arrival at St. Mary's, Reading, was also delayed; but the bells were soon raised, ringing for rounds, Bristol, Double Norwich, Grandsire and Stedman. Here we were met by Mrs. Discrens, owing to the incapacity of Mr. Discrens. After a stop for refreshment, we arrived home later than anticipated, but having had an enjoyable day.

Our sincere thanks go out to all incumbents for allowing us the use of their bells, and the ringers who met us. L. D. D.

NOTICES

New Scale of Charges

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

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

Displayed: 6/6 per single column inch.

Latest Date: Monday first post.

BIRTH

HOLLOWAY.—On Saturday, July 27th, 1957, to Brenda and Sidney Holloway, of 121, Moat Road, Langley, Oldbury, Birmingham, a son—Colin. 665

ENGAGEMENT

POTTEN—SHADRACK.—The engagement is announced between Peter John Potten, of Postling, Kent, and Mary Elizabeth Shadrack, R.S.C.N., of Chelmsford, Essex. 676

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. T. Cleaver is now 27, Birchall Road, Redland, Bristol, 6. 658

PERSONAL

MARRIAGE THRO' SOCIAL INTRODUCTIONS.—The only social service of its kind enjoying the warm approval of both Clergy and Press. It is completely confidential and operates throughout Great Britain. Interesting free brochure under plain sealed cover from The Bournemouth Bureau, 176, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. 9981

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PUBLICATIONS

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.

LOOK TO! TRAINING'S GOING

in a new handbook that is unique in its having been offered, in provisional draft form, for a 'vetting' by the Exercise before its regular publication. Now completely revised as a consequence, it contains 104 pages, 27 diagrams, 61 detailed exercises, lists of common faults, test-questions, etc. As the first work of its kind, it provides a planned and proved course of training in

'BELL HANDLING & CONTROL in the ELEMENTS of CHANGE-RINGING'

This work is the result of an entirely voluntary team effort for ringers by ringers, whose only thought and aim therein has been the training welfare of the future members of the Exercise. Distributed at COST ONLY (2/9 post free) by the Publishers, College of Campanology, 32, Parkstone Avenue, Southsea, Hants (31974).

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'ELEMENTARY CHANGE RINGING,' by F. F. Rigby: an exceptionally good introduction to the art of change ringing: 3s. 6d.; postage 3d.—S.P.C.K., Holy Trinity Church, Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1. 527

AN IDEAL GIFT

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

MISCELLANEOUS

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MEETINGS

CHESTER GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—A meeting will be held at Lymm on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—C. Raddon. 657

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Meeting at Long Compton postponed until September. Details later.—H. M. W. 675

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Fairwarp (8), Saturday, Aug. 10th. Tea at Foresters Arms, Method for practice, Single Oxford Bob Major. Only two seats left for outing Sept. 14th.—C. A. Bassett, 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst, Sussex. 631

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Ickleton, Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—E. W. Bullman, Dis. Sec. 629

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting, Stinchcombe (6), Saturday, Aug. 10th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—Mary Drew. 661

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Combined practice at Worpleston (8) on Saturday, Aug. 10th, from 6 to 9 p.m.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 625

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—On Saturday, Aug. 10th, meeting, Great Munden. Please bring own tea.—T. J. Southam, Dis. Sec. 643

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at St. Mary, Hornsey (one minute from Hornsey B.R. Station), on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Ringing from 5 p.m. onwards.—T. J. Lock. 632

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Practice at Tilehurst on Saturday, Aug. 10th, 6 p.m.—R. G. Burton. 663

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Joint meeting, Rawmarsh, Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Bring your own food: cups of tea provided. Buses from Rotherham every few minutes. All welcome. 647

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Meeting, St. Andrew's, Clevedon, Saturday, Aug. 17th, 5 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 671

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Meeting on Saturday, Aug. 17th, at Husborne Crawley. Bells (8) 3 p.m. (no service). Tea 5 p.m. Names, please, to Mr. Churchill, 5, Woburn Road, Husborne Crawley, Beds.—K. G. Spavins, Dis. Sec. 669

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Marbury, Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Names for tea must be received by August 14th.—W. Kerr, 102, Moreton Road, Crewe. 680

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Thirsk (3 to 4.30 p.m.) and Kirby Wiske (5.30 p.m. onwards) on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Tea at Kirby Wiske at 5 p.m. only for those notifying me before Thursday, Aug. 15th.—P. W. B. Semmens, Hon. Sec., 52, Belle Vue Grove, Middlesbrough. 576

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—Meeting, Shilton, Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Everybody welcome. Names for tea would be helpful.—D. A. Carpenter, Dis. Sec., 78, Earlsdon Avenue, Coventry. 656

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern and Western meeting at Wylam on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells from 3 p.m. It is essential that names for tea be sent by Wednesday, Aug. 14th, to G. S. Deas, 65, Elsdon Road, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne. 667

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at Holywell (6) on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells 2.45 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 672

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Wiggan, St. Mary Magdalen, Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 679

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Benenden (8), 2.30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 17th. Look up Erin Triples.—G. Billenness, Hon. Sec., 3, Grasmere, Hawkhurst, Kent. 662

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting, Kimpton (6), Saturday, Aug. 17th, at 3 p.m. Service. Tea. Names for tea to J. G. Cull, 5, The Green, Kimpton, Hitchin, Herts. Phone: Kimpton 350.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 677

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Meeting at Radcliffe on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Tower open for ringing 3 p.m. Cups of tea at 5 p.m.—J. Porter, Branch Sec. 660

LANCS ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District.—Practice meeting, Cartmel, Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Names to H. Dixon, Mere Beck, Cartmel.—N. M. Newby. 681

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Loughborough District.—Meeting, Saturday, Aug. 17th. Quorn (8). Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Wednesday previous to Mr. S. Brenim, 8, Farnham Street, Quorn. 655

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Foxton, Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., Shoulder of Mutton.—L. W. Allen, Dis. Sec. 682

LINCOLN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Meeting, Edenham (8), Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, 12th, to Mr. A. Holmes, The Retreat, Edenham, near Bourne, Lincs.—F. G. Vickers, Hon. Sec. 648

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice at Arborfield on Saturday, Aug. 17th, at 6 p.m.—B. C. Castle. 670

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Twineham (5), Saturday, Aug. 17th, 3 p.m. Tea for those who advise by Aug. 14th Mr. G. W. Mundy, 2, Oak Cottages, Truslers Lane, Albourne, Hassocks, Sussex. 650

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—Quarterly meeting, Alton, Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Numbers by 13th.—C. E. Bassett, Warsash, Southampton. 674

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Christchurch District.—Practice meeting, Fordingbridge, Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, Church Hall, 5.15 p.m. Notify by Aug. 14th R. Marlow, Bickton, Fordingbridge.—A. Davis. 673

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Ropley, Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in The Coffee Room. Names by previous Wednesday to P. Nash, 10, Portal Road, Winchester. 668

ESSEX ASSOCIATION (N.E. District) and SUFFOLK GUILD.—Joint meeting, Bures, Saturday, Aug. 24th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, Aug. 21st, to L. D. Mills, Lyford, Bures, Suffolk. 683

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—Meeting at Nocton, Saturday, Aug. 24th. Tea for those who notify me by Tuesday previous.—C. Brown, 3, Altham Terrace, Lincoln. 678

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eightieth anniversary celebration at Durham on Saturday Aug. 31st. Evensong in Cathedral 3.45 p.m. Bells (8) available after service until 6 p.m. Meeting in Song School 6.10 p.m. Reception 6.30 for dinner at 7 p.m. in Great Hall of Durham Castle. Admission by ticket only (price 15s.) obtainable until Aug. 21st by sending remittance to D. A. Bayles, 12, Crichton Avenue, Chester-le-Street. 623

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Half-yearly ringing meeting, Rochdale, at 2.30 p.m., and committee meeting in the Parish Hall at 3.30 p.m., on Saturday, Sept. 7th. Bells available: Rochdale Parish Church (8) from 2.30 to 9 p.m., and St. Bartholomew's, Whitworth (8), 2.30 to 4.30 and 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in the Parish Hall, at 3s. per head. Names for tea by Sept. 4th to Mr. A. Smith, sen., 11, Greenbank Road, Rochdale. 633

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Summer festival.—The summer festival will be held (D.V.) on Saturday, Sept. 7th, at Green's Norton. Service 3.30 p.m., followed by tea in the British Legion Clubroom. Tea for those whose names reach, not later than Aug. 27th, Mr. A. Mansfield, 3, Duncote, Green's Norton, Towcester. Towers open for ringing, 1 to 3 p.m.: Gayton, Pattishall, Cold Higham, Towcester, Blakesley, Braddon, Lichborough, and after tea with Paulerspury, Potterspury, Cosgrove, Passenham, Alderton, Grafton Regis, Stoke Bruerne and Wicken.—G. W. Jeffs. 659

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION DINNER.—The Ely Association will hold a dinner at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28th, at the Brunswick School Hall, Cambridge. Ringing during the afternoon; times to be announced later. Tickets by remitting 12s. 6d. to H. S. Peacock, 8, Roscrea Terrace, St. John's Street, Huntingdon.

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