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A PEAL RINGER LOOKS BACK ON 1959

AS we welcome 1960 and an enlarged 'Ringing World,' it is well to record some of the achievements of 1959. The usual number of new methods have been rung, with the Willesden band prominent, and old ones revived by different bands. Once again the Loughborough Bell Foundry was well to the fore as the most popular tower.

The first notable event was probably the four Surprise peals in a day rung by Cheshire men, and Basil Jones became the first one-armed ringer to accomplish more than two peals in a day.

This was closely followed by an enterprising band, under the leadership of Robin Leale, spending a week-end in the Channel Islands and ringing two peals on the sixes at Alderney and Vale Parish Church, Guernsey, for a Guild of their own choice—'The International Ringing Association.' These peals set the sparks flying in the correspondence columns and for at least two months there was a steady flow of letters on the subject, mainly relating to Winchester and Portsmouth Guild peal fees owed by Mr. Leale's party for peals rung in 1958. A witty letter by Mr. Leale finally ended the dispute.

Of the peal tours, the three bands visiting Ireland in succeeding weeks, arranged respectively by Mr. A. P. Cannon, Mr. Wilfred Williams and Mr. J. W. Cotton, were conspicuous for a wealth of good peals. Mr. F. E. Dukes worked strenuously in making the local arrangements and the hospitality was on a scale for which the Irish are renowned.

The Universities were well to the fore with their weeks. From a peal point of view Cambridge had one of their best weeks in recent years. The Universities Association week had little to record in the way of peals, but, with their headquarters in a Durham castle, Mr. Dennis Bayles arranged a really thrilling ringing tour of Co. Durham and Northumberland. Manchester University Guild had a successful week-end peal ringing in the Lake District; Oxford University have appeared fairly regularly, Bristol are full of life and London have good peal ringers in their ranks.

We live in an age when youth is very much in the lime-light for enterprising peal ringing. Youth all over the country have extended congratulations to Mr. Brian Woodruffe's touring party, whose average age was 17½ years. They toured Somerset, Dorset and Devon, and their peals included Bob Major on the heaviest eight at Sherborne Abbey and two peals of Spliced Surprise, one being on the beautiful bells at Chewton Mendip. Two companies had each 13 peals during their week—Mr. G. E. Fearn's in Devon and Mr. T. J. Lock's in Yorkshire. Mr. A. P. Cannon's went one better with 14 in Sussex.

The midnight zanies have not been in action this year:

their enthusiasm for attempting seven peals in a day. The Everest of long lengths—the 40,320—is still attracting aspirants. Three different bands have made attempts at Loughborough Bell Foundry. The bands competing were organised by Mr. Stephen Ivin, Mr. Pat Chapman and finally, one of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, by Mr. Brian Woodruffe. Some 28,850 changes were reached by Mr. Ivin's band before the attempt was abandoned.

However, Mr. Robin Leale's band were successful in ringing a record length of Cambridge Surprise Major at Quex Park, although a later attempt to ring a record length of Bob Royal was not successful.

When the Peals Analysis Committee check up their totals, a feature of the year will probably be the increase in ten-bell peals. London Surprise Royal has become very popular and peals in this method have been scored all over the country by many different bands, amongst them being several by the well-known Birmingham band, which was the first in the method in that city.

Outstanding among the dedications was the new ring of 12 at Great Yarmouth, which took place at the latter end of the year. The dedication ceremony was largely attended by ringers from all over the country, and the excellent arrangements for ringing and the beauty of the bells were the subject of many comments. By a coincidence, at the same time and on the same day the 10 bells at Carbis Bay, Cornwall, were rededicated. Both these churches have as their incumbents vicars who have done much to advance the Exercise—the Rev. Gilbert Thurlow and the Rev. A. S. Roberts. Surrey welcomes the recasting of Farnham bells.

It was Lancashire who were hosts to the Central Council for their 1959 meeting, and the gathering at Southport was one of the most successful in the annals of the Council. Members and their ladies were hospitably entertained to dinner. The meeting was a long one. 'Ringing World' finances, a regular topic in our correspondence columns, occupied much attention and a peal levy was defeated. But 1959 will always be remembered for the presentation of the Survey on Sunday Ringing. One outcome that has been manifest since the presentation of this report has been the strong missionary spirit in different parts of the country in the attempt to reduce the number of silent towers. Those undertaking this work of training new bands rarely get a mention in our columns; many deny themselves the joys of peal ringing to fulfil this essential work. A glance at the quarter peals in any issue indicates that a steady stream of young men and maidens have essayed the first step on the path of change ringing progress. Yes, Southport will live in memory and may the spark there kindled never be quenched, because recruitment and proper training are essential for the progress of the Exercise and the fulfilment of the real purpose of our calling, that the church bells of our land shall ring out on Sundays.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST.

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 31 cwt.

WILLIAM A. THEOBALD .. Treble	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 7
RONALD F. DISERENS .. 2	*R. ROGER SAVORY .. 8
ALAN F. THIRST .. 3	STEWART F. KIMBER .. 9
TUDOR P. EDWARDS .. 4	PETER BORDER .. 10
WILLIAM T. COOK .. 5	RODNEY B. MEADOWS .. 11
BRYAN PATTISSON .. 6	WILFRED WILLIAMS .. Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Surprise Maximus.

TEN BELL PEALS

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Oct. 24, 1959, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 18 cwt.

*FRANCIS POTTER .. Treble	THOMAS W. LEWIS .. 6
ARTHUR J. MARTIN .. 2	†ROBERT W. COLE .. 7
MICHAEL SPRACKLING .. 3	PATRICK HARRIS .. 8
†HAROLD E. RAXTER .. 4	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN .. 9
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON .. 5	FREDERICK CRUMP .. Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

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

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in D.

JOHN D. ROCK .. Treble	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 6
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. 2	J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE .. 7
ROBIN G. LEALE .. 3	JOHN R. MAYNE .. 8
JOHN HILL .. 4	FREDERICK R. SCOTT .. 9
WILLIAM S. DEASON .. 5	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by ROBIN G. LEALE.

Mr. Cannon's 450th different tenor turned in to a peal.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5043 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 35 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in C.

KATHARINE BURCHNALL .. Treble	GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. 6
GRACE BURCHNALL .. 2	*HAROLD STEVENSON .. 7
MARGARET A. SWANN .. 3	JAMES W. RAITHBY .. 8
JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 4	WALTER NICHOLS .. 9
WILLIAM L. EXTON .. 5	*SYDNEY ADAMS .. Tenor

Composed by CHAS. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of Caters.

SOUTHAMPTON.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 16½ cwt.

FRANK E. GILBERT .. Treble	GEOFFREY K. DODD .. 6
JOHN H. GILBERT .. 2	REGINALD W. REX .. 7
ADRIAN J. TUMBER .. 3	FRANK W. LEWIS .. 8
ROBERT C. KIPPIN .. 4	CYRIL E. LEWINGTON .. 9
RONALD F. DISERENS .. 5	NOEL J. DISERENS .. Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE.

Conducted by NOEL J. DISERENS.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Nov. 14, 1959, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb.

BARRIE S. SHEPPERD .. Treble	GEORGE F. NIX .. 5
PATRICIA S. WALKER .. 2	BRIAN A. TOMLINSON .. 6
F. DOROTHY FRANCE .. 3	GEOFFREY D. FEARNHUGH .. 7
PETER WALSON .. 4	TREVOR TAYLOR .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by TREVOR TAYLOR.

Rung to celebrate the engagement of Dorothy France and Geoffrey Fearnough.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 4 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's transposition.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

ERIC NAYLOR .. Treble	GEORGE A. NAYLOR .. 5
EDWARD C. BARTON .. 2	*WILFRID S. PALIN .. 6
*KATHLEEN M. WALSH .. 3	GEORGE KENWARD .. 7
STANLEY B. DOBBIE .. 4	JOHN CLARK .. Tenor

Conducted by ERIC NAYLOR.

* First peal of Stedman.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 9, 1959, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Vicars'.

Tenor 24 cwt. 9 lb.

*GEORGE F. NIX .. Treble	ROBERT WARRILOW .. 5
JOHN PILKINGTON .. 2	TREVOR TAYLOR .. 6
*BARRIE S. SHEPPERD .. 3	*DAVID W. JAMES .. 7
*RONALD JOHNSON .. 4	BARRIE HENDRY .. Tenor

Conducted by TREVOR TAYLOR.

* First peal of Triples.

Rung after meeting short for Grandsire Caters, Miss Margaret Ross kindly standing down.

BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1959, in 3 Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.

CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. Treble	WILLIAM A. HOLMES .. 5
WILLIAM E. CLARKE .. 2	HORACE BENNETT .. 6
JOHN E. ALLEN .. 3	J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 7
GEORGE R. BUTLER .. 4	C. HAROLD WHITTON .. Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by C. HAROLD WHITTON.

Fastest peal on the bells.

A sixth wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Whitton.

BURNHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1959, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's (Grove's variation). Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb. in F sharp.

GEORGE COUSSINS .. Treble	RICHARD E. DEAN .. 5
*HOWARD OGLESBY .. 2	ROBERT BEGRIE .. 6
MISS M. R. JAYCOCK .. 3	GEORGE GILBERT .. 7
GORDON W. LIMMER .. 4	†JOHN H. BLACKMOOR .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

* 25th peal. † First peal.

GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1959, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.

*DAVID CROSBY .. Treble	†JOHN M. BLAICKIE .. 5
†DELIA SMITH .. 2	†JOHN R. NICHOLSON .. 6
GEORGE E. FEIRN .. 3	G. LESLIE A. LUNN .. 7
C. AUBREY HARRISON .. 4	†A. ROBIN HEPPENSTALL .. Tenor

Composed by J. PLATT.

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

* First peal on eight bells. † First of Treble Bob Major.

Rung in memory of the late Bishop Greaves.

BARROW-ON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5088 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.

*W. ARTHUR CROWDER .. Treble	†PHILIP G. K. DAVIES .. 5
GEORGE E. FEIRN .. 2	*JOHN HALL .. 6
*JACK BRAY .. 3	MICHAEL W. CROWDER .. 7
*GEORGE W. MOODY .. 4	WILLIAM A. DOWSE .. Tenor

Composed by W. BARTON.

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

* First peal of Lincolnshire Surprise. † First in the method 'inside.'

BIGGLESWADE, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.

ALAN S. SMITH .. Treble	BRYAN F. SIMS .. 5
LEONARD B. SCOOT .. 2	EDWIN G. BUCK .. 6
JILL MAYES .. 3	COLIN A. S. HARWOOD .. 7
LEWIS H. BYWATERS .. 4	JACK S. DEAR .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by COLIN A. S. HARWOOD.

First peal in the method as conductor.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the conductor.

HUGGLESCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. in F sharp.

*BERYL HARTLEY Treble	ERNEST W. RAWSON 5
A. MAXWELL LINDSEY 2	ALAN E. HARTLEY 6
*MARTIN C. FAULKES 3	PETER J. STANFORTH 7
MICHAEL D. STANFORTH 4	JOHN A. UNDERWOOD Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER.

Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

* First peal of Stedman.

Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. J. B. Forgham to Miss Pamela M. Over, daughter of the Ringing Master at this church and a local ringer.

HUISH EPISCOPI, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 16 cwt.

ROGER KEELEY Treble	HENRY G. KEELEY 5
GORDON GAYLARD 2	GEORGE H. E. JEANES 6
JAMES E. LOOKER 3	HARRY J. GAYLARD 7
RAYMOND P. SELWAY 4	ALBERT W. DYER Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER (No. 1).

Conducted by HARRY J. GAYLARD.

TEWKESBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in D.

WILFRED J. NEWMAN .. Treble	PATRICK HARRIS 5
DEREK PRICE 2	HAROLD E. RAXTER 6
R. GEORGE MORRIS 3	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN 7
ALLEN MORGAN 4	THOMAS W. LEWIS Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON.

Conducted by R. GEORGE MORRIS.

HIGHCLERE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Dec. 20, 1959, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 27 lb.

FRANK W. LEWIS Treble	*CYRIL E. LEWINGTON 5
REGINALD W. REX 2	RONALD F. DISERENS 6
ERNEST J. MUNDAY 3	*ARTHUR SAYERS 7
*BRIAN MILLS 4	GEOFFREY K. DODD .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by GEOFFREY K. DODD.

* First peal of Double Norwich Court Bob. First of Double Norwich as conductor.

CAYTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 22, 1959, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VINCENT,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

J. W. Washbrook's variation of Thurstans' Four-part.

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

JOHN WALDEN Treble	FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD 5
NORAH M. BIBBY 2	GEORGE H. RANGLES 6
*MRS. F. G. BLOOMFIELD .. 3	*JACK L. MILLHOUSE 7
†G. LEONARD THOMPSON .. 4	RONALD APPLEWHITE .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* 75th peal together. † First of Stedman.

Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to Mr. John Cragg, local Ringing Master and founder member of the Guild: also a 92nd birthday compliment to Mrs. J. Randles, mother of the sixth ringer.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 22, 1959, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in G.

GEORGE L. ROOBOTTOM .. Treble	DAVID W. BRUNNING 5
RICHARD J. CLIFTON 2	WILLIAM F. WOODWARD 6
ARTHUR E. ROWLEY 3	JOSEPH W. COTTON 7
JOHN K. SMITH 4	ROLAND BENISTON Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

Rung for the Christmas Festival.

BLEWBURY, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 24, 1959, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's transposition.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

JAMES P. BLOND Treble	HENRY L. BISHOP 5
HAROLD W. DUNSDEN 2	CLAUDE CORDEROY 6
ALFRED R. T. GREENOUGH .. 3	ROBERT B. BLOND 7
FRANK E. GODDEN 4	CECIL CORDEROY Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT B. BLOND.

For Christmas.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Dec. 24, 1959, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F sharp.

MICHAEL C. AUSTIN .. Treble	*ALAN GARGRAVE 5
A. ST. JOHN BOYACK 2	*DESMOND MITCHELL 6
BRIAN R. DOWNES 3	FRANK V. GANT 7
ERNEST W. FURBANK 4	LIONEL S. WOODS Tenor

Composed by DAVID W. BEARD.

Conducted by LIONEL S. WOODS.

* First peal of Bob Major.

Rung for the Christmas Festival. Also as a compliment to the conductor and Miss Vivien Pain on the occasion of their engagement.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

ROBERT E. LESTER .. Treble	URBAN W. WILDNEY 5
HARRY J. MILLATT 2	*HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE .. 6
BERNARD W. FAIRHEAD .. 3	†EDWARD E. DAVEY 7
*ROSEMARY J. SEABROOK .. 4	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD .. Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by HARRY J. MILLATT.

* First peal of London Surprise Major. † First of London.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

JOHN E. ANDERSON .. Treble	GEORGE S. DEAS 5
ERIC N. HARRISON 2	CHARLES N. LEA 6
*FREDERICK ROSS 3	KENNETH ARTHUR 7
KENNETH W. CHEESEMAN .. 4	J. ALAN AINSWORTH Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER (No. 39).

Conducted by KENNETH ARTHUR.

* First peal in the method.

Tenor 21 cwt.

Arranged as a thank-offering for the completion of the work on the tower as part of the Hexham Abbey Restoration Appeal.

LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Comprising 2,560 London, 960 Bristol, 800 each of Cambridge and Superlative, with 100 changes of method. Tenor 25 cwt. 24 lb. in D.

AVRIL THACKRAY .. Treble	ALFRED E. RUSHTON 5
JENNIFER M. DAVIES 2	JAMES R. TAYLOR 6
BRIAN BLADON 3	DEREK P. JONES 7
PHILIP MEHEW 4	STEPHEN IVIN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.

Rung, after meeting short for Spliced Surprise Royal, to honour the wedding of Anne Amor and Derek Stainsby, which took place in Bedford earlier this day.

PENDLEBURY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt. in F sharp.

NORMAN TOMPKINS .. Treble	GORDON ROTHWELL 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 2	BRIAN TOMLINSON 6
JOHN P. PARTINGTON 3	PETER CROOK 7
ROGER MAHER 4	JOSEPH THORNLAY Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

Rung upon the Feast of St. Stephen, to celebrate the centenary of this parish, and to the memory of Henry Joy Fynes Clinton (priest), Rector of St. Magnus-the-Martyr, London Bridge, and a Guardian of the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.

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ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt 23 lb. in D.

ERNEST J. MUNDAY Treble	ALAN E. BAGWORTH 5
WILLIAM S. DEASON 2	IAN H. ORAM 6
STANLEY G. PONTING 3	BARWELL B. DIBBEN 7
ROBIN G. LEALE 4	WILLIAM ROGERS Tenor

Composed by ROGER BALDWIN.

Conducted by ROBIN G. LEALE.

ROYSTON, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5088 ROYSTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr.

G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. Treble	JACK S. DEAR 5
JOAN M. WILCOCKSON 2	COLIN A. S. HARWOOD .. 6
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. 3	J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE .. 7
JILL MAYES 4	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Composed by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

Conducted by G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY.

First peal in the method, which is not No. 269 in the Corrigan collection of Surprise Major methods.

ST. NEOTS, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 PAINSWICK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 29 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. in D flat.

JOHN G. GIPSON Treble	GEORGE E. THODAY 5
RUTH M. BORDER 2	GILES C. GALLEY 6
EUSTACE W. BULLMAN .. 3	FRANK E. HAYNES 7
DEREK E. SIBSON 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTIERSLEY.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

First peal in the method by all except the ringers of treble and 3.

SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*MICHAEL E. TURNER .. Treble	*ROBERT DEAN 5
RAYMOND P. SELWAY 2	HARRY J. GAYLARD 6
FREDERICK WELCH 3	*SIDNEY W. WHITE 7
JACK W. DREW 4	WILLIAM E. TURNER .. Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON.

Conducted by JACK W. DREW.

* First peal of Major.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. H. Pond on their diamond wedding anniversary.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 29, 1959, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT & OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Ilkerton variation. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb. in A flat.

STEPHEN BROOMFIELD .. Treble	*PETER A. SHARP 5
*JANE K. A. COOK 2	*RONALD APPLEWHITE .. 6
ARTHUR W. HOODLESS .. 3	W. ARTHUR CROWDER .. 7
G. LEONARD THOMPSON .. 4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. Tenor

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN.

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major.

ROYSTON SURPRISE MAJOR

x 58 x 14 x 56 x 16 x 12 x 1258 x 14 x 5

2nds place i.e. 4263857.

F.c.e.'s 24365, 32546, 53624, 65432, 46253.

SIX BELL PEALS

SAXTHORPE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Oct. 16, 1959, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in four methods, viz.: Four of Plain Bob and one each of Oxford T.B., Kent T.B. and St. Clement's. Tenor 2½ cwt.

BLVAN W. WILLGESS .. Treble	RAY W. BALLS 4
FREDERICK BOYCE 2	HORACE LUBBOCK 5
DEREK PARDON 3	GEOFFREY R. DREW Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY R. DREW.

WATH, NEAR RIPON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 WATH DELIGHT MINOR

Being seven extents (two callings). Tenor 7½ cwt.

ALAN EVANS Treble	*EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. 4
MRS. J. R. RENDER 2	*JOHN POTTS 5
ALAN SHEPPARD 3	KENNETH B. SISSONS .. Tenor

Conducted by KENNETH B. SISSONS.

* 25th peal together. First in the method by all the band. Believed to be the first peal on the bells and in the method for the Association.

YAXHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in six methods: Two of Plain Bob, and one each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Kent T.B. and Oxford T.B. Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM CLOVER Treble	THOMAS E. SPIGHT 4
FREDA GREAVES 2	HENRY TOOKE 5
TONY OWEN 3	GEOFFREY R. DREW Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY R. DREW.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1959, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (five callings). Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in E.

MALCOLM NEWCOMBE .. Treble	WALTER BEEBE 4
ROBERT BATES 2	ERNEST WILSON 5
KAY GREENWAY 3	LESLIE FLOYD Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST WILSON.

First peal by all except the ringer of the fourth. First as conductor. Rung as a farewell peal to Leslie Floyd, who is leaving the district shortly.

WICKWAR, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1959, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb.

*RONALD COX Treble	HAROLD HOBBS 4
LEONARD HEWITT 2	WILLIAM RICHINGS 5
FREDERICK ROBERTS .. 3	LESLIE BARRY Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

* First peal of Minor.

Rung to the memory of Horace Robinson, 50 years a ringer at this tower.

SEALE, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 17, 1959, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In three methods, being two extents of Oxford T.B., two of Kent T.B. and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.

ERNEST GARDNER Treble	CHARLES POYNITZ 4
EDWARD J. BRAGG 2	DUGALD H. MACPHERSON .. 5
STANLEY A. PONTING .. 3	TOM PAGE Tenor

Conducted by TOM PAGE.

SEEND, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 17, 1959, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

WILLIAM C. WEST Treble	HARRY HEATH 4
HERBERT HEATON 2	L. MICHAEL NOAD 5
FREDERICK ROSS 3	CHARLES F. ANDREWS .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES F. ANDREWS.

BRAMPFORD SPEKE, DEVONSHIRE.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Fri., Dec. 18, 1959, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two differently-arranged 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 5 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb.

SIDNEY SKINNER Treble	FRANK D. MACK 4
HEATHER HOOD 2	E. MAURICE ATKINS 5
NORMAN MALLETT 3	JOHN L. S. GLANVILL .. Tenor

Conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.

Rung to celebrate the births of Mr. Glanvill's grandson and granddaughter.

CROXTON KERRIAL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Single Court, Kent T.B. and Oxford T.B., and four Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr.

ALFRED E. HINMAN .. Treble	DENIS A. FRITH 4
*EDGAR A. COLE 2	J. HARRY COOK 5
F. WILLIAM PINCHBECK .. 3	JAMES H. MUSSON Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

* First peal of Minor in four methods. First on the bells since restoration.

HOLYWOOD, CO. DOWN.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 3 Hours,
At the Church of SS. PHILIP AND JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Plain Bob, two each of Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob; every 720 a change of method (seven callings).
Tenor 13 cwt. 16 lb.

*GERALD D. BROWN (15) .. Treble	†WILLIAM A. PATTERSON .. 4
JEAN STEWART 2	*JONATHAN S. N. PORTER (16) .. 5
HARRY BROWN 3	JOHN T. DUNWOODY .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN T. DUNWOODY.

* First peal (first attempt). † First in three methods.
Birthday compliments to Mr. W. Pratt (president of the Association) and the ringer of the treble.

KIDSGROVE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
At the Church of St. THOMAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents (C.C.C. Nos. 145 to 151). Tenor 11 cwt. 4 lb.

FREDK. E. WILSHAW .. Treble	*REGINALD A. CHALLINOR .. 4
*NORMAN SHERRATT .. 2	*HENRY WINDSOR .. 5
*PHILLIP A. MASON .. 3	*WALTER SHERRATT .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK E. WILSHAW.

* First peal in the method.

KIRKBY-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
At the Church of St. CUTHBERT.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*GORDON RICHINS .. Treble	THOMAS F. METCALFE .. 4
JAMES E. DICKINSON .. 2	JOHN BAGNALL .. 5
*HARRY BARNES .. 3	JAMES E. BURLS .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES E. BURLS.

* First peal in the method.
Rung for Christmas.

LYONSHALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
At the Church of St. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

*BRYAN GIDDINGS .. Treble	REV. E. G. BENSON .. 4
MRS. E. C. CHANDLER .. 2	A. BRYAN ELLSMORE .. 5
*THOMAS BOUNDS .. 3	FREDERICK R. HARRIS .. Tenor

Conducted by A. BRYAN ELLSMORE.

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

STOKE-NEXT-GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
At the Church of St. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise and three different extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

DAVID J. TUBBS .. Treble	†E. JOHN WELLS .. 4
*JANET E. CLEEVE .. 2	PETER G. SMART .. 5
STANLEY G. PONTING .. 3	HAROLD A. MAY .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD A. MAY.

* First peal of Minor. † 125th peal.

TAXAL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
At the Church of St. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 11 cwt. 23 lb. in G.

*ANNE P. SMITH .. Treble	*PETER DALE .. 4
JOHN ROBINSON .. 2	FRANK OSBALDISTON .. 5
EILEEN M. FEARN .. 3	ROBERT B. SMITH .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT B. SMITH.

* First peal.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
At the Church of St. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being an extent each of London, Beverley, Norwich, Ipswich, Cambridge, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

*JOHN D. FAIRCLOTH .. Treble	†IAN H. ORAM .. 4
JOHN W. SMITH .. 2	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. 5
ANDREW M. MACVE .. 3	RALPH BIRD .. Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* First peal. † 150th peal.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1959, in 3 Hours.

At the Church of St. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

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

Tenor 12 cwt.

LAWRENCE T. POPE .. Treble	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 4
*RITA A. GOWER .. 2	CRAWFORD T. HILLIS .. 5
*ROSEMARY E. GOWER .. 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. Tenor

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal of Surprise.
Rung, with the compliments of the rest of the Willesborough band, to celebrate the 21st birthday of the twin ringers of 2 and 3.

SUCKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Dec. 20, 1959, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
At the Church of St. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 14 cwt.

*JAMES RANFORD .. Treble	FREDERICK MERRICK .. 4
DONALD R. HINKSMAN .. 2	*WALTER HUBAND .. 5
ARTHUR F. WALL .. 3	THOMAS COOPER .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS COOPER.

* First peal of Minor.

HARSTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 22, 1959, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
At the Church of All SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 9½ cwt.

GEORGE E. THODAY .. Treble	GEOFF. PRATT .. 4
PETER J. SHIPTON .. 2	JOHN G. GIPSON .. 5
*HARRY F. CHURCHMAN .. 3	DEREK E. SIBSON .. Tenor

Conducted by DEREK E. SIBSON.

* First peal of Surprise 'inside.'

LITTLE COMBERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 22, 1959, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
At the Church of St. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being two 2,160's and one 720 composed of seven different extents (C.C.C. Nos. 83, 82, 81; 75, 80, 79; and 58).

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

*JACQUELINE A. ROBERTS .. Treble	*GORDON T. BROWN .. 4
†SHEILA KEYTE .. 2	GERALD C. HEMMING .. 5
†MARTYN HAWKES .. 3	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. Tenor

Conducted by GERALD C. HEMMING.

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

BAWTRY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Dec. 24, 1959, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
At the Church of St. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven variations. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

*NANCY WORSNALL .. Treble	ALEC WILSON .. 4
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 2	HAROLD DENMAN .. 5
FREDK. J. JACKSON .. 3	ROBIN WORSNALL .. Tenor

Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

* First peal.

???? STOPPED ????? ???? ???? STOPPED ???? ?



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SUTTON-ON-THE-HILL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Dec. 24, 1959, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt. 18 lb. in G.
*EDWARD H. WILLOWS .. Treble | †GARTH MUNTON 4
DEBORAH WILSON 2 | JOHN F. MURFIN 5
NOREEN P. WICKHAM .. 3 | DAVID K. WALKLATE .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID K. WALKLATE.

* First peal of Minor. † First 'inside.'

A birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

ALDERTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET-OF-ANTIOCH,

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 9 cwt. in A flat.
GORDON T. BROWN Treble | R. ROGER SAVORY 4
MARTYN HAWKES 2 | GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 5
WILLIAM B. POMEROY .. 3 | GERALD C. HEMMING .. Tenor

Conducted by GERALD C. HEMMING.

First peal of London Surprise Minor by all the band.

BABWORTH, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Single Oxford and four of Plain Bob.
Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

GRACE BURCHNALL Treble | HAROLD DENMAN 4
VALERIE WATERFIELD .. 2 | KATHARINE BURCHNALL .. 5
ALEC WILSON 3 | RICHARD HOBBS Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD HOBBS.

First peal on the bells, which were augmented from three to six and rehung by J. Taylor and Co. in November, 1959, and dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Southwell on December 22nd, 1959.

BRANSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1959, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 17 methods: (1) Capel, Sandal, London Scholars', Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob; (2) Double and Single Court; (3) St. Clement's and Double Oxford; (4) College Single and Wavertree; (5) Childwall and Thelwall; (6) Plain Bob and Oxford Bob; (7) Double Bob and Fulbeck. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in F sharp.
G. LEONARD THOMPSON .. Treble | *LOUIS WILLIERS 4
JOHN F. PEARSON 2 | JACK L. MILLHOUSE 5
*PETER SHARP 3 | RONALD APPLEWHITE .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

*25th peal together.

HANDBELL PEALS

BEVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 12, 1959, in 1 Hour and 50 Minutes,
AT 36, EASTGATE,

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.
*FRANCES FAIRBANK 1—2 | CHARLES BARKER 3—4
*MALCOLM LINCOLN 5—6

Conducted by CHARLES BARKER.

* First peal of Treble Bob.

HARROW, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Dec. 18, 1959, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,
AT 170, HEADSTONE LANE,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE *SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in D.
*THOMAS J. LOCK 1—2 | †JOHN R. MAYNE 5—6
†JOAN BERESFORD 3—4 | CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 7—8
Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.
* First peal of Surprise on handbells. † First in the method on handbells. First in the method on handbells for the Association.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

LONG LENGTH

ECCELESTON, CHESHIRE.—On Dec. 12th, 4,200 Plain Bob Triples: J. W. Griffiths (cond.) 1, C. W. Lawton 2, Mrs. C. W. Lawton 3, H. Parker 4, C. Raddon 5, S. Jones (jun.) 6, A. J. Martin 7, F. T. Parry 8. In honour of the 91st birthday of Mr. S. Jones, of Eccleston. This was a peal attempt which had to be curtailed owing to indisposition of a member of the band.

DATE TOUCH

CLAPTON-IN-GORDANO, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 30th, 1,959 Doubles in 17 methods (11 individual Plain courses) being 120 each of All Saints, Candlesby S.C., Union, Stedman, Reverse Canterbury, Clifford Pleasure, Southrepps, St. Columh, Plain Bob, April Day, Old, Kennington, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, St. Nicholas' and Winchendon Place and 39 Grandsire: Mary Powell 1, D. Yeo 2, Monica Horseman 3, M. Horseman (cond.) 4, J. Brain 5, J. Stallard 6. First in 17 methods by all.

ABBOTS LEIGH, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Williams 1, Monica Horseman 2, N. Coombes 3, R. Gale 4, F. Neate 5, M. Horseman (cond.) 6.

ASTON, WARWICKS.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. S. Burbidge 1, D. T. Finemore 2, A. Short 3, D. R. Ingram 4, R. C. Ingram (cond.) 5, M. G. Ingram 6. For Evensong.

BATHAMPTON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss B. M. White (first quarter) 1, A. Gooding 2, S. A. Read (cond.) 3, W. J. Prescott 4, F. Gooding 5, L. Laye 6. For midnight service.

BAUGHURST, HANTS.—On Dec. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. West 1, A. Atkins 2, S. Miles 3, D. Cane 4, J. Morley (cond.) 5, A. West 6. A golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Blake.

BILTON, WARWICKS.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. J. A. Tole 1, L. A. Whewall 2, P. C. Taylor 3, W. E. Burnell 4, J. C. Nichols 5, J. A. Tole (cond.) 6. For the wedding of Miss P.E. Wincott (a local ringer) and Mr. W. Spreadbury, and for the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Tole. Also on Dec. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss L. M. Nichols (first quarter, aged 10) 1, L. A. Whewall 2, Miss J. M. Rushall 3, P. C. Taylor 4, J. C. Nichols (cond.) 5, W. E. Burnell 6.

BLEWBURY, BERKS.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. W. Dunsden 1, R. H. Mills 2, P. Corderoy (first 'inside') 3, E. J. Grace 4, J. P. Blond 5, Claude Corderoy (cond.) 6, R. B. Blond 7, A. F. F. Samler 8.

BLOXWICH, STAFFS.—On Nov. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Howlett 1, Jill Fisher 2, Margaret Pritchard 3, D. Wilkes (first 'inside') 4, G. Hughes (cond.) 5, J. Eastwood 6. For Confirmation service, and as a compliment to Marlene Jones and Janet Barnett, members of the local band, who were among the candidates; also a 21st birthday compliment to the former.

BLUNSDON, WILTS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob): Miss S. A. Peake (first quarter, aged 12) 1, A. R. Peake (cond.) 2, Mrs. G. Swain 3, B. S. Sheppard 4, B. Bladon 5, Miss L. Hawes 6. Rung for the candlelight carol service. Also on Dec. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss A. Porter (aged 11) 1, Mrs. G. Swain 2, J. West 3, B. S. Sheppard 4, A. R. Peake (cond.) 5, G. Swain 6. First quarter 1 and 6.

BOSBURY, HEREFORDS.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Minor (Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob): T. Cooper 1, J. Clements 2, J. Ward 3, C. W. Nutt 4, F. Merrick 5, J. G. Pusey (cond.) 6. To mark the 20th anniversary of the wedding in this church of 3.

BRADDEN, NORTHANTS.—On Nov. 28th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): W. J. Chester 1, C. Truman 2, W. A. Yates (cond.) 3, M. Saunders 4, G. Shellard 5.

BRAMPTON, HUNTS.—On Nov. 21st, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): Lucy Allen (cond.) 1, Maureen Allen 2, R. Cooper 3, E. J. Whiting 4, J. W. Allen 5. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Robert Sidney Brawn and Dorothy Ann Rodder.

BRISTOL.—At the Church of St. Ambrose, 1,280 Pudsey Surprise Major: R. Hooper (cond.) 1, D. Cobb 2, Monica Horseman 3, M. Horseman 4, D. Exell 5, J. Brain 6, J. Hunt 7, J. Gilbert 8. First of Pudsey by 2, 3, 4 and 6.

BROAD HINTON, WILTS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,440 Surprise Minor (720 Carlisle, Munden, Chester, 720 Ainswick and Newcastle): P. Wakefield 1, Miss L. Hawes 2, R. Wright 3, V. Griffin 4, A. R. Peake (cond.) 5, B. Bladon 6.

QUARTER PEALS

BUSHLEY, WORCS.—On Oct. 16th, 1,260 Doubles (120 each of Shipway's Place, St. Nicholas, Winchendon Place, St. Martin's, St. Simon's, Chase, All Saints, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Reverse St. Bartholomew and 60 Grandsire): A. Halling 1, Nadine Price 2, F. E. Wood 3, M. Hawkes (cond.) 4, P. D. Warren 5, R. Liddell (first quarter) 6. First in 11 methods by all except the conductor.

CHAPEL ALLERTON, YORKS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. E. T. Clark 1, Susan R. Adams (first quarter) 2, Margaret A. Clark 3, Eileen B. Adams (first quarter) 4, J. S. Clark (first quarter) 5, J. D. Nixon (first as cond.) 6. First quarter by a local band. Rung for the ordination of the curate (the Rev. M. Trotter).

CLERKENWELL, E.C.—At St. James' Church, on Dec. 20th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Andrews 1, A. Lewry 2, F. Corfield 3, G. Parsons 4, W. Prockson 5, E. Talbot 6, J. Euston (cond.) 7, E. Peett 8. For Matins.

COMPTON BISHOP, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Doubles (Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob and Grandsire): T. Feltham (first quarter, aged 14) 1, A. J. Peters 2, Miss A. White 3, H. Hooper (cond.) 4, J. Brinson 5, J. Loxton 6. For children's gift service.

CROXTON KERRIAL, NOTTS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: S. Meredith 1, R. Blackshaw 2, F. Bradley 3, R. Mills 4, D. Armstrong (cond.) 5, M. Harrison 6. Rung on the occasion of the local Christmas bazaar in aid of church funds.

EAST BRIDGFORD, NOTTS.—On Dec. 28th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss R. Blackshaw 1, S. Hill 2, M. Harrison 3, J. Higgs 4, J. Meredith 5, B. Mills 6. Conducted by J. Meredith and B. Mills. A compliment to Sidney Hill and Doreen Isaacs on their engagement.

EDMONTON, MIDDLEX.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Bacon (first quarter) 1, Trudy Newcombe 2, D. Langdon 3, W. George 4, J. Weeks (cond.) 5, P. Haward 6. First quarter since rededication of bells. For carol service.

GRAFTON REGIS, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): G. Webb 1, J. Neal 2, F. Hall 3, R. H. Rogers 4, G. Atkins (cond.) 5. For service of nine lessons and carols.

HENBURY, BRISTOL.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss E. Brocklehurst 1, J. A. Bennett 2, Miss A. Grainger 3, J. C. Baldwin 4, C. Richards 5, G. Locke 6, A. W. T. Cleaver (cond.) 7, J. K. Laver 8. A farewell to the Rev. C. J. Vittle, who has been appointed Vicar of All Saints, Fishponds.

HOLME PIERREPONT, NOTTS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,440 Minor (Single Oxford and Plain Bob): S. Meredith 1, D. Armstrong 2, R. Blackshaw 3, M. Harrison 4, A. Larkin 5, F. Bradley 6. Conducted by D. Armstrong and F. Bradley.

KERESLEY, WARWICKS.—On Christmas Day, 1,320 Grandsire Doubles: W. H. Allport 1, H. Folwell 2, Miss T. I. Bowcutt 3, W. A. Stote (cond.) 4, R. D. Hart 5. For early Communion.

KIMPTON, HERTS.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Peake (Reverse Canterbury, Grandsire and Plain Bob): Miss S. Baxter (first quarter) 1, Miss S. Dyer 2, F. W. Ellis 3, D. C. Price 4, J. G. Cull (cond.) 5, Miss I. M. Lander 6. First quarter on the bells since restoration. For Evensong.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: N. V. Harding 1, Freda P. Greaves 2, E. Howes 3, L. W. Houghton 4, J. V. Temple 5, J. Wilson (cond.) 6.

LANE END, BUCKS.—On Oct. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Faith Harris (first attempt) 1, W. Avery 2, K. Seymour (cond.) 3, S. Smith 4, C. Hagger 5, R. Hazell 6. For harvest festival. Also on Christmas Day, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire and Plain Bob): Cheryl Smith (first attempt) 1, C. Hagger 2, K. Seymour 3, R. Hazell (cond.) 4, S. Smith 5, W. Avery 6. For morning service.

LONG BUCKBY, NORTHANTS.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: I. Brown (first quarter) 1, M. F. Amos (cond.) 2, J. H. Williams 3, W. Lake 4, J. E. Goddard 5. For Matins.

MARLOW, BUCKS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. R. Dean (12, first quarter) 1, Miss J. Cooke 2, J. Young 3, Mrs. E. Mead 4, E. D. Poole 5, E. Sylvey 6, R. E. Dean (cond.) 7, L. J. Young 8. For service of nine lessons and carols.

MERROW, SURREY.—On Nov. 28th, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire, cond. by D. May, and Plain Bob, cond. by Jill Lane): Susan Bull (first quarter) 1, Jill Lane 2, Valerie Waddy 3, D. A. R. May 4, R. I. Vaughan 5, R. Burden 6.

NEWTON ST. CYRES, DEVON.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. Skinner 1, F. D. Mack 2, G. Luxton 3, G. Skinner 4, W. Stacey 5, G. Gaylard 6, H. J. Gaylard (cond.) 7, R. Bray 8. For the festival of Christmas.

NORTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On Dec. 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: G. Horton 1, Ann Hancock 2, Wendy Bowak 3, L. Cordell (cond.) 4, M. McQuisian 5, S. King 6. For Sung Eucharist.

PAISLEY, SCOTLAND.—At St. James' Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Sargeant 1, Miss L. Bevers 2, R. St. C. Wilson 3, E. Boughphey 4, A. Scott 5, A. W. Lloyd 6, C. R. Raine (cond.) 7, A. Sharples 8.

PENDLEBURY, LANCS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Jacks 1, R. Bagnall 2, N. Tompkins (cond.) 3, A. Lomas 4, B. Rothwell 5, C. Rothwell 6, C. Cooper 7, H. Gaskell 8. Rung by the local band to commence the church's centenary celebrations.

ROCHESTER, KENT.—At the Cathedral, on Dec. 27th: W. A. J. Knight (cond.) 1, Miss E. Wharton (first 'inside') 2, R. E. Norris (first of Doubles) 3, C. J. Gould 4, C. E. J. Norris 5, D. Norris (first of Doubles) 6. First quarter since the new frame was installed.

SHROTON, DORSET.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. N. Houghton 1, F. Hilliar 2, Ben Ridout (cond.) 3, Bert Ridout 4, G. W. Dennis 5, M. Percy 6. A compliment to William R. Taylor, who was ordained in Portsmouth Cathedral this day.

SPAXTON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Ford 1, J. Ford 2, E. Ford (cond.) 3, S. Parish 4, W. Webber 5. First quarter for 1 and 5.

STONELEIGH, WARWICKS.—On Dec. 26th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: Priscilla Parish 1, T. J. Gray 2, Jean R. King 3, Gillian A. Williamson 4, P. K. Williamson 5. First quarter 1 and 3. For the festival of Christmas.

STUDLEY, WARWICKS.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Russell 1, J. Crook 2, R. Spray (cond.) 3, T. Griffiths 4, J. W. Perkins 5, H. Crook 6. For Evensong. Also on Dec. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss D. Cooke (first quarter) 1, J. Crook 2, R. Spray 3, T. Griffiths 4, J. W. Perkins (cond.) 5, K. Stone 6. A birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

TEWKESBURY, GLOS.—On Dec. 23rd, 2,100 Grandsire Triples: Anne Broxton 1, M. Hawkes 2, Nadine Price 3, A. Halling 4, F. Hawkes 5, E. Penn 6, M. Sprackling (cond.) 7, E. Leach 8. A 21st birthday compliment to Noel Sprackling.

TOPSHAM, DEVON.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. Bye 1, Miss M. Godfrey 2, Miss M. Browne 3, R. Berry 4, J. T. Barrett (cond.) 5, K. Wannell 6. For carol service.

TWERTON-ON-AVON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Doubles (Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob and Grandsire): Barbara J. Clarke (first away from covering bell) 1, D. J. Barnett 2, A. F. Lee 3, J. J. Jefferies 4, T. J. Milsom (cond.) 5, D. F. Jefferies 6. Rung on St. Stephen's Day.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on Dec. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. C. F. Neal 1, Mrs. D. Neal 2, J. M. Steele (first of Grandsire Triples 'inside') 3, Miss N. Hales 4, J. A. Hales 5, R. K. C. Wilkins 6, D. Neal (cond.) 7, C. F. Neal 8. For Midnight Mass.

WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTS.—On Dec. 8th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: S. Meredith 1, R. Blackshaw 2, D. Armstrong 3, M. Harrison 4, R. W. Winstanley 5, F. Bradley 6. Conducted by D. Armstrong and F. Bradley. A welcome to the Rev. W. Johnson, recently ordained curate to this church.

WEST RETFORD, NOTTS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Valerie Waterfield 1, Jill Eason 2, R. Hobbs (cond.) 3, T. Randall 4, C. Scott 5, D. McNeil 6. For Evensong; also as a compliment to T. Randall and Miss J. Tibbenham upon their engagement.

WHITCHURCH, OXON.—On Dec. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Carter (first in method) 1, Veronica Naylor 2, Mrs. Pamela Cracknell 3, B. A. Cracknell (cond.) 4, J. F. Carter 5, A. Burt 6. For Midnight Communion.

WHITSTABLE, KENT.—On Dec. 24th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): K. Triplow 1, C. C. Dilnot 2, J. C. Baldwin (cond.) 3, W. Gray 4, Hazel Palmer 5, D. Southam 6. For the first Eucharist of the Nativity of our Lord.

WOKING, SURREY.—At St. Peter's Church, on Christmas Day, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: B. Turner 1, F. Milne 2, J. Brackley (cond.) 3, W. Stone 4, D. Munday 5, A. Turner 6. For morning service.

'THE RINGING WORLD'

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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Following an accident on his motor-cycle, Mr. Michael W. Crowder, of Barrow-on-Humber, Lincs, is suffering from a broken collarbone. Mr. Bernard F. L. Groves, whose accident on a push cycle was reported in our last issue, has a fractured pelvis and is unlikely to be back ringing for some time. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

A team of young ringers from St. Matthew's, Salford Priors, Warwickshire, raised the sum of £28 during Christmas week by playing carols on handbells. This is being donated to the Children's Society.

Mr. C. W. Denyer, Master of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, has sent his New Year greetings to each tower in the Guild with a beautiful calendar containing a photograph of Seale Church.

Prees, Shropshire, bells are back after receiving attention at the Loughborough Foundry. The Bishop of Shrewsbury is attending a service of thanksgiving on January 24th. The church has been entirely repointed.

The band who rang in the Society of Cumberland Youths' peal of Stedman Caters at Nottingham on December 19th wish to convey their sincere felicitations to Michael Colton and Maisie Simmons, members of the local band, whose wedding took place that day.

Miss Linda M. Nichols, the 10-year-old daughter of Mr. J. C. Nichols, rang her first quarter peal on December 20th at St. Mark's Church, Bilton, Warwicks. In this tower were rung two quarter peals for Evensong during Advent in conjunction with organ recitals for the World Refugee Year. There were two first quarter peals and a first 'inside.'

Without a Vicar for 12½ years under a suspension order, St. John-the-Divine, Leicester, is to have its present priest-in-charge, the Rev. W. B. Williams, inducted to the living on January 14th. On the following Saturday a peal of Grandsire Caters will be attempted to commemorate the event, which, if successful, will be recorded on a tablet in the tower.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Handbells play an important part in the teaching of music at Blaydon East Secondary Modern School, thanks to the enthusiasm of Miss Paxton and Miss Oliver. At the end of term carol service handbells opened the proceedings by rounds and Queens, followed by 'Good King Wenceslas.' Later there was handbell accompaniment to the singing of 'While Shepherds Watched,' 'The First Noel' and 'Jingle Bells.'

With the peal at Branston, Lincs, on Boxing Day, Mr. Ronald Applewhite had 'circled the tower.'

The new band at Dore, near Sheffield, started regular ringing this Christmas with the bells open.

Mr. Colin A. S. Harwood celebrated his 21st birthday by calling his first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major, at Biggleswade, on December 19th.

In a peal of Grandsire Doubles at St. Nicholas', Nuneaton, it was the first peal by five of the band. Mr. Ernest Wilson, who was conducting, was also ringing his first peal.

'Happy birthday, twins,' was said by Wilesborough ringers on December 19th to Rita and Rosemary Gower by a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor. They are now 21, and rang their first peal of Surprise.

New South Wales ringers arranged for a ringers' picnic at the Royal National Park on December 13th especially for Ann Brown, who was due to leave Australia on December 28th for approximately five months overseas.

There is good news concerning Mr. Edgar Shepherd's visit to a specialist. Nothing was found wrong with his heart or circulation and he was able to ring for Christmas. He is waiting a little while before starting peal ringing again.

Miss Jean Sanderson has compiled a most interesting booklet on the Church of St. Nicholas, Norton, Hertfordshire, which adjoins Letchworth Garden City. The story of the bells is carefully traced back and we hope to deal with these at greater length.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED



1570

MEARS & STAINBANK,
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LONDON, E.1.

CHRISTMAS DAY BROADCAST

Dear Sir, — This year's Christmas Day broadcast of bells, though not without its faults, gave a fair indication of what comes out of those of our towers which can muster a full team. It was pleasing that all towers had a fair length of time on the air. Listeners would notice the error in announcing eight bells in one case when only six were ringing. This indicates the casual way in which this programme is organised and there is much to be said for a properly vetted recorded programme in place of or to augment the live broadcast.

It was a joy to listen to St. Donard's, Belfast. Credit is due to the ringers for their excellent striking, the founders for a lovely ring of bells and the local sound engineers for so successfully reproducing the pleasant combination. Well done, Ireland. Thanks, also, to all the other ringers whose efforts produced an enjoyable programme for us.—Yours, etc.,

NORMAN CHADDOCK.

Rotherham, Yorks.

TALGARH HEARD TWICE

Dear Sir,—Your readers may have been surprised to hear only six bells being rung at Wareham on the B.B.C. programme on Christmas morning.

In fact, Wareham bells were not broadcast at all, and Talgarth was on the air twice. We were ringing some very nice Grandsire Triples and it was not until we stopped ringing at 9.30 a.m. that we discovered what had happened.—Yours sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER T. BROWN.

Wareham, Dorset.

Dear Sir,—I hope my beginners will not get a false impression of the standard required as a result of listening to some of the Christmas broadcast.—Yours faithfully,

D. P. JONES.

Castle Gresley, Staffs.

Tips For Beginners — 2

If you have difficulty in hearing your bell amongst the others you can help to train yourself by noticing when a bell strikes in relation to your pull when ringing it singly. Persuade the captain to let you ring the five-minute bell to enable you to practise this.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Swindon Branch was held at St. Mark's, Swindon, instead of Christ Church, where the bells are still out of use due to repairs to the spire.

After 27 years as secretary, Mr. W. B. Kynaston retired and was warmly thanked for his services to the Branch. Although working away from Swindon for much of the time, the Branch hopes to see him often at the monthly meetings.

Officers elected were: Dr. H. Craig, chairman; Mr. R. Luten, secretary; Mr. V. Griffin, representative on Management Committee; and Mr. W. H. Trueman, Ringing Master.

During the next quarter, meetings will be held at Purton, Rodbourne Cheney and Stratton St. Margaret.

R. L.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Rochester District

Some 60-odd members of the Rochester District attended a by-meeting at St. Mary's Parish Church, Newington, on December 12th. A short ringers' service was held, conducted by the Rev. J. E. Holland, Vicar of Newington. Tea was partaken in the School, kindly given by the local ringers. There being no business, the Vicar welcomed the Association to Newington, and Mr. A. Dunk, on behalf of all present, moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar, also to the local ringers and ladies of Newington for giving the tea and making the meeting a success.

SERVANTS OF THE EXERCISE — No. 2



MR. F. SHARPE

(President of the Central Council)

Mr. Frederick Sharpe is one of the greatest living authorities on bells and in recognition of his abilities he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1953. This unique distinction will undoubtedly strengthen his hands in the discharge of his duties as President of the Central Council, and, through him, the prestige of the Council will be enhanced.

He learned to ring at Launton under the supervision of Mr. Richard Castle and rang his first peal at Bicester in 1922. He struck up a friendship with Richard White, of Appleton, in 1925, and, from him, acquired a vast amount of practical knowledge of bells and bellhanging. He is not a prolific peal ringer, having rung about 30 peals ranging from Grandsire Doubles to Stedman Caters. He is adept at ringing two tower bells and has taken part in many quarter peals in this way, also at rising and falling double-handed.

AS AN AUTHOR

He collaborated with the late H. B. Walters, the well-known author of many books on bells, and has since published several of his own, including 'The Church Bells of the Rural Deanery of Bicester,' 'Church Bells of Berkshire,' 'Church Bells of Radnorshire' and 'Church Bells of Oxfordshire.'

MORE BELFRY GOSSIP

Chapel Allerton, Leeds, have rung their first quarter by a local band. It included three first quarters.

Will Mr. H. Jones, who sent Mr. Jeater a cheque for £1 8s. drawn on the Midland Bank, Cleckheaton, please forward his address, as he failed to fill up the subscription form.

The date of the West Lindsey Branch meeting is January 16th. To those who went to Gainsborough last Saturday the hon. secretary and 'The Ringing World' tender apologies.

When a handbell, wanted for an important concert in America, cracked just before the great day, the director of the choir sent the bell by air mail to the Whitechapel Foundry and had it back inside a week, reports 'Overtones,' the journal of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers.

Corrections.—The peal of Minor rung at East Woodhay, Hants, was on November 27th and not November 20th, as printed. The peal of Bob Major at Aldermaston was rung on October 24th and not September 24th. Will conductors please submit peals early to avoid errors in dates.

He has served the Oxford Diocesan Guild with distinction. Joining in 1920, he became a member of the committee in 1922, hon. secretary of the Bicester Deanery in 1928, and Deputy Master in 1951, which office he still holds.

He was elected an honorary member of the Central Council in 1939, and in 1946 was made a member of the Towers and Belfries Committee, becoming convener in 1952. He has visited, reported and advised on on hundreds of towers all over the country and his services as a lecturer on all branches of the art have been in great demand. In 1954 he was elected to the important office of honorary librarian to the Central Council, and relinquished this office on being elected President of the Council three years ago.

Mr. Sharpe is 54 years of age. He married, in 1935, Miss E. J. M. Evans, of Trenewydd, and has one daughter, Elizabeth. He is a builder by profession.

JAFUS.

Won St. Paul's Bells By A Game Of Dice

The bells of old St. Paul's, London, were once put up as a prize in a game of dice. They were won by Sir Gerald Partridge; but his success was hardly to be envied, for the loser was Henry VIII, and Sir Giles was executed a short time later—the penalty (it was said) for earning the monarch's displeasure.

—The Whitechurch Herald.

WOOLTON YOUNGSTERS IN THE NEWS

Mr. E. L. Humphriss has a very promising band of teenage ringers at St. Peter's Church, Woolton. They provided a well-illustrated feature article for 'The Liverpool Echo and Evening Express.' On Christmas Eve they made their traditional round of the district, ringing carols on handbells. 'The Liverpool Weekly News' also had individual pictures of five of the band in action, headed: 'These are people who really enjoy the art of campanology.'

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

Despite rainy weather, 20 members and visitors from Bushey, Southampton, Reading, Newbury, Thatcham and Bucklebury attended the Andover quarterly meeting held at Woolton Hill, which tower has a light six, on December 19th. A special feature was the carol service during which the carol 'Ding, dong, merrily on high' was sung by the Andover quartet.

Mr. A. W. Alleston presided at the business meeting, when the branch annual meeting was fixed for Andover on January 23rd, and the next quarterly meeting on April 2nd at Abbot's Ann, with Amport and Thraxton. In the evening ringing took place at Highclere, and included touches of Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Cambridge Surprise Major.

A RINGER'S RHYME

'The Birmingham Post,' in its issue of Nov. 28th, features an article by C. V. Hancock on 'Ringers' Rhymes, and History in the Belfry.' The article quotes a notice in the belfry of Salford Priors Church, Warwickshire, referring probably to the tenor:—

Of't as this Bell with Solemn Toll
Speaks the Departure of a Soul.
Nor would the thought Distressing be
If next it were to Toll for Me.

At the meeting of the South Forest Branch (page 13) Mr. L. H. Jones was re-elected Ringing Master and not Mr. R. Thomas as appeared in the report.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE FIRST PEAL IN AMERICA

Dear Sir, — In Mr. Ogden's interesting article on Lancashire handbell ringers of the mid-19th century, he quotes from Mr. Scott Parry's book, 'The Story of Handbells,' that 'Ringers remained in the States long enough, however, to ring the first successful peal in this country (U.S.A.) on Sunday, June 9th, 1850, on the ring of eight bells at Christ Church, Philadelphia.'

I have not yet read Mr. Parry's book and so am not sure whether he himself implies that the peal band was drawn from the party Barnum took from Lancashire in 1847, or whether it is Mr. Ogden who has assumed this to be so. In fact, the band was composed of five London ringers, three English residents of Philadelphia, 'an American being engaged to manipulate the tenor.' (The method was Grandsire Triples, Holt's Ten-Part, in 3 hours and 15 minutes.) In 'The History and Art of Change Ringing,' Mr. Ernest Morris lists the band, showing two men on the tenor, and this is no doubt correct.

How the five London ringers came to be in America is related at some length in 'The Bell News' of January 13th, 1900, wherein appeared an article in support of an appeal on behalf of James Hewett, of Gosport, whose composition of the extent of Grandsire Caters, it may be remembered, was published in these columns a year ago. Briefly, the story is that in 1850 P. T. Barnum applied to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank to supply him with a party of handbell ringers for a tour of the United States. The firm referred him to the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, who selected five men, the best known of whom was Henry W. Haley, who was subsequently to call the peal. (Like his contemporary and rival, John Cox, Haley was at other times a College Youth; it can fairly be said that one Society could not contain both at once.)

Their engagement was for 12 months, and after a successful time in New York they moved on to Philadelphia, where their stay was cut short by the arrival of the famous singer, Jenny Lind. Later the party visited 'most of the principal towns in the United States.'

To revert to the 'Lancashire Handbell Ringers,' their activities were not confined to America. In 'A Great Adventure,' his account of the tour of Australia in 1934-35, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith quoted some extracts from a manuscript notebook written by William Shenton, an Englishman who had settled in the 1850's. One of them is as follows:—

'At that time, 1863, the American Civil War was raging, and all the cotton crops were destroyed. This caused a great amount of distress in the cotton spinning districts of Lancashire, and George Coppin brought out the "Lancashire Handbell Ringers" as a speculation. Among that band of eight men there were at least two capable change ringers and we had them among us occasionally. With their assistance we used to run through a six-score of Doubles easily. On September 11th, 1863, the following appeared in "The Age" newspaper:—

"Yesterday the Lancashire Handbell Ringers, assisted by the ringers of St. James' (then the Cathedral at Melbourne), rang on the bells of that church several peals in the Grandsire method in the art of change ringing, being the greatest achievement ever accomplished in any of the Australian Colonies. The ringers were: E. Norman, treble; Wm. Christfield 2; J. Whittaker 3; Peter Mills 4; Wm. Shenton 5; T. Davis, tenor. Conducted by Wm. Christfield."

Probably those who went to Australia were a different band from the American party of 1844 and 1847, but it is interesting to see that the name still survived 16 years later.—Yours sincerely,

E. A. BARNETT.

Crayford, Kent.

'SWISS BELL RINGERS'

Dear Sir,—I was most interested in the article by T. Ogden in your issue of December 11th re 'Swiss Bell Ringers.'

Recently I read a book by Arthur Meeken ('Far-away Music'). This tells about family life in America in the mid 19th century, and mentions a band of 'Swiss Bell Ringers,' but does not state where they were ringing. At the time of reading this I thought that it might be a band using cow bells—I never even thought that they might be real handbell ringers!

As a matter of interest, we have, at Christ Church, Crewe, a set of 37 handbells. These have recently been reconditioned by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. (Loughborough), who have made a most excellent job of them. We are now trying to make up a good band of youngsters to ring tunes on these bells, and with some success, I am glad to say!—Yours faithfully,

E. T. HOLLOWAY

Crewe.

CALL CHANGE RINGER'S REQUEST

Dear Sir,—I wonder if 'The Ringing World' could be made a little more interesting to service call change ringers. It would improve the sales, as it is not every ringer who can grasp method ringing. Except for two or three, we have never had in our tower in the last 50 years any ringers other than those who ring call changes and as far as I can see it will continue the same.

We have ten members in our band and I take 'The Ringing World' to the tower, but they are not interested. 'Nothing for us,' they say, and one lady member's comment was 'There is not even a children's corner.'

I first took 'The Ringing World' in 1913 but I have had breaks through the same thing. For years now it has been in my door at 7 a.m. every Friday and it would be nice to have a few more articles in common. I guess there are many more towers of the same mind.

Wishing you better luck in the New Year.—Yours faithfully,

REG E. PELLETT.

Woodchurch,
Nr. Ashford, Kent.

PRICE INCREASES—A POINTER

Dear Sir.—A lad who has just rung his first quarter peal and is a subscriber to 'The Ringing World' is conducting an active campaign in our belfry for more readers of 'The Ringing World' and we hope shortly to have at least two more subscribers.

For my part I would like to point out to those who object to the price increase that before the war the magazine cost 4d. Prices generally have more than trebled, so that for 8d. we are still doing very nicely. Even national dailies with their vastly increased advertising revenue stand at 2½d. compared with 1d. pre-war.

Epsom.

WILLIAM PARROTT.

FAIR PLAY

Dear Sir,—I have followed with interest the question of the increased price in the cost of our 'Ringing World,' particularly as I am one of those who, having retired from the business world, is obliged to live on a fixed income, which becomes relatively smaller as the price of commodities increases.

To me, the position is crystal clear, as it would indeed be hard to find another journal which could afford to devote approximately one-third of its available printing space to completely unremunerative matter, because that is, in fact, what it amounts to—six or seven pages filled with peals and quarters, which bring in, at the best, a few miserable shillings from the very few who bother to send in any contribution whatever, but which is, nevertheless, 'Gratefully Acknowledged.'

It would only be a matter of common sense, as well as fair play to the vast majority of your readers, to impose a small charge on the publication of peals and quarters; and if this was done (as has already been urged) at the rate of 1s. per rope for peals, and 6d. per rope for quarters, it would probably solve the problem for years to come.

The leader in the recent issue makes the plea 'Think of something big, somebody,' and the above solution is, to me, and to the great majority of your readers, the only sensible one, and is only fair play.—Yours, etc.,

R. A. BARTLAM.

Ruddington, Nottingham.

P.S.—The above suggestion applied to the current issue would produce £26 per week, or, say, £1,200 per annum.—R. A. B.

FIRST HANDBELL PEAL FOR LINCOLN GUILD

Dear Sir,—I was interested in Mr. Lunn's letter in which he gave details of a peal of Grandsire Triples rung 'in hand' 50 years ago for the Lincoln Guild. It was not, however, the first handbell peal rung for the Lincoln Guild, as he states. But it was the first handbell peal rung in Lincolnshire. The first handbell peal for the Guild was rung at Bolsover, Derbyshire. The details are as follows:—

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, October 23rd, 1909,

In 2 hours and 45½ minutes

At the residence of Mr. F. R. Kettleborough
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE

MAJOR

5,088 changes

Harry Moss 1-2

Fred W. Kettleborough .. 3-4

William Keeble 5-6

*William Lambert 7-8

Composed by G. Lindoff.

Conducted by William Keeble.

First handbell peal for the Guild and the first Surprise Major peal. *200th peal.

Yours sincerely,

G. E. FEARN.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD'S PEALS FOR 1958

Dear Sir,—I note from the Summary of Analysis of Peals for 1958, published in 'The Ringing World' of December 11th, that only one peal of Major 'in hand' has been credited to the Cambridge University Guild, whereas at least two were rung—Plain Bob on May 16th ('Ringing World,' May 30th) and 13 Spliced Plain methods on November 28th ('Ringing World,' December 19th).

Might I suggest that the Guild librarian checks his records with those of the Peals Analysis Committee to correct this mistake.—Yours faithfully,

A. ROBIN HEPPENSTALL.

Gainsborough, Lincs.

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CREDITING PEALS TO ASSOCIATIONS

Dear Sir,—I do not intend to comment directly on the Collingbourne Kingston incident, because I know nothing of the people or circumstances involved. Mr. West's letter does, however, raise a point which has appeared in various forms recently, upon which I hold strong views, with which I'm sure some will disagree but which are genuinely held, nevertheless.

It seems to me that there are several very good reasons why a peal should be credited to a Guild different from the one of which the local company usually become members. In my view the peal should attach itself to the Guild whose members rang it, not to the Guild in whose 'district' it is rung. If this were not so, no non-territorial Guild such as the Universities Association or Police Guild would ever be able to ring a peal, for, wherever they went, they would still be ringing in a tower in a locality where some other Guild normally practises. Similarly, the College Youths, Cumberlands and various University Guilds would be tied down to a mere handful of towers. But it goes further than this.

If 12 ringers who regularly, week by week, plied their art in Lancashire towers and were members of the Lancashire Association, were to ring, say, a peal of Plain Bob Maximus at St. Peter Mancroft, how in all conscience could the Norwich Diocesan Guild claim to have rung that peal, even if the 12 Lancastrians were 'out-county' members of that Guild? Not a solitary Norfolk man would have turned even a single bell! To claim the peal as a performance of the Norwich Diocesan Association would, to my mind, be a flagrant misuse of the system of 'out-county' membership, which was surely designed to cover the case of the odd visitor who rang with a local company. (I hasten to add, in case of misunderstanding, that I am on very good terms with the Norfolk men, and use this purely as example.) There seems to have grown up a curious idea that we ring peals for Associations. Surely it has been pointed out by very many Masters at ringers' dinners to the point of cliché (and with apparent agreement) that we ring bells (and peals) to the greater glory of God for His Church, the bells are rung by Guilds.

Nor is this just an academic point with little practical importance, for this current practice has had unfortunate results. Many consider it courteous to credit peals rung in another Guild's territory to that Guild visited, but, in fact, it can turn out to be quite the reverse of courteous, though few local men would complain, if only to preserve the traditional hospitality to visitors. In not a few cases local men have been prevented from ringing the first peal of some method or other in their own Guild's annals because some visiting band has already done it for them. It may be that Guild A is strong and has some quite advanced members, whilst their neighbours, Guild B, consider themselves fortunate if they can master one or two standard methods. If, then, a band of Guild A men take advantage of their out-county membership of Guild B, and ring a peal of London Surprise Major on Guild B's territory and claim it as Guild B's first, the local men are for ever barred from ringing their own first peal of London. I could quote a number of concrete examples of this kind of thing happening, but I won't, because I hold no antagonism to the bands concerned, nor do I wish to give any impression of inhospitality. I merely state that in my example it would be happier if the peal were credited to the visiting Association (Guild A).

I appreciate that mixed bands can give rise to difficulties but I still think the peal should

be credited to the Guild which supplies the predominance of practical men on the ropes. In, however, the peal tours which have now become very much part of ringing activity, it must frequently happen that the band on the ropes possesses an impossible collection of allegiances. I don't think it is any solution to say that such a peal should be entered in the peal book of the local tower Guild. Would it not be much more sensible to call it a Non-Association peal? For that is exactly what it is—no particular Guild can claim that its indigenous members have rung it.

In the end each case must, of course, be decided on its own merits, because one always comes across a state of affairs that does not fit anybody's rigid ideas, but I think that if peals were claimed as the performance of any particular Guild in the manner I have tried to indicate, these unhappy arguments about avoiding peal fees, or accusations of bad manners and so on, would disappear.—Yours sincerely,

PHILIP J. H. HUDSON.

Rochdale, Lancs.

THE PEAL AT COLLINGBOURNE KINGSTON

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. W. C. West regarding a peal rung on a recent Sunday at Collingbourne Kingston, Wilts, by members of the Oxford Guild. Yes, we were all aware that this fine, good-going ring of six is in the Diocese of Salisbury, and the tower affiliated to that Guild. Personally, I think all peals should be rung for the Guild or Association to which the tower is affiliated, but there could be arguments against by visiting bands.

A few years ago I took part in a peal for the Salisbury Guild at a tower situated right in the centre of Oxford. Probably more 'rank bad manners,' but nothing was said about this.

R. W. REX.

Thatcham, Berks.

PRINCIPLE SHOULD BE DECIDED

Dear Sir,—One can in some ways sympathise with Mr. W. C. West over the peal at Collingbourne Kingston. He gets very few peals to write in his Guild's book (19 in 1958), and no doubt one of three Surprise Minor methods appeals to him.

However, is it not time the Exercise decided upon a principle for such peals? As far as I can see, and for five years I was resident in the same branch of the Salisbury Guild as Collingbourne, none of the members of the band are resident members of the Salisbury Guild. Therefore they had no reason to ring a peal for this Guild, and, being Oxford Guild members, decided to ring their peal for that Guild, irrespective of venue. Surely this is only common sense, and I can determine no bad manners whatsoever in their performance.—Yours sincerely,

P. J. JOHNSTON.

Headingley, Leeds.

A LINCOLN GUILD PEAL

Dear Sir,—The peal of seven Minor methods rung at Owston Ferry on October 24th, 1959 ('Ringing World,' November 13th), was rung for the West Lindsay Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.—Yours faithfully,

A. ROBIN HEPPENSTALL.

Gainsborough, Lincs.

Note—The title of the Guild was omitted from copy submitted.—Ed.

THOUGHT PROVOKING

Dear Sir,—If my memory serves me well, on the last occasion I wrote to you I was in conflict with a member of the Council Council and you 'lost' my last letter; it was very short, I'll admit. He had the last word, telling me that 'if I wasn't there I had no right to criticise.' I have, of course, since then 'been there' and met many C.C. ringers, all jolly nice people, and I now know why the College of Campanology was not acceptable. I thought at the time how helpful it would be to people like myself, in interesting young people in their aim to ring well. Easily half the Central Council I met have need of the College. Their striking was, to say the best of it, just bad; their bell handling no better.

In the matter of 'The Ringing World' it is undignified to see such squabbling over who should pay. I am not a peal ringer, but peals must go in, though they waste an awful lot of space. I do not think peal ringers should pay extra; peal ringers are already 'milched' in some towers, and where the bells are not so good. If 'not so good' covers one after another peal being 'stood up,' and if 'milched' covers a few shillings to join an Association, and another few shillings for the privilege of ringing in that particular tower, peal ringers pay more than enough, in fact, if they will only get together and pay nothing to anybody, there would be more good peals rung and fewer 'stick it for the sake of sending it up' peals. I think ever so many peals are published because the ringers feel they must subscribe to these funds.

In the matter of 'The Ringing World' finance: The paper belongs to the Central Council. I fear that if they hang on to it, ringers will get what it is now expected the C.C. always gives ringers. Ringers in the past have been most generous. Why not the C.C.? Call for a board of governors or guarantors to subscribe a guinea or a couple of guineas, 500 or 1,000 ringers to guarantee their paper, not the Central Council's paper.

Some years ago I wrote to you re correspondents, and within weeks the request to appoint correspondents was before the branch as coming from the secretary. I was sorry about that because the idea was spoiled. Correspondents should have been accepted by invitation, and assisted in what is interesting and what is not of general interest. For example, some people know how to raise money, that would interest all of us at some time or another, and reports on work done everywhere, honest reports, would help us to spend it wisely. Work in progress reports would be of interest. Tours and outings would interest only if they have a background of general interest, historical or geographical perhaps.

May I close, sir, by wishing you a very happy and prosperous New Year, and by wishing (that having now taken to heart that I should be there before criticising) many members of the Central Council will profit by reading somebody's handbook on how to handle bells, real bells, not tiddlers. With compliments.—Yours very faithfully,

E. L. HUMPHRIS.

Woolton, Liverpool.

ABSON, GLOS.—On Dec. 28th, 1260 Doubles (Stedman, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Reverse Cambray, Plain Bob and Grandire): Myra J. Wilkins 1, Sandra Lewis 2, Gloria M. Newton 3, A. F. Lee (cond.) 4, A. W. Gibbs 5. First in five methods of Doubles by all the band. A golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. S. Smart and a birthday compliment to Miss A. Lewis.

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LAUNTON HANDBELL RINGERS



FOUNDED by Mr. Frederick Sharpe, the Handbell Ringers of St. Mary's, Launton, are known to many ringers, as they have given recitals all over England and Wales. This Christmas season they have given 21. They have also given performances in the Cathedrals of Gloucester, Peterborough, St. Albans and Oxford during the past year.

Our photograph, taken outside of Derwen, Launton, Mr. Sharpe's residence, just before a B.B.C. recording on Wednesday week, shows, left to right: Hardiman Scott (B.B.C. interviewer), Stephanie Gilpin, Fiona Sherwood, Evelyn Sayer, Elizabeth Sharpe, the Rev. C. P. Sherwood, Patricia Steeples, Peter Allen and Frederick Sharpe, with Mrs. Sharpe in the background.

The recording was broadcast in 'The Eye Witness' programme of the B.B.C. on Saturday, December 19th. The first two minutes described how handbells were used, the team and its activities. The next three minutes were occupied with an interview with Mr. Sharpe, in which he described the bells, their age, origin, founders and history. He mentioned that many had been horse and house bells in the 17th and 18th centuries. The interview ended with the team playing 'It came upon a midnight clear.'

The recording was also used in all 'Overseas Newsreels' during the Christmas season. Some five carols were recorded.

OBITUARY

MR. H. E. TAYLOR

A founder member of the V.W.H. Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Mr. H. E. Taylor, of Gainsfield, Buckland, Berks, died after a long and painful illness on December 18th, aged 74. He was a member of the Faringdon band for very many years.

The funeral service at Littleworth Church was held on December 21st, at which representatives of the V.W.H. Branch acted as bearers. Handbells were rung at the graveside. Among those present were the Rev. L. Street (Branch chairman), Mr. R. F. J. Gilling (hon. secretary), Miss M. R. Cross (general secretary of the Guild).

A quarter peal of 1,260 Grandsire Doubles with 4. 6. 8 covering was rung at Faringdon the same evening by J. Strawford (Faringdon) 1, M. Edney (Hinton Waldrist) 2, E. Caple (Marcham) 3, J. Hunt (Buckland) 4, F. Whipp (Faringdon) 5, D. Vincent (Faringdon) 6, C. I. J. Pearce (conductor, Faringdon) 7, C. Timms (Stanford) 8.

Another quarter peal to his memory was rung at Buckland on December 23rd by C. Timms 1, M. Edney 2, J. Strawford 3, J. Hunt 4, C. I. J. Pearce (conductor) 5, J. Moore 6, D. Vincent 7, M. Willis 8.

MR. J. E. PROCTER

Another of the band which made ringing history at Pudsey in the early part of this century has passed away in the person of John Ernest Procter, who was laid to rest on Christmas Eve. He was 76 years of age and a life member of the Yorkshire Association.

Ernest Procter was one of those who, under the leadership of the late Pratt Cordingley, determined to break away from the traditional Treble Bob of the West Riding, set their ambitions high. Those ambitions were realised when they had rung peals of Cambridge, Superlative and London Surprise Major.

Ernest was a sound, reliable ringer and an excellent striker, capable either at the light or heavy end, with a style that was a joy to watch. In his dress he was most immaculate; he always came into the belfry looking as if he had just stepped out of a bandbox, and his rope splicing was as neat as his appearance. He was by no means a prolific peal ringer. In fact he rang only 19 peals, but that modest total includes London, Bristol, Superlative, Cambridge and Pudsey Surprise Major. After 57 years of prompt and regular service in the belfry his practical ringing came to an end two and a half years ago, but he retained his interest to the last by listening to the bells each Sunday.

And so another link with the past is broken. Another of the old band has gone. But the memory of Ernest Procter, a staunch and willing colleague, will remain. The bells of Pudsey Parish Church were rung fully muffled as a token of the sadness which is felt at his passing.

W. B.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—B. C. Ashford 7s., M. E. Downs 2s., D. E. Lee 2s., G. Seth 2s., F. W. J. and J. L. S. 5s., F. L. Sterry 2s., T. J. Thurley 9s. 6d., J. Bennett £1, F. H. W. 3s. 6d., A. B. 6d., E. L. Humphriss 2s., R. E. Pellett 2s. 6d., Shepton Beauchamp 4s. Correction: F. L. Garner-Hayward £1 (not Coventry Diocesan Guild).

Peals.—Wickwar 3s., Huish Episcopi 4s., Blewbury 5s., Willesborough 2s., Kirkby-in-Furness 3s., Kidsgrove 5s., Suckley 6s. 6d., Pendlebury 4s., Colchester 4s., Babworth 2s., Shepton Beauchamp 4s.

Quarter Peals.—Henbury 2s. 6d., Clerkenwell 2s., Broad Hinton 3s., Shroton 3s., Edmonton 2s., Chapel Allerton 3s. 4d., Bilton 6s., Kimpton 1s. 10d., Bosbury 7s., Spaxton 2s. 6d., Compton Bishop 2s., Pendlebury 2s. 6d., Whitchurch 5s., Twerton 2s., Keresley 2s., North Weald 3s., Studley 2s. 6d., Baughurst 3s., Merrow 3s., King's Lynn 3s., Topsham 2s. 6d., Rochester 3s., East Bridgford 3s., Dublin 4s.

RINGING THE OLD YEAR OUT AND —

(College of Campanology Paper—No. 2/59)

Not every incumbent and band of ringers approve of muffled ringing before midnight on these occasions: but where this is in favour they have not always the necessary muffles. Again, quite often the lay-out of the bells in their frame is such that the removal of the muffles from bells in the raised position would be attended by risk of accident.

A suitable contrasting effect of before and after midnight ringing can be achieved otherwise, however, by 'selective' rings, as indicated below. The notes of the bells in the rings are given in sol-fa notation. The bells selected for pre-midnight ringing provide the effect of music in a minor key, and are indicated by their sequence numbers below the sol-fa line. For comparison, the normal numbering of the full ring is given above the sol-fa line.

5-BELL TOWER

	1	2	3	4	5
	s	f	m	r	d
Four . . .	1	2	3	4	-

6-BELL TOWER

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	s	f	m	r	d	-
Five . . .	1	2	3	4	5	-

8-BELL TOWER

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	d	t	l	s	f	m	r	d
Six	1	-	2	3	4	5	6	-

10-BELL TOWER

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
	m	r	d	t	l	s	f	m	r	d
Eight . . .	1	2	3	-	4	5	6	7	8	-

12-BELL TOWER

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	E	T
	s	f	m	r	d	t	l	s	f	m	r	d
Eight	-	1	2	3	-	4	5	6	7	8	-	-

The principles observed in the selective rings for the pre-midnight ringing are:—

(a) The normal tenor is omitted, but the bell next above it is always included and is always rung as the tenor to cover: in other words it is **not** turned in.

(b) The selected bells are rung as slowly as is compatible with good striking.

(c) The changes are rung in whole pulls. In five-bell towers, 'Singles' rung with 4th covering are advised. In six-bell towers Plain Bob Minimus with 5th covering. In eight-, ten- and twelve-bell towers an odd-bell method, preferably Stedman, with the last bell covering, is advised.

For the after-midnight ringing the whole ring, or as many of the 'back' bells as can be manned, are employed and tapped round at their best pace.

This article was intended for publication in time for the recent New Year ringing, but missed the post. It is published as of possible use on future occasions.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On November 28th, after a period of 13 years, the Southern Branch held a meeting at Quidenham. The rector, Rev. W. M. Harper-Mitchell, who warmly welcomed the Branch, conducted the service and gave an interesting address.

Dr. P. H. A. Jonason, Branch chairman, presided over the meeting, supported by the president, Mr. Nolan Golden, and the general secretary, Mr. W. Love. Among items the meeting discussed were the forthcoming increase in the price of 'The Ringing World' and the recent rehanging of Aitlenborough bells, where the 'circle' is still said to be rather poor.

The annual meeting of the Branch will be at Diss on February 6th, where the special method will be Yorkshire Surprise Major. The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the Rector, Mr. Burrows (the organist) and the ladies who kindly served the tea.

C. F. W. P.

STEDMAN FOR BEGINNERS

By WILFRID G. WILSON

(Continued from page 12)

3. STEDMAN TRIPLES

In a plain course of Stedman Triples the only additional work to be learnt is that after the double dodge in 4-5 up, you have to dodge twice in 6-7 up, lie a whole pull behind and then dodge twice in 6-7 down, before going on to dodge twice in 4-5 down. You do this double dodging in 4-5 and 6-7 up and then in 6-7 and 4-5 down between your Quick and Slow work, and again between your Slow and Quick work.

So long as you only ring a plain course, therefore, the only difficulty you will find in progressing from Doubles to Triples is that of seeing the additional ropes and finding your way among them. If you have already reached the Grandshire Triples stage then this should be easy.

But if you want to ring more than a plain course you will have to cope with bobs and singles and, what is often a cause of difficulty, you must forget for the time being what you learnt about the single in Stedman Doubles.

In Triples, the calls are made at the change-over from one six to another and they are made by the back three bells. The four bells nearer the front, i.e., the one leaving the front work, the one entering it and the two that are remaining there, are completely unaffected. At a bob the bell which was dodging in 4-5 up makes fifths place at the six end and then dodges twice in 4-5 down before going in to the front work again. What it really does is to ring Stedman Doubles (i.e., 4-5 up twice, lie whole pull in fifths, 4-5 down twice and in the front the opposite way to which it came out).

Because this bell—which is said to make the bob—makes fifths place, the bell which would have left 6-7 and gone into 4-5 has perforce to stay in 6-7 for another whole six and it has three additional dodges with the bell which had just dodged twice in 6-7 up. If there is no call at the next six end, this bell proceeds from 6-7 down to 4-5 down and thence, after its double dodge, into the front work. But as it was delayed up at the back for one whole additional six it will reach the front a six later and will go into the front work the same way as it had previously come out. It will have been away from the front for an uneven number of sixes, and thus for it the regular alternation of Quick and Slow work will have been upset.

Similarly the bell which stayed in 6-7 up for an extra three dodges will make seventh place at the six end, dodge twice in 6-7 down and then proceed to 4-5 and thence after its double dodge go into the front work. As it also was delayed a whole additional six at the back it too will go in to the front the same way as it had previously come out.

But as it is possible to call a bob at any of the six ends, it may well be that a bob will also be called at the next six end. This will cause the new bell which was in 4-5 up to make the bob (fifths place) then double-dodge in 4-5 down and go in the front, as in a plain course of Stedman Doubles. The two bells which had just finished the three additional dodges entailed by the previous bob will do three more before proceeding—one of them to 4-5 down and the other to lie behind and then dodge in 6-7 down. The result of these two consecutive bobs is that the two bells behind will each have been delayed for two additional sixes. This will not affect the regular alternation of the Quick and Slow work, and they will proceed to go in either Quick or Slow just as if no bobs had been called.

Very often touches and peals of Stedman are lost because the man ringing the bell coming down from the back to go into the front work does not know whether he should go in Quick or Slow. We must look further into this so as to get all the help we can. We ought

always to rely as much as possible on ourselves and not on what the other bells are doing—they may be themselves in doubt and relying on us. So it is most important to know ourselves, from our own work, which way we are to enter the front work. If we remember that we came out of the front work a Quick bell, then we know that if no bobs are called we shall enter the front work again a Slow bell—and vice versa. And if while we are in 6-7 any bobs are called we must count them. If there are an even number the regular alternation of Quick and Slow work is not affected, so out Quick is followed by in Slow—and vice versa. If, however, an odd number of bobs is called, then the regular alternation will be upset (so far as our work is concerned) and out Quick will be followed by in Quick, and out Slow by in Slow.

But we are all fallible people and cannot always trust our memories. There may well, in Triples, be four or six or even more bobs called while we are in the 6-7 up or down positions, or both of them, and unless we are also conductors knowing the composition we can easily lose count. So we must look for other guides to tell us which way to go in.

If you are dodging in 6-7 down, glance at the bells in the front, and notice how they are leading. If their whole pulls on the lead are at hand and back stroke, then that is a Quick six. The next six, while you are in 4-5 down, will be a Slow six and you will then go in Quick. Conversely, if the whole pulls on the front are at back and hand stroke, then that is a Slow six and as you will enter the front work two sixes later you will go in Slow.

If you are unable while in 6-7 down to notice the method of leading, apply the same process while you are in 4-5 down. If the three bells on the front are ringing a Quick six (i.e., leading hand and back) then you go in Slow. And vice versa.

Another help is to keep an eye on the bell which was dodging 6-7 down when you when you were 6-7 up. It will do its 4-5 down dodging while you are in 6-7 down. It will enter the front while you are in 4-5 down. If your first blow in fourths at the beginning of the dodging is over that bell, then that bell is making its thirds place, having gone in Slow, so you will go in Quick. But if your last blow in fourths at the end of the dodging is over that bell it will have been Quick bell, and is on its way out again. You will pass it and go in Slow.

Another point you may find useful is that when you reach 4-5 down you will dodge with the bell that has just left the front. If you saw that it had come out Quick, you will know that you will go in Quick. If you saw it making thirds place as it came out Slow you will, after the dodge, go in Slow.

(To be continued.)

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THE EXTENT OF MAJOR

By J. SEGAR

The Central Council has made some rules about attempts for record lengths, as Mr. W. G. Wilson reminded us recently. One is that the composition must be published in 'The Ringing World.' If interested, we can prove it and consider if it would be our choice for a similar attempt.

Some readers may think a composition of 40,320 changes takes a long time to put together. We require 120 courses for the extent with the tenor together 13,440 changes, which is the basis for the extent with the tenors parted. If the peal is in 12 parts there will be ten courses in a part. A table with three noughts and two crosses in each row has ten rows. The noughts represent six changes in 2 3 4 and the crosses two changes in 5 6.

When using the table for Plain Bob the bob scales are W 52436. M 43652 and H 42356. The single scales are W 53426. M 63452 and H 24356. Fill in the column for bobs at W and check for errors. 1 goes to 2, 2 goes to X and X goes back to 1. Other sets of three are 4 7 5 and back to 4 and 6 9 8. This accounts for nine rows and the odd one is 3 which remains 3 at a bob. Other columns are tested in the same way.

Way.	Bobs			Singles		
	W	M	H	W	M	H
1	XOOOX	2	3	2	X	1
2	OXOOX	X	8	3	2	7
3	OOXOX	3	9	1	3	9
4	XOOXO	7	X	3	4	X
5	OXOXO	4	5	6	7	5
6	OOXOX	9	4	4	9	6
7	XXOOO	5	2	8	5	2
8	OXXOO	6	7	9	8	8
9	XOXOO	8	1	7	6	3
X	OOOXX	1	6	X	1	4

Here is a simple arrangement of the skeletons using calls at Wrong and Middle only.

W	M
X	
1	3
3	9
8	7
5	5
7	2
X	6
9	1
2	8
6	4
4	X

A column for Before is not included above because they cannot be used in an extent, but readers can add this column when composing or proving peals of normal length.

In 'The Ringing World,' November 6th, Mr. Shepherd's article has a twelve-part peal which can be proved by my table.

Here is a little homework. Suppose you have to conduct a peal which will take 20 hours to ring, giving plenty of time to forget how far you have got. What calls, within the limits imposed by the skeletons printed above, do you think are the easiest?

More homework. Find a similar set of skeletons for Double Norwich, with calls at 1 and 4 only.

(To be continued)

5,056 'REAL' CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

By ALBERT J. PITMAN

2	3	4	5	6	2	1	M	B	W	4	1	1
4	2	6	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	4	6	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	5	2	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	3	2	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	6	3	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	6	2	3	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	5	6	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	4	5	2	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
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2	5	4	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
2	3	4	5	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3

First rung at Loughborough Bell Foundry on November 4th, 1959, conducted by John M. Jelly.

NOTICES

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BIRTH

BULLOCK.—On December 20th, 1959, to Leonard and Sheila, of 35, Walmer Close, Romford, Essex, a gift of a daughter (Mary Christina). 5534

PERSONAL

Will Robin and Mary Coombe (probably living near Tewkesbury and at one time ringers at Clondoun, Surrey) please send their address to Douglas May. 5533

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. 2731

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MISCELLANEOUS

COMPLETE YOUR 1959 FILE.—Copies available of most issues. Price 6d. post free. 'The Ringing World' Office, Guildford.

MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Business meeting at the 'Rising Sun,' Carter Lane, E.C., on Saturday, Jan. 9th, at 6 p.m.—John Chilcott. 5482

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch.—Annual meeting, Midsomer Norton, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5 p.m. 5512

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Michael's, Broad Street, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Abbey bells after tea. 5501

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—Annual meeting, Biggleswade, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Special methods: Single Oxford and Superlative. A very important meeting for all District members.—A. Smith, Hon. Dis. Sec. 5515

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 9th. St. Michael's, Macclesfield (12). Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. 5471

COVENTRY GUILD.—Southern District.—Meeting, Harbury, Saturday, Jan. 9th: rearranged times: Tea 4.30 p.m. Service 5.30. Social 7 o'clock. 5564

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—Annual District meeting, Staveley, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells 3 to 7 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—A. B. Cooper. 5525

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Annual District meeting, Cambridge, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Ringing, St. Bene't's (6), 3 to 4 p.m.; St. Andrew's (8), 3.45 to 4.30. Service 4.30, and ringing after tea. Tea 5 p.m. in St. Andrew's Hall.—E. W. Bullman, Dis. Sec. 5500

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.W. District.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Barking. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. 5491

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting, New Romney, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m.—C. T. H. 5507

LADIES' GUILD.—Sussex District.—Annual general meeting, St. Nicholas' and St. Peter's, Brighton, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Owing to a football match, we have been unable to arrange tea. Will people please make their own arrangements.—D. Lester, Hon. Sec. 5543

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 9th. St. Luke's, Chelsea, 3.30 p.m. Tea, own arrangements. Business and further ringing, St. Mary's, Battersea, 6 p.m.—Miss Powell. 5507

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Burton, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business important. All welcome.—J. Cotton. 5476

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—N. and E. District.—Meeting at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, followed by business meeting and further ringing until 8. 5486

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—A day course of instruction will be held at the Guild Hall, High Wycombe, on Saturday, Jan. 9th, at 10 a.m. Talks will be given on Bell Handling, Learning and Teaching Methods, Rope Splicing, Care and Maintenance of Bells. The cost, under 2s. each. Please give us your support.—W. Butler, Hon. Sec. 5504

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A practice meeting will be held at Angmering (6) on Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. 5497

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Annual meeting, St. Mary's, Portsea, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Cathedral bells available 7 to 8 p.m. 5506

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Branch.—Annual meeting, Dunster, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Tea for number notified by 13th.—A. R. Tudball, 3, West Close, Dunster. 5544

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Glaston Branch.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 16th. St. Cuthbert's, Wells, bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Please notify for tea before Tuesday, 12th.—W. Marsh, Dovecotes, Street. 5538

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Annual meeting, Dunstable, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (8) 3.30 p.m. Short service 4.30. Tea, followed by business, 5 p.m. Tea arranged for those who send names to Mr. A. G. Matthews, 57, Tring Road, Dunstable (phone 1461).—K. G. Spavins, Dis. Sec. 5532

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Annual meeting, Crewe, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea must be received by Jan. 13th.—W. Kerr, 102, Moreton Road, Crewe. 5543

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION and **DURHAM and NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION** (Southern District).—Joint meeting, Stockton, Saturday, Jan. 16th, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names, please, by Jan. 14th to Mrs. E. P. Rock, Rosegarth, Yarm Road, Eaglescliffe, or 'phone Eaglescliffe 2451. 5567

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly meeting, Chilvers Coton, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Names for tea important by Thursday, Jan. 21st, to Mrs. Beamish, 21, Gypsy Lane, Nuneaton.—J. L. Garner-Hayward, Hon. Sec. 5566

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells: Godmanchester (8), 2.30 to 4 p.m.; Huntingdon All Saints' (6), 3.45 to 4.30. Service, All Saints', 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. in All Saints' Parish Room, followed by business meeting. All Saints' and St. Mary's (8), Huntingdon, available after tea.—M. J. Dyer, Dis. Sec. 5568

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Peter's, Wisbech, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (10) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Own arrangements for tea.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 5539

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 16th, Earls Colne (8). Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea to W. Arnold, Tey Road, Earls Colne. 5523

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Chippenhams Branch.—Meeting, Sutton Benger (5), Saturday, Jan. 16th. Service 4.20 p.m. Names for tea to H. Heath, 89, London Road, Chippenhams. 5560

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Annual District meeting, Guildford, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Ringing, St. Nicolas', 3 p.m. Service, St. Nicolas', 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting in St. Nicolas' Hall. Ringing at Holy Trinity and St. Mary's after meeting. A good attendance, please. Numbers for tea by previous Tuesday to Mr. E. J. Wells, 6, Hereford Close, Stoughton, Guildford. 5573

HAWKHURST GUILD.—Annual meeting, Hawkhurst, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Names for tea to A. M. Kemp, Lillesden Cottages, The Moor, Hawkhurst. 5548

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Annual District meeting, St. Albans, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Ringing, St. Peter's, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, Cavalier Hall. Evening ringing, St. Stephen's. Any further ringing arrangements will be made known in the afternoon.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 5552

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting, Chatham, on Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by previous Wednesday, please, to C. E. J. Norris, 39, Dale Street, Chatham. 5563

LADIES' GUILD.—North Western District.—Annual meeting, Manchester Town Hall (jointly with Manchester Branch, Lancashire Association), Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Business meeting 4 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—S. P. Wain, Dis. Sec. 5556

LADIES' GUILD.—South Wales District.—Annual meeting, St. Woolos', Newport, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (12) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Names for tea to Miss E. Trowbridge, 40, Preston Avenue, Newport, Mon.—J. S. King. 5555

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Meeting, Christ Church, Bacup, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Ringing 3 p.m. Cups of tea 5. Meeting in tower 6 p.m.—J. Porter, Branch Sec. 5570

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting, St. Anne's Parish Church, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Annual business meeting after tea.—J. F. Turner. 5541

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—Annual meeting, jointly with Ladies' Guild, Saturday, Jan. 16th, at the Town Hall (13). Bells 3 p.m. Business 6 p.m.—G. D. Fearnough, Sec. 5565

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Lindsey Branch.—Annual meeting, Gainsborough, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea for those who notify me by previous Tuesday.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. Tel. 2623. 5520

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 16th. St. Mary-atte-Bow, Stratford East, 3.30 to 5 p.m. Tea—own arrangements. Business meeting in vestry 6.15 p.m., and further ringing. Everyone welcome. A good attendance requested.—Bullock, Dis. Sec. 5550

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Bradford Cathedral (10) on Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, Jan. 13th, to Mr. H. B. Schofield, 10, Laisterdyke Road, Bradford. No names, no tea.—D. Thorp. 5537

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Melton Mowbray District.—Annual District meeting will be held at Melton Mowbray on Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting in the Colles Hall at

5 p.m. Visitors welcome. Names for tea, please, not later than Wednesday, Jan. 13th, to Mr. M. J. Staniforth, 5, Chapel Street, Melton Mowbray. 5540

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District.—A. G. M., Saturday, Jan. 16th, St. Margaret's, Uxbridge. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m., followed by business meeting, election of officers, etc. Further ringing afterwards. Names for tea as soon as possible to H. W. Impey, 73, Parkfield Avenue, Hillingdon, Middx.—E. R. Gotham, Hon. Dis. Sec. 5549

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—Annual meeting at Uppingham (bells 8), 3 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 16th. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday to W. C. A. Clark, Sec., Middle Street, Wing, Oakham. 5574

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Peter's, Dorchester, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea 5 p.m. at Wessex Restaurant. Names for tea by Wednesday, Jan. 13th, to R. H. Duke, Morland, 46, Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester, Dorset. 5519

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual general meeting, Selby Abbey, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (10) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (moderate charge). Names, please, on or before Jan. 14th to Mr. R. R. Warford, 10, Ebor Street, Selby.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 5536

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newark District.—Annual meeting, Newark, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names by Wednesday previous to me.—W. L. Exton, 60, Albert Street, Newark. Notts. 5528

SUFFOLK GUILD.—North East District (the old Beccles, Halesworth and Saxmundham Districts).—Meeting at Leiston on Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5. Please send names for tea by Jan. 13th, to Alan R. Bridges, Dis. Sec., 28, Waterloo Avenue, Leiston. 5475

SUFFOLK GUILD.—South West District.—Meeting, Lavenham (8), Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to F. S. Mortlock, 7, Church Street, Lavenham. 5529

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Annual District meeting to be held at Redhill (8) on Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by previous Thursday to Mr. A. Streeter, 4, Maple Road, Earlswood. 5505

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Keymer (6), Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify numbers by Tuesday, Jan. 12th.—Geo. North, 11, Richmond Terrace, Brighton. 5572

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Southampton District.—Annual District meeting, Saturday, Jan. 16th, St. Mary's, Southampton. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. St. Michael's after meeting. Names for tea to Mr. J. W. Faithfull, 31, High Road, Swaythling, Southampton. 5511

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Annual meeting, Fairfield, Buxton, on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided at 5 p.m., followed by meeting.—H. E. Taylor, Dis. Sec. 5571

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.E. District.—Annual District meeting, Colchester, St. Peter's, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. St. Leonard's (6) also available. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, Jan. 20th, please, to Mr. H. J. Millatt, 301, Harwich Road, Colchester. 5542

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—The annual general meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford (10) on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea, please, to G. Blake, Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow, Essex. 5547

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, Jan. 23rd, Upton St. Leonards. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 19th to Green, 30, Malvern Road, Gloucester. 5479

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Annual District meeting, Farnham (8), Saturday, Jan. 23rd, from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by previous Wednesday to Mr. C. W. Denyer, 15, Crondall Lane, Farnham, Surrey.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 5558

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, St. Peter's-in-Thane (8), Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea (2s. per person) 5 p.m. Names, together with cash, please, by Jan. 20th to Miss S. Davis, 54, Albion Road, St. Peter's, Broadstairs.—T. C. P. 5484

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Quarterly meeting, St. John's, Deptford, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, 20th, to Miss M. R. Andrews, 43, Wansunt Road, Bexley. 5557

LINCOLN GUILD.—North Lindsey Branch.—Annual meeting, Barton-on-Humber, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells (8) 2 p.m. Tea 4.30. Meeting 5. Service 6 p.m. Names by Jan. 20th to Mr. Hoodless, 11, Holydyke, Barton-on-Humber. 5551

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester and District Branch.—Quarterly meeting to be held at Stratton Audley (5) on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45 p.m. Names for tea by the previous Monday to C. Kinch, Causeway, Bicester. 5553

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—Annual meeting at Wellingborough, All Hallows', Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday previous to John E. Skervitt, Conway, Villa Lane, Stanwick, Wellingborough. 5546

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Marlborough Branch.—Meeting, Chisleton, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Names for tea to T. A. Palmer, 16, Oxford Street, Aldbourne, Marlborough, Wilts. 5559

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Salisbury Service at St. Thomas', 4.15 p.m. Tea at Church House 5 p.m., followed by meeting. Bells: St. Paul's, afternoon and evening; St. Thomas', 6.45 to 8 p.m. Names for tea, please, by Jan. 19th to Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury. 5561

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting, Christ Church, Coseley, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Wednesday, Jan. 20th, to Mr. J. D. Holden, 22, Harding Street, Coseley, near Bilston. 5531

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. in St. Peter's Hall. Bells after. Names by Wednesday previous to Miss V. Potter, 9, Waverley Road, S.E.25.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 5490

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Next general meeting at Wakefield on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. General committee meet in Cathedral vestry at 3.15 p.m. prompt. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea (3s. per head) in Brook Street Schools. Names by 21st to Mr. J. E. Kirby, 53, Pinderfields Road, Wakefield. General meeting immediately afterwards. Bells available: Sandal (6), 2.30 to 4 p.m.; Cathedral (12) immediately after meeting till 9 p.m.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Bradford, 9. 5498

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at 7 p.m. Price 12s. 6d.

After-dinner speakers include
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Tickets available from
Hatchett, Vicarage Flat, Church Street,
Rickmansworth. 5535

SOUTH WALES NOMADS.—Practice meeting will be held at Llanfrecfa, Mon, on Saturday, Jan. 30th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. All ringers welcome, especially learners.—D. P., Hon. Sec. 5554

DEDICATION

BABWORTH, NOTTS

On St. Stephen's Day the first peal was rung on the new bells at Babworth, Notts. This ring of six by Taylor and Co. were dedicated only four days previously, on December 22nd, by the Lord Bishop of Southwell (Dr. Russell Barry).

The three original bells at Babworth, which were cast by Samuel Smith of York in 1691, had become unringable, and Mr. R. M. Wood, the people's warden, organised an appeal for the restoration of these bells. Three new bells were given by Mr. J. P. Ellis, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and the Barron Bell Trust, while the original three bells have been taken down and recast. The six bells, now mounted in a metal frame, provide a delightful ring and further add to the ringing amenities of the borough of Retford.

Ringers in the town and surrounding district can now ring on four nights of the week, and Wednesday has been chosen for Babworth practice night. At the moment Babworth has only a small band, the members of which are already making good progress as they have been learning for the past six months at nearby West Retford.

THE BELLS

The weights and inscriptions of the bells are as follows:—

Treble (3 cwt.)—John Taylor & Co., Founders, Loughborough. Christian, thy call ring clear to serve our God, whence came with glad some grace and voice Edith Pickwell Ellis, beloved wife of Percy. He hath put a new song in my mouth. 1599.

Second (3 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.)—John Taylor & Co., Founders, Loughborough, 1959. To the glory of God and in memory of Richard Clyfton, 1586-1605. 'A grave and revered preacher' (William Bradford).

Third (4 cwt. 6 lb.)—John Taylor & Co., Founders, Loughborough. To the glory of God this bell was given by the Barron Bell Trust. Emma Barron, Founder. H. W. Eldred, K. C. Walrond, E. R. Pennell, Trustees. 1959.

Fourth (4 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.)—Venite Exultemus Domino 1691. SS Ebor (Taylor Shield). Recast 1959.

Fifth (6 cwt. 23 lb.)—Gloria in altissimis Deo 1691. SS Ebor.

Tenor (7 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.)—In iocunditate soni sonabo tibi Domine 1691. SS Ebor.

THE DEDICATION

During the dedication service the Babworth ringers were all singing in the choir and the bells were rung by representatives of the North Notts District from the towers of East and West Retford, Ordsall and North Wheatley.

In his address the Bishop expressed his admiration for the magnificent effort made by the parish in raising the money necessary to install the ring, and pointed out how fitting it was that the work should be completed just before the great festival of Christmas—a festival more associated with bells than any other. He recalled that it was exactly 14 years since he had dedicated a ring of six for the Rector's father at Rampton, and it was therefore appropriate that the Rector's father was acting as his chaplain at the dedication of bells for his son's parish.

After the dedication ringers from various towers kept the bells ringing in a variety of methods until 9 p.m.

The first peal on the bells was rung on Boxing Day, conducted by Mr. Richard Hobbs. The bells will be available from 2 to 4 p.m. on January 9th—the day of the annual general meeting of the North Notts District.

PEALS RUNG IN 1958

Revised list for Cambridge University:—
Cinques 1. Royal 1, Major 15 (2), Triples 1, Minor 4 (2). Totals 22 (4). No alteration in total.

PAULERSPURY, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 21st, 1.260 Plain Bob Minor: D. Burbage (first quarter) 1, W. A. Yates 2, R. Hinton 3, R. Rogers 4, C. Truman (first as cond.) 5, J. Linnell 6.

5,056 BARKWAY SURPRISEBy W. ERIC CRITCHLEY
23456 B M W H

35264	X		
42563		—	—
52364		—	—
26543	X		
35642		—	—
43652		—	—
56234		—	—
56342	X		—
64523	X		—
43526		—	3 2
32465	X		—
54263		—	—
65243		—	—
54632	X		—
54326	X		—
63425		—	—
26435		—	3
63254	X		3
23456		—	—

First rung at Barkway, Herts, November 14th, 1959.

QUARTER PEALS**EPPING, ESSEX.**—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): J. Statham (cond.) 1, Miss B. McClelland 2, C. Moore 3, J. Aldridge 4, E. Freeman 5, A. Freeman 6, M. Lamb 7, D. Freeman 8.**SAWLEY, DERBYS.**—On Dec. 18th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: J. Harvey (cond.) 1-2, Mrs. W. E. Simpson 3-4, W. E. Simpson 5-6. First quarter on handbells by all.**SUNNINGWELL, BERKS.**—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Minor (Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob): Miss D. Honey 1, M. Jones 2, Miss J. Jones 3, J. Honey 4, W. G. Cudd 5, A. R. Pink (cond.) 6.**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
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