



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

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SURVIVAL

THE history of ringing journalism, if such a work were ever written, would have to start away back in the 18th century, where snippets of bellringing news occupied the sporting columns of various papers. Before the middle of the 19th century 'The Era' was publishing short accounts of peals and of prize ringing, and later on 'Bell's Life' was much used by ringers for the recording of their doings. 'Church Bells,' a weekly Church paper, devoted a whole page each week to ringing matters, under the direction of H. T. Ellacombe, but with the coming of 'The Bell News' as a monthly paper in 1881 the Exercise saw for the first time a journal devoted entirely to its work in all its aspects.

During the closing years of the 19th century, and well into the first decade of the 1900's, Harvey Reeves conducted 'The Bell News' with great vigour and enterprise. The paper provided excellent service for its readers, a splendid medium for their discussions and disputes, and it had an important influence on the growth of the Central Council. With the illness and final incapacitation of Harvey Reeves 'The Bell News' rapidly declined. By 1911 its service (and with it, of course, its circulation) had so deteriorated that but for the financial support of Sir Arthur Heywood there would have been no ringing journal at all.

At this moment John Goldsmith set before the Exercise the kind of paper everyone was waiting for. Goldsmith was a highly-trained journalist and a skilled ringer, and he had qualities of vigour, tenacity, directness and commonsense that were to make him the representative, as it were, of the best type of ringer of his day—or, indeed, of any other age. 'The Ringing World' did not, however, immediately commend itself to all the leaders of the Exercise. Within a few weeks of its birth it was the subject of a fierce debate at the Central Council meeting in Leicester, an angry discussion in which the president, Sir Arthur Heywood, after expressing the view that it would have been better if the paper had not been started, threatened to resign. The reasons for the president's strange attitude, although certainly not inspired by selfishness, are difficult

to trace; but the incident as a whole was extremely beneficial to 'The Ringing World,' and Goldsmith was sufficiently alert to make the most of the free advertisement.

But when Goldsmith launched his frail bark into the sunshine of 1911, with the coronation of George V close at hand and a brilliant summer to follow, neither he nor any man foresaw the stupendous international disasters that were to disrupt the nations, or could forecast the mighty social revolution that should transform the pattern of our lives and sweep even well-known and reputable newspapers and journals into oblivion. Through these 50 years of world-staggering events 'The Ringing World' has persisted; a miracle of survival it may well be called. In its infancy it survived the first Great War and the shortages of paper and news; incredibly it persisted from 1940 onwards when there was no ringing; it might have perished when Goldsmith died in 1942, but it lived; and during the last ten years it might have succumbed to economic persecution, yet it is still with us.

To what do we owe this preservation of what is so vital to the unity and welfare of the Exercise? First, undoubtedly, to the affection for his paper that John Goldsmith inspired in his readers, an inspiration that brought together those determined men at the graveside of the beloved Editor to pay him the supreme tribute of saving his creation from extinction. Secondly, to the devotion of succeeding editors and 'The Ringing World' Committee, backed by a body of subscribers determined to lend all the support possible.

'The Ringing World' is not perfect, nor can it universally please. Man can do only what it is given him to do, and few can doubt that the planning and production of the paper are based on a sincere desire to present the best possible offering. We may, indeed, with profit at this time, recall the prayer of the old Indian craftsman:—

'If there be good in that I wrought,
Thy Hand compelled it Master, Thine;
Where I have failed to meet Thy thought,
I know, through Thee, the fault was mine.'

This provides a sobering thought, and may well urge us once again to consider, on this occasion of rejoicing, whether our own offering has been worthy, and what we may yet do to serve more fully the journal that has done so much for us.

E. C. S.

TEN BELL PEALS

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 25, 1961, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 18 cwt. 14 lb. in E flat.

KATHLEEN E. CHILCOTT .. Treble	ROBERT W. HINDE 6
FRANCES A. THRELFALL .. 2	ALAN ROGERS 7
R. JAMES COOK 3	FRANK E. DARBY 8
JEAN L. LAVENDER 4	STEWART F. KIMBER 9
RAYMOND I. F. PARSONS .. 5	ALAN BAGWORTH Tenor

Composed by FRANK E. DARBY. Conducted by STEWART F. KIMBER.
Rung as a wedding compliment to Judith Goodman, of Kingston, and Roger Ward-Jackson, who were married at Kingston earlier this day.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Mon., March 20, 1961, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS

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

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. Treble	JOSEPH W. COTTON 6
*R. KINGSLEY MASON .. 2	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. 7
†RICHARD J. CLIFTON .. 3	HAROLD MARCON 8
ERNEST MORRIS 4	A. JAMES POYNOR 9
†RALPH ELKINGTON 5	JOHN M. JELLEY Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
Witness: JOHN A. ACRES.

* First peal on ten 'inside.' † First of Grandsire Caters.
Rung on the conductor's birthday.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5080 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor 18 cwt. 14 lb. in E flat.

ROBIN G. LEALE .. Treble	ALAN E. BAGWORTH 6
*PATRICIA DOORN 2	GORDON P. T. PETERS .. 7
†STANLEY HUCKLE 3	WILLIAM S. DEASON 8
†CHRISTINE M. HARBOTT .. 4	JOHN D. ROCK 9
†KATHLEEN HIGGINS 5	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN. Conducted by ROBIN G. LEALE.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First of Kent Royal. ‡ First on ten bells.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,
A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor 21 cwt.

DONALD E. COBB .. Treble	RICHARD J. BOWDEN 6
*CLIFF RICHARDS 2	ERIC J. HITCHINS 7
F. CECIL MOGFORD 3	PATRICK J. BIRD 8
BRYNLEY A. SHACKLETON .. 4	DON C. EXELL 9
DAVID HEIGHTON 5	D. JOHN HUNT Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by D. JOHN HUNT.

* First peal of Royal. † First of Kent Royal by all the band.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., March 5, 1961, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In 12 methods, comprising 960 London, 960 Rutland and 320 each of Cambridge, Superlative, Yorkshire, Bristol, Pudsey, Lincolnshire, Wembley, Eastcote, Cray and New Gloucester; with 139 changes of method.

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in E.

RONALD J. JOHNSTON .. Treble	A. PETER WHITEHEAD .. 5
JOHN H. FIELDEN 2	NEIL BENNETT 6
F. JOHN NELSON 3	DEREK OGDEN 7
FREDERICK SHALLCROSS .. 4	FREDERICK W. GROCOTT .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by DEREK OGDEN.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Peter Whitehead.

BROUGHTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.

HAROLD ROBERTS .. Treble	ALBERT H. LAWTON 5
HAROLD WHITE 2	ROGER L. HAWKESWORTH .. 6
PHILIP J. EVANS 3	WILLIAM J. TALBOT 7
E. MARION KEY 4	BARNABAS G. KEY Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.

AYLESTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., March 15, 1961, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5376 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 6 qr. 3 lb.

ERNEST MORRIS .. Treble	PATRICIA A. WARDLE 5
SANDRA E. CHESTERTON .. 2	TERRY I. ROPER 6
*S. MARIE DAVENPORT .. 3	PAUL MARTIN 7
A. JAMES POYNOR 4	RUSSELL S. MORRIS Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by SANDRA E. CHESTERTON.

* First peal of Major 'inside.' First as conductor in the method.
Rung as a 16th birthday compliment to the conductor.

LONDON.
THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY.
On Sat., March 18, 1961, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OLAVE, HART STREET, E.C.,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. in G.

MICHAEL R. ROSE .. Treble	*GEOFFREY PRATT 5
*†MIKAELA ERIK 2	ROBIN J. TREBILCOCK .. 6
JOHN ARMSTRONG 3	DEREK E. SIBSON 7
*E. JANE LANGTON 4	J. MICHAEL LAKIN Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by DEREK E. SIBSON.

* First peal in the method. † 25th peal. 25th peal together of ringers of treble and 7, and 4 and 7.

Rung as a compliment to Marilyn March and Marcus P. Barton, who were married at this church earlier this day.

WALTON-LE-DALE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Preston Branch.)

On Sat., March 18, 1961, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15½ cwt.

STANLEY WALMSLEY .. Treble	*DONALD LAWSON 5
THOMAS BARKER 2	PHILIP MORGAN 6
*MARYL R. CROSTHWAITE .. 3	FRANK STEAD 7
JOHN H. GARTSIDE 4	CYRIL CROSTHWAITE .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WORSLEY. Conducted by STANLEY WALMSLEY.

* First peal in the method.

Rung with bells half-muffled in memory of Mr. Fred Robinson, who was a member of this Association since 1900 and a ringer at this church.

MORPETH, NORTHUMBERLAND.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., March 22, 1961, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE WATCH TOWER,
A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 26 lb.

CHARLES N. LEA .. Treble	NICHOLAS I. WRIGHT .. 5
*MICHAEL J. TODD 2	THOMAS SEWELL 6
ALAN R. PATTERSON 3	GEORGE S. DEAS 7
NORMAN ERRINGTON 4	KENNETH ARTHUR Tenor

Composed by J. W. BARKER. Conducted by KENNETH ARTHUR.

* First peal 'inside,' and of Major.

Specially arranged to celebrate the baptism of Hilary Jane Arthur, infant daughter of the conductor and god-daughter of the ringer of the fifth

DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., March 23, 1961, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

J. FRANK SMALLWOOD .. Treble	GEORGE H. PAULSON .. 5
*PETER D. TAYLOR 2	HERBERT E. TAYLOR .. 6
MRS. GLADYS RICHARDSON .. 3	BURLEY P. MORRIS 7
*DAVID ADAMS 4	RONALD H. BULLEN Tenor

Composed by W. HUDSON. Conducted by J. FRANK SMALLWOOD.

* First peal in the method.

A 'Ringing World' birthday peal.

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ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5184 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Washbrook's variation. Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in E.
*EDMUND SHUTTLEWORTH Treble JOHN ROBINSON 5
†JOHN P. PARTINGTON .. 2 †MICHAEL D. FISHWICK .. 6
‡CHRISTINE MACNAIR .. 3 ROBERT B. SMITH .. 7
§PETER DALE 4 FRANK OSBALDISTON .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT B. SMITH.

* First peal of Surprise. † 50th peal together. ‡ First of Surprise 'inside.' § First in the method.

DARLINGTON, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5024 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 10 lb. in G.
FRED HODGSON Treble †FREDERICK ROSS 5
*ROHILLA M. COOKE .. 2 †THOMAS COOKE 6
MARION S. AINSWORTH .. 3 GEORGE S. DEAS 7
JOHN E. ANDERSON .. 4 J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by J. ALAN AINSWORTH.

* First peal of Surprise Major. † First in the method.
Rung as a compliment to the Rev. and Mrs. R. Brown on the birth of a daughter (Suzan Elizabeth).

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5024 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in F sharp.
RALPH BIRD Treble †ANDREW M. MACVE .. 5
BERNARD F. L. GROVES .. 2 IAN H. ORAM 6
*JOHN D. FAIRCLOTH .. 3 JOHN R. COOPER 7
†CRAWFORD T. HILLIS .. 4 THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Composed by RICHARD F. B. SPEED. Conducted by IAN H. ORAM.

* First peal on eight bells. † First in the method 'inside.' ‡ First in the method.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.

JOE HOBBS, President, 1954 Treble
RICHARD G. BELL, President, 1950 2
ARTHUR DAY, President, 1939 3
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD, President, 1949 4
WILLIAM C. HUGHES, President, 1960 5
EDWIN G. BUCK, President, 1957 6
WALTER AYRE, President, 1935 7
THOMAS J. SOUTHAM, President, 1951 Tenor

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

Rung for the Patronal Festival; also a Golden Jubilee peal for 'The Ringing World' in memory of the founder.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Hopgood's Six-Part. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb. in F.
CHRISTINE V. PULLIN .. Treble A. TERENCE COLLINS .. 5
*JENNIFER SCEENY (14) .. 2 WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. 6
DENNIS C. BOWEN .. 3 CHRISTOPHER C. CLARKE .. 7
RONALD K. RUSS .. 4 HOWARD OGLESBY .. Tenor

Conducted by HOWARD OGLESBY.

* First peal of Major and first 'inside.' First of Major as conductor.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Comprising 2,208 Cambridge, 1,536 Yorkshire and 1,344 Superlative, with 132 changes of method. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. in F sharp.
AVRIL IVIN Treble ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 5
JAMES G. NEWMAN 2 ALFRED E. RUSHTON .. 6
JEAN M. ADDICOTT .. 3 ALAN S. SMITH 7
RONALD J. SHARP .. 4 STEPHEN IVIN Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

SALFORD PRIORS, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 14 lb. in F sharp.

MICHAEL G. SELBY .. Treble CYRIL A. WRATTEN .. 5
*GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 2 *WILLIAM J. NEWMAN .. 6
SHIRLEY M. PARSONS .. 3 GEOFFREY R. DREW .. 7
*PAUL D. T. CATTERMOLE 4 GERALD C. HEMMING .. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by GERALD C. HEMMING.

* 100th peal of Surprise; has now 'completed the circle' at this tower. † First of Lincolnshire.

Rung to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of 'The Ringing World.'

SCORTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Thurstan's Five-Part. Tenor 18½ cwt.
LAWRENCE WALMSLEY .. Treble STANLEY ANDERTON .. 5
*MAYRL R. CROSTHWAITE 2 PETER CROOK, SEN. .. 6
*MARGARET CROSTHWAITE 3 CYRIL CROSTHWAITE .. 7
NORMAN TOMPKINS .. 4 JOHN F. WOOD Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK, SEN

* First peal of Grandsire.

Rung to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of 'The Ringing World,' and the fourth anniversary of the induction of the Vicar, Rev. P. Hollinrake.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

BENFIELDSIDE, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

AND

THE DURHAM COLLEGES' SOCIETY.

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in seven methods, viz.: St. Clement's Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Double Court Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

SALLIE BUCHANAN (St. Hilda's) Treble BRUCE PIPER (St. John's) .. 4
JANET E. CLEEVE (St. Aidan's) 2 CHRISTOPHER J. HERBERT (St. John's) 5
MARY J. MARSHALL (St. Hilda's) 3 BRYAN PATTISON (Bede) .. Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

OVERBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(Tewkesbury Branch.)

On Sat., March 11, 1961, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FAITH,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of six extents each of Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Southrepps, Northrepps, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Kennington and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*DAVID PENN Treble ARTHUR HALLING .. 4
MARTYN HAWKES .. 2 ERNEST W. PENN .. 5
ANNE M. BROXTON .. 3 *DONALD J. DEVEREUX .. Tenor

Conducted by MARTYN HAWKES.

* First peal.

ASKERSWELL, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., March 16, 1961, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 11 cwt.
JOSEPH T. BARRETT .. Treble SIDNEY W. WHITE .. 4
WALTER H. POOLE .. 2 H. DENNIS BISHOP .. 5
RAYMOND P. SELWAY .. 3 WILLIAM E. TURNER .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM E. TURNER.

First peal on the bells.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 18, 1961, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 extents of Plain Bob, nine each of April Day and Reverse St. Bartholomew, ten extents and one 240 Grandsire.

Tenor 6 cwt. 6 lb. in B.

JAMES S. BAKER .. Treble FRANK R. MORTON .. 4
JOHN E. BROUGH .. 2 †STANLEY SUTTON .. 5
*HERBERT SUTTON .. 3 R. J. ANTHONY HANCOCK Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. BROUGH.

* 50th peal. † First 'inside' in four methods.

Rung to commemorate the induction on March 2nd of the Rector, Rev. W. Stanley Walker. Also as a farewell to the tenor ringer, who is leaving to join the Merchant Navy.

ALDEBY, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., March 19, 1961, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (four callings). Tenor 8 cwt. in G minor.
 THOMAS J. BROCK Treble | NORMAN P. J. COSSEY .. 3
 *JOHN W. SAMPSON 2 | RICHARD C. L. BROWN .. 4

Conducted by MICHAEL J. PARKER.

* First peal 'inside.'
 For Passion Sunday.

MISTLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., March 20, 1961, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's of Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob, and 720 of Oxford Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.
 *PHILLIP SPEARMAN Treble | URBAN W. WILDNEY .. 4
 NOEL K. FOAKES 2 | FRANK B. LUFKIN .. 5
 ALFRED E. HONEYWOOD .. 3 | MAURICE E. DOWNS .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal.

DENTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., March 21, 1961, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE, HAUGHTON,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 15 cwt.
 ROBERT B. SMITH Treble | A. PETER WHITEHEAD .. 4
 NEIL BENNETT 2 | EDWARD JENKINS .. 5
 BASIL JONES 3 | BRIAN HARRIS Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT B. SMITH.

Believed to be the first peal of Surprise on the bells.

BRANSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., March 22, 1961, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Ipswich Surprise, St. Clement's, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in F sharp.
 WILLIAM E. GREEN Treble | RONALD APPLEWHITE .. 4
 *DONALD A. KIRK 2 | LOUIS WILLIERS .. 5
 AMOS INGALL 3 | JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of Minor.

BROOMFIELD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., March 23, 1961, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In five methods, being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent T.B., Childwall and St. Clement's Bob, and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*CHRISTOPHER K. COOPER Treble | IAN R. PANTON 4
 ANNE EDWARDS 2 | ANDREW S. HUDSON .. 5
 JAMES L. TOWLER 3 | HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE .. Tenor

Conducted by ANDREW S. HUDSON.

* First peal. First as conductor.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., March 23, 1961, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In ten methods, being: (1) Duke of Norfolk, College and Norbury T.B.; (2) Sandal, London Scholars' and Kingston T.B.; (3) Kent and Oxford T.B.; (4 and 5) Beverley Surprise; (6 and 7) Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

MISS M. SMITH Treble | RICHARD CLIFTON .. 4
 G. RONALD EDWARDS .. 2 | FRANK CHAMBERS .. 5
 C. WILLIAM HALL 3 | ROLAND BENISTON .. Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

REDGRAVE, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Fri., March 24, 1961, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford T.B., Kent T.B. and Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

RAYMOND F. TAYLOR .. Treble | HUBERT A. MITSON .. 4
 ROBERT E. LESTER 2 | FRANK B. LUFKIN .. 5
 BERNARD W. FAIRHEAD .. 3 | URBAN W. WILDNEY .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

STOCKBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., March 24, 1961, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being ten extents each of St. Simon's, Plain Bob and St. Martin's, and 12 of Grandsire. Tenor 15 cwt.

*MARTIN L. HOWE .. Treble | TREVOR A. CROSS .. 3
 †JOHN D. NIXON 2 | BERNARD F. L. GROVES .. 4

ALBERT J. DUNK Tenor

Conducted by TREVOR A. CROSS.

* First peal of Doubles in four methods. † First of Doubles. First of Doubles as conductor.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. Patricia Cross.

CADOXTON-JUXTA-NEATH, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATWG,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

*JUDY-ANN ESHELBY .. Treble | EDMUND J. MORRIS .. 4
 ALFRED HANNINGTON .. 2 | †TREVOR M. RODERICK .. 5
 J. ARTHUR HOARE 3 | GWYN I. LEWIS Tenor

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

* First peal of Minor. † 150th peal.

Rung for the 29th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Roderick.

HARSTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 9½ cwt.

VICTOR CHAMBERLAIN .. Treble | DONALD F. MURFET .. 4
 *CHARLES W. COOK 2 | GEORGE E. THODAY .. 5
 †ALAN W. PAYNE 3 | MANSFIELD GINN .. Tenor

Conducted by MANSFIELD GINN.

* 100th peal. † First of Minor in the method.

SUTTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 25, 1961, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

CAROL FERNLEY Treble | IVOR JENKINS 4
 EILEEN M. FEARN 2 | BARRY CORBISHLEY .. 5
 BRIAN SCHOFIELD 3 | SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN. .. Tenor

Conducted by BARRY CORBISHLEY.

A wedding compliment to Hilary Kirkman and Peter Horne, married at this church prior to the peal.

HANDBELL PEAL

CLEATHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., March 17, 1961, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT CLEATHAM HOUSE FARM,

A PEAL OF 5088 DOUBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

*A. ROBIN HEPPENSTALL .. 1-2 | JACK BRAY 5-6
 GEORGE E. FEARN 3-4 | *JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 7-8
 Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

* First peal of Double Bob.

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



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CLAVERLEY'S PHANTOM BELLRINGER.

By GODFREY BOOTH

[With acknowledgment to the
Bridgnorth Journal.]

At a recent practice at Claverley there were the names given of seven ringers taking part in a touch of Grandshire Triples, as mentioned in a local newspaper. Now there is nothing in that to interest the average man, but to a bell-ringer it has special significance.

You see, it takes eight bells to ring Grandshire Triples, but, if you count, there are only seven names. Yet nevertheless it is quite right, and that is what I was going to tell you about.

Claverley bells go back many centuries, but the biggest, the tenor, was recast and rehung in 1702. It was taken over immediately by John Dovey, captain of the team.

He was a fine type—the village notary, cobbler and saddler. He and he only rang the tenor bell during his lifetime, and he and only he has rung it since. He rang it last Sunday!

Dovey died at 78 of heart failure, still captain of the band of ringers, with his rope in his hands, as he would have wished.

'DEAD MAN'S RAGGED PEAL'

Ringers are a close-knit brotherhood with some ancient but little-known customs. When a ringer dies, his rope is detached from his bell, coiled in his coffin and goes to the grave with him, while overhead his comrades ring what is called the 'Dead Man's Ragged Peal'—a half-muffled peal with a gap where the dead man's bell should come in.

So it was for Dovey, but with a difference. Where the gap should be there was no gap! The ropeless tenor had come in, and continued to come in as true as a hare on its appointed courses.

The ringers stared at each other wildly and stopped the peal. Later, in conference, they decided they must have been mistaken, and repeated the peal on the Sunday.

Once again Dovey's bell came in, and this time there was no vestige of doubt. Ringers have recognisable individual touches, just as, say, cricketers or pianists have, and every man there recognised Dovey's technique unquestionably. They would have known him from a thousand.

Once having got over the initial shock, and having liked Dovey all his life, they soon accepted the idea of his continuing bellringing from his grave. (You can see it on the left, halfway from the lych gate to the church.)

They were simple, God-fearing men, and seven ringers, and Dovey became a matter of course; and as the older men died younger men came in, with Dovey on the tenor an accepted institution and no longer a matter even for comment.

NEVER LATE!

They are a close-mouthed fraternity, and so Dovey has continued down the centuries, never late or absent, or a fraction out of timing, while generations of ringers passed by, right down to the present day.

Dovey has been threatened with disturbance once—in 1909, when the Rev. Mr. Bates became uneasy and got the 'Poltergeists and Occult Review' magazine to send an investigating committee down. This was headed by an Oxford professor of philosophy.

He knew it all, the lot. He said that a ghost, if there was one, could ring a ghostly bell, and if he did, it would give a ghostly note: but no ghost could exert the positive fact-pounds of energy even to ring an actual handbell, let alone a 16 cwt. tenor.

He took his motley committee crew up the tower and put them on the bell ropes and climbed the ladder to the bell chamber trapdoor to watch the tenor while they started a frightful jangle. Nothing happened for a bit, probably because Dovey couldn't sort out his place in that disorganised ringing.

But come in he did, eventually, and very tragically, too.

You see, the professor, being a professor, was a bit absent-minded; in fact it's almost a condition of being a professor in one thing

that you are a bit barmy in something else; he forgot, however, how many fact-pounds of energy it took to swing the bell up. It came down with the same number, and as it only cleared the trapdoor by three inches on its downward sweep, when the professor popped his head through—the bell took it off!

The bloodstains are still in the sandstone walls, and some odd teeth on the bell loft floor.

HEADLESS CORPSE

The bells fell silent as the ropes slipped from nerveless hands when the headless corpse sagged back down the ladder, spouting blood at every rung.

Of course there was a furore, but it was kept local. The inquest, with a village jury, was glossed over and hushed up, and the committee departed, never to return.

The ringers, however, were furious, particularly when they found the Rev. Mr. Bates was considering the ceremony of exorcism, with bell, book and candle.

It was a brave thing in those days for villagers to defy one of the omnipotent trio—the squire, the doctor or the parson. But they plucked up their courage, and a few pints of home-brewed, and told Bates that if he interfered with their star ringer they would shove him up the ladder like the professor.

This really frightened Bates, and he left, being followed in 1910 by the Rev. Mr. Guy, a broadminded man, who said: 'Be he man, ghost or devil, if he rings my church bell at the right time I shan't interfere.'

So Dovey continued undisturbed. He rang alone during the 1914-18 war, with the ringers in the K.S.L.I., and was in the band when it restarted, right up to World War II, when church bells were stopped.

They didn't know how to stop Dovey, but Ernie Drew, the postmaster, removed the clapper, and Dovey continued to swing his bell, silent except for the faint creaking of the pintles.

He was on the job for V.E. Day and has never missed since. So next Sunday, when you hear Claverley's bells across our smiling Shropshire countryside, remember there are seven ringers—and Dovey on the tenor, where he always has been and, I suppose, always will be.

COVENTRY GUILD'S RINGING MASTER MARRIED

For the first time in the history of the Coventry Diocesan Guild, members of the Guild were able to witness the marriage of their Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Windsor. His marriage to Miss Joyce Elliman, a ringing member of Holy Trinity, Hatton, took place at this church on March 25th.

There was a very large assembly of ringers present for the happy occasion. Mr. F. W. Perrens, the president, and all the officers of the Guild, together with some 76 Guild members and visiting ringers, made a memorable gathering.

The bride was attired in a pale blue full-length dress and her bridesmaids were in pink. A joint team of Hatton and Wolvey ringers rang the newly-married couple out of church, after which the bells were 'fired.' Throughout the reception the bells were rung.

Before going on their honeymoon the bride and bridegroom visited the ringers at tea, where they were congratulated and given a rousing send-off to the tune of 'For they are jolly good fellows.' To the pleasure of everyone, the happy couple returned to the church to ring for the first time as Mr. and Mrs. Windsor.

Mr. Windsor, as Ringing Master, has proved to be an adept instructor. He has introduced many young ringers to the mysteries of method ringing, and many of them are now proficient in ringing and conducting.

A special word of thanks is due to Hatton ringers and friends of the church in organising a tea for over 30 visitors, particularly Mrs. Holcroft and Mrs. Adams for their work.

Mr. and Mrs. Windsor will be living at Wolvey in about two months' time. P. A. O.

REV. JOHN SCOTT CHAMPIONS RINGERS

The Rev. John G. M. Scott, Vicar of Clawton, Holsworthy, Devon, has worthily championed the cause of ringers in reply to a letter from Mr. G. R. Hall, Stapleford, Cambridge, that appeared in 'The Church Times.'

Mr. Hall wrote: 'With the coming of the better weather, those churches fortunate enough to possess a "ringable" peal of bells await the arrival of those bands of itinerant ringers who prowl the countryside, more particularly on Saturday afternoons, in search of a tower wherein they can exercise their art.'

'Let me hasten to add that I am much in favour of keeping alive any worthwhile ancient art, including bellringing; but what annoys me greatly is the attitude, so common today even among ringers, that they expect to find the bells and ropes in good order (in fact, everything laid on) so that they can disturb the peace of a Saturday afternoon, often for hours at a time. One presumes that these itinerant bands at least have the decency to drop a coin in the church "expenses" box.'

'On the other hand, those churches who receive these visitations might well consider imposing a levy of, say, £1 per hour upon these ringers; they would then have to pay for their sport, and perhaps appreciate it more than having it "on the cheap," as seems the practice today. When one takes into account the cost of such necessities as bell ropes, and the fantastic sums expended by parishes in rehanging their bells, one wonders how any Diocesan Ringers' Association would react if approached for a contribution towards such heavy expenses incurred by a church whose tower their members had visited.'

THE REPLY

Mr. Scott, in his reply, wrote: 'Very few ringers in these days are paid. Even fewer of those who disturb Mr. G. R. Hall on Saturdays do not ring for service in their home towers. It has been for many years thought reasonable by the Church for such men and women to practise their art (or, if you prefer it, their "sport") at other towers and places without having to hire bells.'

'The fact is that ringers are felt to pay the Church in service, and it is my belief that with very few exceptions they do. If they express disappointment at finding the bells or ropes in bad condition might it not be the sort of dis-appointment Mr. Hall might feel at finding a sanctuary with brass dirty, carvings worm-eaten and fabrics moth-eaten through neglect?'

'But most of all, Mr. Hall is unjust to the Diocesan Ringers' Associations. So far as my experience goes, these bodies almost invariably put the collections at their services and meetings into a fund for the very purpose of making grants to parishes in their area which need help for their bell restorations.'

THE BELL

Have any of our readers met this song before? Mrs. Mary E. Simpson, of 33, Dorset Street, Leicester, who is now 73, recalls learning and singing this song while at school. It is forwarded to us by Mr. Ernest Morris.

I was hung in my place when the village was young.

And the houses were scattered and few,
In the old dingy belfry for ages I've swung,
Yet my song is the same as when new.

Chorus:

And so I sing ding dong, dong ding.

Or utter a solemn tone.

Ding dong, dong ding, for the bride I ring
(sung quickly).

Ding dong for the passing soul (very slowly).
Sextons five who have served here have
aged and died.

And the sixth now is tugging at me,
But he'll soon be so worn he'll be hustled
aside.

Making room for a younger than he.

Chorus.

So I watch from my tower as the pageant
moves by.

With its joys and its sorrows and fears.

But it's all one to me in my solid truth.

Aye, if the world is in gladness or tears.

Chorus.

QUARTER PEALS

ADDERBURY, OXON.—On March 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: D. Guntripp 1, M. Sayers 2, H. L. Roper 3, Mrs. A. Bennett 4, B. J. Davis 5, M. W. Coleman 6, R. A. Reeves (cond.) 7, C. Guntripp 8. First of Triples by the Sunday service band. For service of Confirmation.

ALMONDSBURY, GLOS.—On March 4th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: M. Thomas 1, E. A. Haines 2, R. Haines 3, Janice Williamson 4, D. J. Hunt 5, D. C. Exell 6, J. Brain 7, R. C. Kippin (cond.) 8.

ASTBURY, CHESHIRE.—On March 20th, 1,440 Spliced Surprise Minor (Northumberland, Carlisle, Newcastle, Alnwick, Chester, Munden, Ipswich, Cambridge, Beverley, York, Surfleet and Durham): J. Riley 1, N. Sherratt 2, W. Sherratt 3, R. A. Challinor 4, P. A. Mason 5, R. Worrall (cond.) 6. A birthday compliment to the father of the tenor ringer.

AYLESTONE, LEICS.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,280 Plain and Little Bob Spliced: Christine Sanders 1, S. Marie Davenport 2, Sandra E. Chesterton 3, Patricia A. Wardle 4, R. S. Morris 5, T. I. Roper 6, P. Martin 7, A. J. Poyner (cond.) 8. For Evensong. Also on Feb. 15th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Sandra E. Chesterton 1, Christine Sanders 2, S. Marie Davenport 3, Patricia A. Wardle 4, A. J. Poyner 5, T. I. Roper 6, P. Martin 7, R. S. Morris 8. For Ash Wednesday Evensong. Also on Feb. 19th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: Christine Sanders 1, Sandra E. Chesterton 2, S. Marie Davenport 3, Patricia A. Wardle (first as cond.) 4, A. J. Poyner 5, T. I. Roper 6, P. Martin 7, R. S. Morris 8. For the visit of Canon F. W. Pratt, also a birthday compliment to Prince Andrew.

BIDDENHAM, BEDS.—On March 11th, 1,260 Minor (St. Clement's and Plain Bob): D. Ayre (first quarter) 1, W. Dowler 2, Miss K. A. Rivett 3, R. B. Mitchell 4, S. Ivin 5, F. W. Rivett (first as cond.) 6.

BISHOP'S CLEEVE, GLOS.—On March 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles: Miss C. Davies 1, A. Lawrence 2, D. Field 3, A. Paton 4, R. Dowdeswell (cond.) 5, P. Mustoe 6. First quarter 1 and 2. A compliment to the curate, Rev. D. A. Bates, and his wife on the birth of a son.

BORDEN, KENT.—On March 19th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob, Grandsire): Patricia Robinson 1, J. Grensted 2, Rev. P. T. Robins 3, G. A. Naylor (cond.) 4, E. C. Barton 5, L. Mason (first quarter) 6. For Evensong.

BRISTOL.—At the Church of St. Michael, on March 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mary Busch 1, Judi White (first of Minor 'inside') 2, Dorothy M. Stafford 3, Ian C. Maycock 4, Jennifer M. Gambling 5, John C. Baldwin (cond.) 6. For Evensong. Also at St. Mark's, the Lord Mayor's Chapel, on March 19th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: W. Lampard (first off tenor) 1, Kathleen M. Exell (first of Doubles) 2, Jacqueline A. Purnell (first of Bob Doubles) 3, D. C. Exell 4, P. Bride 5, D. J. Hunt 6. Conducted by 4 and 6. Also at St. Michael's, on March 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: G. Pearce 1, F. W. E. Carter (first in method) 2, P. J. Bird (cond.) 3, P. M. T. Owen (first 'inside') 4, I. C. Buckland 5, R. Algate 6. By the Cathedral School Guild, as a farewell to Mr. Frank Carter, founder of the Society.

BUCKINGHAM.—On March 7th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: W. Townsend 1, R. A. Vickers 2, C. Stopps 3, G. W. Holland (cond.) 4, W. A. Yates 5, W. Thatcher 6. First of Stedman for 1 and 3.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—On March 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. E. Dean 1, C. Blundell 2, Mary R. Jaycock 3, G. W. Limmer 4, H. Oglesby 5, W. G. Wilson 6, G. Coussins 7, G. Riglar 8.

BUSHEY HEATH, HERTS.—On March 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Morris 1, C. Cook 2, T. Clark 3, C. Evans 4, E. Ashby 5, J. Rootes 6, T. Norris (cond.) 7, Miss P. Norris (first quarter) 8. Rung in honour of the golden wedding anniversary this day of Mr. H. Hodgetts.

DAVENTRY, NORTHANTS.—On March 12th, 1,260 Minor (Cambridge, Plain Bob): P. S. Chapman (cond.) 1, Gillian Taverner 2, Hilary M. Johnson 3, Patricia F. Curtis 4, H. M. Johnson 5, M. R. Bennett 6. For family service on Mothering Sunday.

EDMONTON, MIDD.—On March 23rd, 1,272 Kent T.B. Minor: Trudy Newcombe 1, Audrey Beauchamp 2, W. George 3, J. Weeks 4, R. Durrant (first in method) 5, T. Hawkins 6. Also on March 26th, 1,260 Doubles (Reverse St. Bartholomew, Grandsire, Plain Bob, St. Simon's, St. Martin's): D. Langdon 1, Trudy Newcombe 2, W. George 3, T. Hawkins 4, J. Weeks (cond.) 5, R. Durrant 6. First in five methods for all. For Evensong.

EVERCREECH, SOMERSET.—On March 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Margaret Dewe 1, Marion March 2, Bridget Sanger 3, A. J. Sanger 4, D. M. C. Hill 5, A. J. White 6, H. J. Sanger (cond.) 7, P. March 8. Rung with bells half-muffled in memoriam Frederick Field, for many years a faithful member of the local band, interred this day at Preston Plucknett.

GORSEINON, GLAMORGAN.—On March 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (with 1 and 2 leading): Pamela Todhunter 1, Jocelyn Thomas 2, Elizabeth Macmillan 3, P. Mainwaring 4, J. T. Williams (cond.) 5, G. Thomas 6, W. Dobbins 7, Mary Batchelor 8. First quarter for all except 5, 6, 7. Rung for Confirmation service.

HALLOW, WORCS.—On March 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. Smele 1, C. Davis 2, P. Bullock 3, F. C. Pugh 4, J. Gwilliam (cond.) 5, R. Vivian 6. For the wedding of Alan Hermon, a ringer at this church.

HERSHAM, SURREY.—On March 25th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: Mrs. A. Smith 1, C. Webb 2, Joan A. Smith 3, J. F. Maybrey 4, H. Colcombe 5, C. N. Chinnery 6, J. King (cond.) 7, V. Smith 8. First in method for 1, 3, 6 and 8. For the Consecration of the Very Rev. G. E. Reindorp, as Bishop of Guildford.

HESSLE, E. YORKS.—On March 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. S. Sharp 1, K. Kirk 2, R. H. Sharp 3, J. A. Singleton 4, D. S. Johnson (cond.) 5, G. R. West 6. First quarter 1 and 6. To mark the birth of a daughter to the wife and ringer of the third.

HITCHAM, BUCKS.—On March 19th, 1,260 Minor (Reverse Canterbury and Single Oxford): M. Sceny (first of Minor) 1, Jennifer Sceny 2, Mary F. Carr 3, T. Evans 4, H. Oglesby (cond.) 5, A. R. Mann 6.

HOLME PIERREPONT, NOTTS.—On March 19th, 1,260 Minor (Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob): R. Blackshaw and C. Froggatt 1, S. Meredith 2, D. Bradley 3, F. Bradley 4, A. Larkin 5, B. Mills (cond.) 6. For Passion Sunday.

HOUSLOW, MIDD.—On March 16th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob, Grandsire): R. Shea 1, Miss W. Smith 2, Miss J. Hitchcock 3, D. Howell 4, D. C. Morgan (cond.) 5, D. Winterston 6. For the visit of the Bishop of London, for Confirmation service.

ISLEWORTH, MIDD.—On March 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. L. Summerlin 1, M. Sprackling 2, Miss P. Rogers 3, Miss J. Creak 4, F. Ranson 5, C. Rogers 6, W. G. Wilson (cond.) 7, A. J. Way 8. First quarter 1 and 8. For Evensong.

KILBURN, LONDON.—On March 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Christine Bradburn 1, M. Bland 2, A. Herbert 3, Enid Towne 4, D. Birkinshaw (cond.) 5, J. Wilkins 6. Rung for the 70th birthday of John Wilkins.

KINGSWOOD, SURREY.—On March 18th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Christine Shaw (first quarter) 1, Elizabeth Farrow 2, Judith A. Harding 3, R. G. W. Robertson 4, E. W. Taylor 5, E. G. L. Coward (cond.) 6.

LAMAS, NORFOLK.—On March 23rd, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): H. T. Miller 1, I. G. Smithson 2, H. G. Smithson 3, D. E. Rustondrews 4, W. C. Medler (cond.) 5. For the induction of the Rev. A. K. Birch.

LONG ASHTON, SOMERSET.—On March 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Doreen Cox 1, P. Bridle 2, J. H. Gilbert 3, D. G. Yeo (cond.) 4, N. H. Yeo 5, E. Abraham 6, A. E. Cox 7, F. Bridle 8. For Evensong, and with bells half-muffled as a token of respect for Mrs. Sally Randall, wife of the people's warden, who died March 17th.

LEEDS, YORKS.—At 23, Ash Grove, on March 21st, 1,272 Plain Bob Minimus: A. E. Stamp 1-2, C. B. Dove (cond.) 3-4, S. J. Corson 5-6. Birthday compliments to Gael Brown and Barrie Dove.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.—On March 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. W. Davies 1, Canon C. C. Cox 2, E. L. Taylor 3, Mrs. C. W. Powell 4, C. W. Powell 5, H. G. Keeley 6, G. S. Morris (cond.) 7, J. Rattenbury 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam the Earl of Shaftesbury, president of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

NAILSEA, SOMERSET.—On March 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: M. Owen (first of Minor) 1, Mary Powell 2, L. Derrick 3, T. Phillips 4, P. Black 5, J. Brain (first of Minor as cond.) 6.

MONKEN HADLEY, HERTS.—On March 19th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: M. Sprackling 1, H. J. Eldred 2, A. M. Stacey 3, M. Soper (first in method) 4, C. Ward 5, A. Fulwell 6, W. G. Wilson (cond.) 7, F. Ranson 8. For Matins.

NEWENT, GLOS.—On March 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: May Stevens 1, W. Jenkins 2, Joy Smith 3, J. J. Webb (cond.) 4, F. Turnes 5, T. Stevens 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Arthur Kinsey, ringer of this church, and Arthur Williams, who were fatally injured in a road accident.

ORSETT, ESSEX.—On March 19th, 1,299 Doubles (Stedman, All Saints', Plain Bob and Grandsire): Miss E. Mason 1, Mrs. F. W. Blatch 2, D. G. Mayell (cond.) 3, H. G. Goddard 4, R. Hills 5, F. W. Blatch 6. First in four methods for 1, 2, 5 and 6. A 21st birthday compliment to Robert Hills.

PORTSMOUTH, HANTS.—On March 22nd, at the Cathedral Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Elizabeth W. Pierce 1, S. Kathleen M. Knight 2, C. R. C. Coussmaker 3, H. N. Evans 4, J. R. Goodenough 5, G. R. Crisp 6, D. J. Forder (cond.) 7, F. Edwards 8. Rung half-muffled following the funeral in the Cathedral of Mrs. A. E. York-Bramble.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—On March 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. E. Mann 1, H. H. Abrahams (cond.) 2, Mrs. I. A. Abrahams 3, Miss W. Bird 4, R. Haines 5, E. C. Read 6, L. A. Page 7, J. D. Coleman (first quarter on eight) 8.

SANDRIDGE, HERTS.—On March 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. E. Hardy 1, Alison Macfarlane 2, J. D. Chamberlain (first of Doubles 'inside') 3, A. T. Hawkins (first of Doubles 'inside') 4, K. J. Darvill (first as cond.) 5, G. T. Ridgway (first quarter) 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. F. W. Hedges, a former Sandridge tower captain, who died earlier in the week.

STOKE BISHOP, BRISTOL.—On March 26th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): Susan Carter (first quarter) 1, P. Gray (cond.) 2, Edith Brocklehurst 3, J. Laver 4, R. Brocklehurst 5, R. Carstairs (first quarter) 6. For Palm Sunday Evensong.

SWINDON, WILTS.—At Christ Church, on March 22nd, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: R. J. Drewett (first of Caters on working bell) 1, Miss M. Wright 2, Dr. C. G. Roworth 3, Mrs. H. J. Sutton 4, W. W. T. Daniell 5, R. G. Townsend 6, Rev. R. G. Bryant 7, A. T. Collins (first of Caters) 8, E. Sutton (cond.) 9, G. E. Vincent 10. For Confirmation service.

TEWIN, HERTS.—On March 22nd, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire and Plain Bob): F. G. Garrod 1, C. Geeves 2, D. Gambling 3, H. Shire 4, W. T. Holmes (cond.) 5, Mrs. B. Banks 6. Rung as a 77th birthday compliment to H. Shire, ringer of 4.

WESTMINSTER, LONDON.—On March 19th, at 121, Lillingston Street, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: I. Hughes 1-2, M. P. Moreton (cond.) 3-4, C. Simpson 5-6. First quarter by the St. Stephen's Society, Westminster.

WITCHCOMBE RALEIGH, DEVON.—On March 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. Sharland 1, A. T. Truman 2, J. Carter 3, J. H. Glanville 4, F. Wreford 5, G. Skinner 6, F. D. Mack (cond.) 7, P. Gatter 8. For Evensong.

YEOVIL, SOMERSET.—On March 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. E. Looker 1, L. Parris 2, T. E. Marks 3, T. Look 4, G. Gaylard 5, R. J. Fox 6, T. J. Setter (cond.) 7, C. Wyatt (first quarter) 8. A 21st birthday compliment to C. Wyatt.

QUARTER PEALS

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On March 19th. 1.260 Plain Bob Royal: M. G. Ingram 1. Mrs. J. Atherley 2. A. S. Burbidge 3. D. R. Ingram 4. J. L. Gray 5. B. Downie 6. R. C. Ingram 7. D. T. Finnemore 8. A. Short 9. E. J. Franklin (cond.) 10. First of Plain Bob Royal for all except 5, 7 and 9. Rung for Evensong, and a 13th birthday compliment to A. S. Burbidge.

CHIGWELL, ESSEX.—On March 26th. 1.260 Plain Bob Minor: S. Penfold 1. J. Carrott 2. F. G. Richardson 3. Miss J. Peacock 4. T. East 5. F. V. Gant (cond.) 6. For Matins.

CLAINES, WORCS.—On March 26th. 1.260 Grandsire Doubles: Susan Budd (first quarter) 1. L. Palfrey (first quarter) 2. Gillian Blackwell (first quarter) 3. J. Whittall (first quarter of Doubles) 4. R. Woodyatt (cond.) 5. Linda J. Roff (first quarter) 6. For Evensong. All are members of the Sunday service band.

CLAPHAM PARK, LONDON.—At St. Stephen's, on March 25th. 1.504 Plain Bob Major: Patricia Collins 1. Elizabeth A. Negus 2. C. Mew 3. A. Bishop 4. Christine Harbott 5. S. Huckle 6. M. W. Harbott 7. A. P. Cannon 8. Rung for the consecration of the Very Rev. G. Reindorp, as Bishop of Guildford, this day in Southwark Cathedral.

DESBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.—On March 17th. 1.260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. A. Loake 1. G. Wright 2. D. Loake 3. A. E. York 4. Miss S. Feakin 5. B. Yeomans 6. M. A. Coleman (cond.) 7. Rev. T. R. Bonsey 8. A wedding compliment to Miss G. Dimbleby and Mr. B. Haycock, both local ringers.

DOWNE, KENT.—On March 19th. 1.200 Plain Bob Doubles: M. Tong 1. J. C. Bowers (longest length 'inside') 2. A. S. Richards 3. R. E. Finch 4. A. M. Macve (cond.) 5. M. Pound 6.

FILTON, GLOS.—On March 25th. 1.260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Parry 1. W. Trueman (cond.) 2. D. Voss 3. A. V. Bennett 4. C. Rouse 5. F. Hussey 6. Rung for Evensong, as a Thanksgiving to God for the consecration this day of the extension to the church and the augmentation of the bells from 5 to 6.

GREASLEY, NOTTS.—On March 11th. 1.260 Grandsire Triples: G. Fisher (first on eight) 1. G. E. Foster 2. W. L. Exton (cond.) 3. P. R. Horne 4. P. E. Horne (first 'inside') 5. W. Nicholls 6. S. Adams 7. A. Foster 8.

GRETTON, NORTHANTS.—On March 26th. 1.260 Grandsire Doubles: Elaine W. Woolston 1. Maureen K. Easton (first 'inside') 2. G. W. Reynolds 3. P. S. Heath 4. J. Woolley 5. Conducted in turn by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. First as conductor for 1, 2, 3. Rung for Evensong.

HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM.—At St. Mary's Church, on March 25th. 1.260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Burt 1. Joan Woolgar (first quarter) 2. Jennifer Cook (first quarter) 3. A. Stubbs 4. D. Harrabin 5. M. Hall (cond.) 6. For the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lady.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—On March 26th. 1.224 Kent T.B. Minor: Susan Bell 1. A. H. Winch 2. G. Marriner 3. Rev. E. Wood 4. A. H. Smith (cond.) 5. W. Oatway 6. Rung to mark the consecration of the Bishop-elect of Guildford, and an 81st birthday compliment to A. H. Winch.

LEICESTER.—At the Prebendal Church of St. Margaret, on March 26th. 1.040 Plain Bob Major: W. Hurst 1. G. W. Mason 2. T. Still 3. T. H. Bent 4. C. V. Cattell 5. E. Morris (cond.) 6. H. Bray 7. R. K. Mason 8. For morning service, on the heavy eight.

LONDON.—At St. Clement Danes, on March 19th. 1.260 Plain Bob Royal: Miss A. Lowings 1. S. Penfold 2. J. Carrott 3. Miss J. Peacock 4. F. G. Richardson 5. A. J. Salisbury 6. Dr. C. E. Wright 7. J. McPhail 8. T. East 9. F. V. Gant (cond.) 10. For Matins.

MERROW, SURREY.—On March 22nd. 1.260 Plain Bob Minor: K. R. A. Glue 1. Jill M. Lane 2. B. A. Todd 3. P. G. Smart (cond.) 4. R. I. Vaughan 5. D. J. Tubbs 6. For Evensong.

PYCHLEY, NORTHANTS.—On March 16th. 1.260 Doubles (Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob): Miss P. Mason 1. T. Sansom 2. L. Berridge 3. F. Crosier 4. M. Coleman (cond.) 5

ROTHERHAM, YORKS.—On March 26th. 1.296 Grandsire Caters: R. Young 1. Mrs. N. Chaddock 2. Miss M. Atkinson 3. Mrs. M. Burns 4. S. Armeson 5. Miss S. Chaddock 6. R. Woodward 7. J. N. D. Chaddock 8. N. Chaddock (cond.) 9. P. Walker 10. First of Caters 1 and 5. For Confirmation service.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On March 26th. 1.264 Plain Bob Major: J. P. Bowler (first of Major) 1. Pamela M. Jervis 2. J. K. Ward (cond.) 3. D. P. Hilling 4. A. K. Fortin 5. W. D. Ward 6. W. Birmingham 7. F. R. Scott 8. Rung for Palm Sunday, and as a 15th birthday compliment (March 25th) to David Hilling.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On March 26th. 1.440 Double Court Bob Minor: W. A. Hughes 1. L. W. G. Skinner 2. J. E. Cannell 3. J. D. Fairecloth 4. A. S. Richards (cond.) 5. R. E. Finch 6. First quarter in the method for all.

WHATTON, NOTTS.—On Jan. 12th. 1.260 Stedman Doubles: Mrs. P. C. Clarke 1. W. L. Exton (cond.) 2. T. Goodwin 3. T. Greasley 4. J. D. Clarke 5. A. Foster 6.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

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John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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FRANK I. HAIRS.

R. S. ANDERSON.

W. G. WILSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

We express our special thanks to Mr. Gerald C. Hemming and his band who rang the peal of Lincolnshire Surprise Major at Salford Priors on March 25th, to celebrate the golden jubilee of 'The Ringing World.' The peal was also memorable for Mr. Geoffrey J. Hemming as it was his 100th peal of Surprise and he completed the 'circle of the tower' to peals. Similar appreciation is expressed to our friends at Darley Dale for our birthday peal and also to Mr. Peter Crook, of Bolton, who conducted a peal at Scorton in honour of 'The Ringing World.'

An error occurs in the list of handbell peals rung by Mr. Ernest Morris. There were only two of Surprise Major (Cambridge 2).

Congratulations to Mr. C. W. Cook, who after 40 years of ringing has completed his century of peals. The 100th peal was rung at Harston, Cambs.

The new Society at St. Stephen's, Westminster, rang a quarter peal on handbells recently, the first quarter by the Society, writes Mr. Michael P. Moreton.

The founder of 'The Bell News' was Mr. Harvey Reeves. We regret that this name had been altered to 'Hervey Reeves' in the jubilee issue.

Miss Sandra E. Chesterton is to be congratulated on her 16th birthday and in conducting for the occasion her first peal of Plain Bob Major at Aylestone on March 15th. Her friend, Marie Davenport, conducted her first quarter on March 26th, also for her 16th birthday.

A life member of the Lancashire Association, Mr. Fred Robinson, who joined the Association in 1900, has died. To his memory a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung in his tower, St. Leonard's, Walton-le-Dale, on March 18th.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Harold Chant is in hospital undergoing treatment for jaundice, but hopes to be out the week after Easter. 'Professor Dodge,' despite his mathematical complexities, has found time to visit one who has so often been interviewed by him.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

In the Guildford Guild library there is a book presented by the late Mr. J. S. Goldsmith entitled 'The Church Bells of Sussex,' by Amherst Daniel-Tyssen, published in 1864. The book contains the name of Thomas Goldsmith, grandfather of the founder of 'The Ringing World,' and is followed by the words 'With the Editor's compliments.' This book was the first of the series of county histories of bells.

The ringers of the quarter peal at Hands-worth, Birmingham, would like Miss Elizabeth Yardley to accept their effort as good wishes for a speedy recovery from her recent operation.

A presidents' peal is unusual. The Hertford County Association rang one at Hemel Hempstead on March 25th. The peal was the idea of the present president, Mr. W. C. Hughes, who tried to arrange such a peal at the back end of 1960. Circumstances prevented it; March 25th was a much more suitable date, with very good results.

Lt.-Col. C. F. Jerram, of Helford, Helston, Cornwall, although 79 years of age, is engaged in teaching a band of six whose total years amount to 354. Three of them are over 70 and he commends septuagenarians to those who cannot get youngsters to stick to ringing. Col. Jerram's name headed the list of ringers serving in the 1914 war mentioned by Mr. J. P. Fidler in his article in the jubilee issue. He is a first subscriber, but has not been continuous for 50 years.

The dedication of the augmented ring to six bells at Filton, near Bristol, on Lady Day, was an occasion for which the Rector had waited 21 years. It would not have been possible for the band to ring at the service if the nine learners had not received such great help from Messrs. Tony Bennett, A. V. Bennett, P. Parry and S. Riches in instruction or for the use of bells in various towers, before Filton bells were available. A word of thanks is also due to Messrs. John Taylor and Co. for a fine ring of six.

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NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE'S WELCOME TO CENTRAL COUNCIL

Dear Sir,—Once again the annual meeting of the Central Council is imminent, and this time it has fallen to the lot of one of the smaller Associations to act as hosts.

On behalf of the North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers, I extend a very hearty invitation to all the representatives to visit us in the City of Stoke-on-Trent. I am sure that this district, which has not previously had the privilege of entertaining the Council, will show something of the hospitality for which North Staffordshire is noted.

The Bishop of Lichfield has very kindly consented to officiate at the Communion service, and the Lord Mayor of Stoke-on-Trent will extend a civic welcome to the Council in the Town Hall.

It is quite possible that not many members of the Council have previously been in this district, therefore I hope that the new experience will be very gratifying.

The Association is making plans for the entertainment of its visitors. Tours are being arranged, of which details will be published separately, and there will be a great number of towers available to satisfy even the most ardent 'grabber.'

We in North Staffordshire trust, therefore, that on Whit Tuesday next we shall have the pleasure of meeting a record number of representatives.—
Yours faithfully,

G. W. BIDDULPH,
Chairman,

The North Staffs Association.

GUILD OF CLERICAL RINGERS

The Guild of Clerical Ringers will make the County Hotel, Hulse Road, Southampton, their headquarters for their annual 'week,' which starts on April 10th. Details of the week are:—

MONDAY, April 10th.—Hursley, St. Michael's, Southampton.

TUESDAY, 11th.—Curdridge, Shedfield. Soberton, East Meon, Upham, Bishopstoke, St. Mary's, Southampton.

WEDNESDAY, 12th.—Isle of Wight: Carisbrooke, Newport, Godshill, Brading, All Saints', Ryde.

THURSDAY, 13th.—Sherfield English (peal attempt), East Tytherley, Lockerley, Romsey, Winchester Cathedral, Bitterne Park.

FRIDAY, 14th.—North Stoneham, Twyford. Annual meeting: Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Party: The Revs. J. H. B. Andrews, E. G. Benson (Presteigne), N. F. D. Coleridge (Tatworth), Canon C. Carew Cox (Whitechurch Canoncorum), Preb. E. V. Cox (Axminster), S. M. Evans (Ramsgate), K. W. H. Felstead (Southampton), R. Fry (Yeovil), J. B. T. Homfray (Cheltenham), R. N. Longridge (Bourton), C. J. B. Marshall (Crewkerne), J. J. Richards (Llanarth), P. T. Robbins (Lower Halstow), Canon F. A. Sanders (Overton), Canon B. F. Sheppard (North Petherton), R. D. St. J. Smith (Astley Bridge), H. F. Warren (Exford), E. B. Wood (Leatherhead), and for part of the time C. R. C. Coussmaker (Southampton), K. C. Davis (Nateley Scures).

PERSONALITIES OF THE EXERCISE - 14



MR. PATRICK I. CHAPMAN,
Peterborough Diocesan Guild.

The Peterborough Diocesan Guild, since its foundation in 1924, has always had a nucleus of good ringers available, and an interesting point is that these keen members, in addition to being active peal ringers, have always managed to find time to do their share of instruction work. The present popular Master of the Guild, Mr. Patrick I. Chapman, of Daventry, Northants, is one of the most enthusiastic of these ringers, and the excellent progress of the Daventry band, under his leadership since 1957, has given him much pleasure. He is particularly proud of the achievements of two of his pupils, Alan Frost, of Kettering, who rang in the peal of Scientific Triples and frequently rings at St. Paul's Cathedral, and also David Marshall, aged 15, of Daventry, who recently called a peal of Cambridge Major, and rings London.

Pat was born at Kettering on December 30th, 1931, and was educated locally. He was taught to ring at the Parish Church by

Messrs. C. W. Bird and R. F. Turner in 1945. He rang his first peal at Rothwell, being Bob Major, on December 26th, 1946, a few days before his 15th birthday. His total of peals to date is 297 (including 28 on handbells), and he has conducted 10. He does not enjoy conducting, but has been interested in composition, and has composed several good peals, mainly Yorkshire. Of his peals, 142 have been Surprise peals, including up to 10 Spliced Major, and Maximus up to 4 spliced. He took part in the record peal of 14,560 Yorkshire Major at Loughborough Bell Foundry in December, 1957, conducted by Stephen Ivin, and also 10,080 Minor on handbells. He has rung over 94,000 changes on the 4th at Loughborough Bell Foundry, in five attempts for the elusive 40,320 Bob Major, one attempt lasting for 28,850 changes.

Pat is a very good heavy-bell ringer, and has rung tenors at Sherborne Abbey to New Cambridge, St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, to Kent Royal, Buckfast Abbey to Cambridge Royal, Hoar Cross to Minor, and Wellingborough to Cambridge (regarded as the toughest job in Northants!).

In 1956, he moved to Daventry, and became a work study engineer, employed by British Tinkem Ltd., and is now a section leader. In addition to teaching a lot of ringers, he has been Ringing Master of the Kettering Branch of the Peterborough Guild, Guild auditor, and a member of the Central Council since 1954.

Pat has always been a keen Church worker, and while living at Kettering was a member of the P.C.C., and helped to get the bells rehung in 1955. He is now churchwarden at Daventry Parish Church, and a member of the Diocesan Conference. On October 27th, 1955, he married Joan Morris at Kettering. Joan can do a little ringing, but her main contribution is providing coffee, meals and accommodation to ringers, often whole peal bands, and sometimes without notice! Indeed it could be accurately said that they both keep 'open-house' to all ringers. Everyone will wish them good luck in the impending arrival of their firstborn.

Pat will always be grateful to those who initiated him into the art, and helped him in his early stages. He has made many friends all over the country, and feels duty bound to pass on his knowledge to others, and indeed loves doing this, so that his learners may also enjoy the same pleasures of belfry comradeship. He regards peal ringing as serving a dual purpose. Apart from the pleasure he derives, he considers it the best possible practice for service ringing. In this opinion, many ringers would agree with him.

APACE.

LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY

After a lapse of ten years, some 30 members of the Leeds and District Society visited the Church of St. Matthias, Burley, on March 25th, when the eight bells were kept going in a variety of methods ranging from Plain Bob to Cambridge Surprise.

An excellent tea was provided by the ladies of the church. At the business meeting the Rev. H. H. Huxham welcomed the Society, and hoped the members were enjoying the ringing. Two new members were elected, viz.: Mr. David Cowman and Mr. John Barrow, both of Idle Parish Church. The vote of thanks on behalf of the Society to the Vicar, the ladies and churchwardens was ably proposed by Miss Grace Beardow.

The officers for 1961/62 were elected as follows: Messrs. T. Strangeway, president; A. Smith, L. Drake and J. Gibson, vice-presidents; D. Thorp, secretary/treasurer; I. Slack, Ringing Master; R. Lumley and I. North, auditors.

The next meeting—the annual—it is hoped will be held at Leeds Parish Church on April 29th.

CASTING PULLING MEMORIAL BELL

Although Mr. C. W. Denyer, Master of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, announced at the annual general meeting that Messrs. Mears and Stainbank were to cast the Alfred Pulling Bell on Friday, March 17th, due to unforeseen difficulties at the foundry the date was changed to Wednesday, 15th. As far as possible this information was passed on but apologies are offered to all who were disappointed at being unable to attend.

At mid-day on the 15th, four members of the Guild were met at the Whitechapel Foundry by Mr. W. A. Hughes and conducted through the works to the casting shed, where the mould stood ready. In a short while the crucible furnaces were tapped, and at a temperature more than ten times that of boiling water, the molten metal flowed into the large ladle in which it was conveyed the short distance to the mould.

Hoisted to its pouring position the foundry proceeded to remove the dross and when satisfied of the purity the molten metal was poured into the mould. In a few minutes the Alfred Pulling Memorial Bell, for the new Guildford Cathedral, had been cast and was now left to cool, before being tuned, fitted with clapper, etc., and transported to and hung in its place of duty, a tribute to a great ringer, W. F. O.

TO THESE WE ACCORD OUR SINCERE THANKS

GOOD WISHES FROM IRELAND

Dear Sir.—On behalf of the Irish Association of Change Ringers and the 'Irish Bell News,' I write to congratulate 'The Ringing World' on achieving its golden jubilee and also to you, sir, on the wonderful golden jubilee number just received.

We wish the journal every success and look forward to it attaining its centenary with greater circulation.—Yours faithfully,

FRED E. DUKES.
Honorary Secretary,
Irish Association.

Julianstown, Co. Meath.

'Many congratulations on an excellent, most interesting Jubilee number, and best wishes for continued growth.'—Ian H. ORAM, Orpington, Kent.

'A splendid production—congratulations to all concerned.'—A. J. PITMAN, Lillington, Leamington Spa.

'May I take this opportunity of congratulating you on the Jubilee issue? It is an extremely interesting one.'—A. S. RICHARDS, 6, Links Road, West Wickham, Kent.

'Please accept my heartiest congratulations on an absolutely first-class issue to mark the 50th anniversary. In this issue we see the last 50 years synthesised in a masterly way.'—H. W. ROGERS, Isleworth.

'May I take the opportunity of complimenting you and your staff on the Jubilee issue, which is a very fine production.'—Derek E. SIBSON, London.

The officers and members of the Southampton District, Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, congratulate the editor and staff on the Golden Jubilee issue and wish 'The Ringing World' the best of luck for the next 50 years.

'I would like to congratulate you and your staff on the Golden Jubilee number of "The Ringing World"—not sullied by "modern journalism" and readable from the title to publishers' name.'—W. F. STENSON, Crewe.

'Hearty congratulations on your Golden Jubilee issue . . . May you be spared for many years to carry on your good work.'—Albert WALKER, Birmingham.

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'Congratulations on the Golden Jubilee number, which must give many of the younger readers an insight into the history of the paper.'—John W. BLYTHE, hon. secretary the Suffolk Guild.

'Congratulations, and with all good wishes for next 50 years.'—F. S. CHENEY, South Wigston.

'A first-class issue.'—K. S. B. CROFT, Shirley, Southampton.

'To-day's "R.W." is a smasher.'—J. P. F.

'May we, at Stepney, offer our sincere congratulations to all concerned for the wonderful golden jubilee issue. We are looking forward to the diamond jubilee issue!'—L. J. FOX.

'With continued success to "The Ringing World" and congratulations to you, sir, and the editorial staff on producing a very interesting Golden Jubilee number.'—Gerald C. HEMMING, Hampton, Evesham.

'May I take this opportunity of congratulating and indeed thanking you for the excellent Golden Jubilee issue.'—S. F. KIMBER, Sutton, Surrey.

'Every possible congratulation.'—A. A. HUGHES.

'What a splendid issue for the Jubilee.'—Stephen IVIN, Houghton Conquest, Bedford.

'Hearty congratulations and thanks to "The Ringing World" Editor and Committee on the Golden Jubilee number, and best wishes for the future.'—Frank B. LUFKIN, Holland-by-Sea, Essex.

'Congratulations on a very finely produced "Ringing World"; it will make a memorable copy to keep.'—F. MORRIS, Bushey Heath, Herts.

'A grand job. The articles were most interesting and worth rereading.'—N. F. MOXON, Cawthorne, near Barnsley.

'May I congratulate you on the Jubilee issue; very nice effort and a memento well worth keeping.'—P. G. W. NEWSTEAD, Great Yarmouth.

'Congratulations on a first-class Golden Jubilee issue of "The Ringing World." There must be many people like myself who will treasure this copy for many years.'—B. J. ONGLEY, Goostrey, Crewe.

Mr. Goldsmith As An Example

'The Bell News,' of January 1st, 1898, under the heading 'Current Topics,' by Plain Speaker, had this tribute to John S. Goldsmith, who was then only 19 years of age:—

'The peal record of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, of Lewes, given in the last number, is one which that gentleman can look upon with complacency. He is only 19 years of age but has rung 50 peals! Performances in which figure Superlative, Cambridge and London. I think this very noteworthy indeed. Mr. Goldsmith is an example of the most unflinching perseverance. Now, my young friends all over the world, here is a pattern for you. Determine to excel.

'You must not suppose for one moment that this grand record was obtained easily and without great application. By no means. Mr. Goldsmith was one who strove to do his best under all circumstances. If you are ringing rounds only, or call-changes maybe, ring well: do your best always. Then you will find by-and-by that it is difficult for you to ring badly. The lessons of perseverance will make you efficient. I must compliment Mr. Goldsmith upon such an excellent record.'

BASILDON BELLS

On February 4th, on the occasion of the wedding of the daughter of the organist, the four bells of Basildon Church, Berkshire, a stone's throw from the River Thames, rang out for the first time for four years.

Preliminary work beforehand consisted of greasing and oiling the bearings, tightening up sundry bolts, fitting a new stay to the treble, and in the ground floor ringing room the removal of a large and very heavy oak cupboard, a table, motor mower, and a guard gate to a trapdoor on which the ringer of the third has to stand.

The bells hang in a wooden frame, remarkably sound considering the years of neglect, placed diagonally across the square tower, leaving room for two more bells should augmentation ever become a financial possibility.

Treble and second were cast by Mears and Stainbank in 1876, and weigh 5.0.14 and 5.2.25 respectively.

Third is inscribed 'ISAAC MATHEW, FRANCES RIGGS W H K 1665' and is given as approximately 7 cwt.

Tenor is inscribed 'THE LADY LY GOT GAVE THIS BELL HK 1621 IN TRUE DESIER FOR TO DO WELL' and is given as approximately 10 cwt.

(The Y is actually an X with a horizontal line through.)

These bells have a pleasing tone, and their 'go' is not bad considering the little use they have had. That they are 'pealable' under the new ruling is for the experts to decide.

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

Eight towers, apart from local ringers, were represented at the Mansfield District meeting at Kirkby on March 25th. Ringing commenced at 4 p.m. and continued until 7, when a short business meeting was held in the belfry.

Mr. H. T. Rooke presided and four new ringing members and one non-resident life member were elected. These were Messrs. N. Kirk, J. Harrison, A. Harrison and Miss G. Harrison, all of Kirkby, and Mr. D. Kirk, of Ruskington, Leics.

Final arrangements were made for the District cup contest to be held at Selston on May 27th. A collection for the bell fund realised 12s. The customary votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells.

Ringing was resumed until 9 p.m. in a wide variety of methods, ranging from Plain Bob to Reverse Stedman.

D. H. R.

Birmingham University Society

At the A.G.M. of the Birmingham University Society of Change Ringers, held on Tuesday, March 14th, the following officers were elected for the year 1961-62: Chairman and Ringing Master, Geoffrey Davies; secretary and treasurer, Charles A. S. Webb (address: term time c/o Union, Edgbaston; vacation, 4, Baxter Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent).

First Readers

AYRE, Walter, Hemel Hempstead. Conventurer of the Peals Analysis Committee, who had the first issue, could not say with certainty whether he had all during the 1914-18 war, when he was on active service. He writes: 'At first some people received "The Ringing World" instead, as roller skating was the fashion at that time.'

FLINT, T. R. (82), Lynwood Cottage, 17, Central Avenue, Worksop.—Learned to handle Warsop bells in 1897 and became leader the same year. Joined the Midland Counties in 1906 and rang his first peal that year. Peal total 36. Obligated to retire in 1954 through acute rheumatism.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

JACK GOLDSMITH'S LAST PEAL

Dear Sir.—In the homage to John Sparkes Goldsmith, mention is made of his last ringing being on December 14th, 1941, but nothing was said of the date on which he rang his last peal. In these circumstances I have wondered if his last peal was on September 20th, 1941, details of which are below.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE H. CROSS.

Chardstock, Axminster, Devon.

HANDBELL PEAL

London.

Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.
On Sat., Sept. 20th, 1941, in 2 hrs. 34 mins.,
In the Crypt of St. Martin-in-the-Fields,
A Peal of 5024 Plain Bob Major
Tenor size 14 in D.

George W. Steere 1-2 George H. Cross 5-6
Alfred H. Pulling 3-4 John S. Goldsmith 7-8
Composed and Conducted by George H. Cross.
Rung in honour of the 80th birthday of
William H. Fussell, and of his completion of
60 years' membership of the Society.

TWO NELSON BOBS

Dear Sir.—With regard to the 'Nelson' (?) letter, the method on the left is C.C.C. No. 132 and was first rung at Accrington, Lancs, on June 24th, 1960, and named Nelson Bob. The method on the right was rung in the 29 methods peal at Heptonstall on October 29th, 1960, and was named Nelson College Bob after F. John Nelson, a member of the band.

When I wrote my first letter on the subject I mentioned that only seven methods were named after members of the band, having assumed that Nelson as reported was Nelson Bob C.C.C. 132. However, this erroneous impression was corrected by Derek Ogden a few days later, who gave me the 'gen' on the methods, a long time before the figures were published.—Yours, etc.,

'FARMER.'

Manchester.

THE LATE MR. E. PRIOR

Dear Sir.—The quarter peal rung at Finchley on March 12th in memoriam the late Ernie Prior was the outcome of a rather embarrassing experience. Ernie had been, of late years, in the habit of coming up to ring with us whenever he was able; also he was invaluable in helping to make up a band for weddings. We used to see him every few weeks, and he last rang with us around Christmas time.

Imagine my embarrassment and complete surprise when I rang his home on March 10th to book him for a wedding when his daughter who answered, after some little pause, said: 'I'm terribly sorry to have to tell you that Dad died on January 28th.' I also learned that Mrs. Prior was very ill at that time, so much so that she was unable to attend the funeral, which took place at Golders Green Crematorium. Under these circumstances it is clear why no one in the ringing world was informed.

Ernie was one of a strong family of ringers. He was one of the old Hampstead and Gospel Oak bands. He also had happy associations with the Holloway band at the time of George and Reuben Charge. Latterly his ringing was done mostly at Finchley, as he had to take great care due to a weak heart, and so only did a little at a time; but he always enjoyed his ringing.

I feel that not only on behalf of the Finchley ringers, but on behalf of all his ringing friends, I would like to offer to Mrs. Prior and her family our deepest sympathies.—Yours, etc.,

L. E. T.

24 TOWERS IN A DAY

Dear Sir.—In answer to your recent inquiry as to the present record for number of towers in a day (Belfry Gossip, page 144), I believe the record is 24 towers. I was responsible for organising an outing when it was hoped to visit 25 towers, but we were unable to locate the key at one church; a brief account of the outing appeared in the 'R.W.' of May 13th, 1955, page 295. There were about 20 ringers in our party, and of these about 14 participated in ringing at every tower. A reasonable standard was maintained throughout the day, ranging from Grandsire to Bristol.—Yours faithfully,

IAN H. ORAM.

Orpington, Kent.

TO SPRING POETS!

Dear Sir.—

A not uncommon sight to see
Your columns filled with poetry;
Sometimes lengthy, sometimes terse,
Mostly rather boring verse.

But cannot ringers spare the time
To make quite sure their poems rhyme?
Can't they make a stanza scan,
And avoid putting as many words in the last
line as they possible can?

—Yours faithfully,

R. N. PITTMAN.

King's College, Taunton.

1914 PEAL AT SHENSTONE

Dear Sir.—In 'The Ringing World' for March 17th, page 178—St. John's Church, Shenstone, Staffs—C.M.S. refers to a peal of Stedman Triples which was rung on Whit Tuesday, June 2nd, 1914. The band was E. Marlow, T. Hill, F. J. Cope, C. Wallater, C. Waihtman, Thomas Bloore (cond.), E. J. Tyler, J. H. Gallimore. The ringers of 1, 2 and 7 were from Wood Green, Wednesbury. 3rd and tenor from Lichfield Cathedral, 4th from Willenhall, 5th and 6th from Sutton Coldfield.—Yours, etc.,

C. WALLATER.

Willenhall, Staffs.

CALL CHANGE FESTIVALS

Dear Sir.—It has been suggested that information regarding our call-change festivals will be welcomed by those whose holidays bring them to this part of the country. I am pleased, therefore, to append details of a few of the competitions which will be held in Devon during the current year.

Devon Association.—Eight-bell for 12 teams at Chittlehampton, April 22nd; Six-bell: North at Stoke Hartland, May 13th; South at Broadhempston (near Totnes), May 27th; Final at Shirwell (near Barnstaple), June 10th.

Inter-Deanery for the South Deaneries of Plympton, Woodleigh, Totnes, Ipplepen and Moretonhampstead at Stoke Gabriel (near Totnes), April 15th (for the first three teams in the previous year's Deanery competitions).

Ipplepen Deanery Six-bell at Paignton (back six), April 29th.

My own annual invitation festival—this year in aid of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust—at Modbury, June 24th, when 20 teams will compete in the presence of the Bishop of Plymouth and the secretary of the Trust.

The Association's annual 8-bell festival on Paignton bells, October 7th.—Yours faithfully,

B. E. BARTLETT, Hon. Secretary,
South Devon Ringers' Association.

GRAMOPHONE RECORDS SALE

Dear Sir.—You may be interested to know that all but a few of the 200 of the reissue of the gramophone record of 5-Spliced Surprise Major methods, made by Messrs. Hodgetts, Woolley, Cashmore and Brinklow some 25 years ago, have now been disposed of, in just under 12 months. I am grateful to all who have supported this venture, and hope that they will continue to derive much pleasure from hearing this superb exhibition of handbell ringing.—Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT, Hon. Secretary,
Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

30 Years Ago

'R.W.', APRIL 3RD, 1931

Peals Analysis shows a big increase in peal ringing.

First 'silent' peal of Surprise Minor ever rung took place at St. Mary's Church, Bucknall, Staffs, and was rung on Saturday, April 6th, 1897.

50 Years Ago

'R.W.', APRIL 7TH, 1901.

One sees from time to time some curious records in belfries, but that in one of the Manchester towers will take some beating. In the belfry are many marble tablets, recording past performances in the Art, among them being the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major in the City. In contrast is a board written in chalk recording that:—

On Tuesday, January 31st, 1911,
was rung in this Tower

A PEAL OF SMALL BOB MINOR,
Consisting of 12 changes,
in a few minutes.

The Late William Pye's Peals

In view of the outstanding performance of Mr. Ernest Morris, a correspondent sends us a list of 1,969 peals rung by the late William Pye.

TOWER BELLS

Minor.—2.

Triples.—Grandsire 12 (conducted 3), Stedman 195 (148).

Major.—Plain Bob 4, Double Norwich 79 (59), Double Oxford 1, Duffield 1, Kent Treble Bob 24 (17), Oxford 7 (6), New Cumberland 1 (1).

Surprise Major.—Cambridge 111 (68), New Cambridge 23 (16), Superlative 288 (193), London 271 (222), Bristol 211 (155), Lincolnshire 1 (1), Londonderry 1 (1), Pudsey 1 (1), Rutland 1 (1), 3 Spliced 1 (1), 4 Spliced 20 (19), 5 Spliced 1 (1), 6-12 Spliced 1 (1) of each.

Caters.—Grandsire 5 (3), Stedman 183 (128).

Royal.—Kent Treble Bob 30 (21), Oxford 3 (1), Cambridge Surprise 82 (61), New Cambridge 3 (3), Middlesex 5 (5), 3 Spliced 1 (1).

Cinques.—Grandsire 1 (1), Stedman 127 (74).

Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob 10 (7), Cambridge Surprise 74 (55), Superlative 5 (5), Yorkshire 1 (1), 2 Spliced 2 (2).

Total: 1,797 (1,290).

HANDBELLS

Triples.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 42 (27).

Major.—Plain Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 6 (4), Double Norwich 8 (6).

Surprise Major.—New Cambridge 3 (3), Superlative 8 (5), London 5 (4), Bristol 3 (2).

Caters.—Stedman 48 (46).

Royal.—Kent Treble Bob 4 (2).

Cinques.—Stedman 41 (37).

Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob 2 (2).

Total: 172 (138). Grand total: 1,969 (1,428).

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THE TOWER OF JACK GOLDSMITH'S EARLY RINGING AND HIS COMPANIONS

By **GEORGE P. ELPHICK**

(Continued from page 190)

OUR last instalment concluded with the formation of the Southover Church Bell-ringers' Guild and the appointment of Jack Goldsmith as hon. secretary. The deputy captain was William Pelling, who came from a family of ringers. Like Jack Goldsmith, 'Bill' Pelling's father was a ringer and parish clerk of Chailey, about eight miles north of Lewes. He was born in 1862, and as a lad learned to chime a bell and eventually could chime three—one in each hand and one by a foot. About this time Chailey had a strong change-ringing band. He left Chailey at the end of September, 1891. The following year he joined the College Youths and came to Lewes about 1895. He rang one peal for the College Youths and 80 for the Sussex County Association.

Of the other first members, Tom Moppett was brother to the late George Moppett, who was elected two years later. George was the local baker, and long after he gave up active ringing he always occupied the position of chief carver at the Guild's annual dinners.

S. W. Shoesmith, or 'Steve' as he was usually known, rang his first peal on February 2nd, 1901, and another peal in the same method (Grandsire Triples) the following year. Alf Stedman was an odd-job man working for the Rector, William Baker a postman, George Richardson kept a confectioner's and general shop and Jack Hillman was a blacksmith.

MAYOR'S DAY

The Mayor's Day was the highlight of the civic year, and it transpires that by 1898 it was the established custom to ring the bells when the Mayor was elected. We are told that the bells were rung at mid-day and in the evening, and that the ringers were paid two guineas for doing so.

The first recorded outing of the newly-formed Guild was in 1899, when in July the towers of Hurstpierpoint and Steyning were visited, Seaford being visited the following year.

The next recorded outing was in 1906. A brake was hired from Chapmans and another from the old Bear Hotel. The towers of Wivelsfield, Burgess Hill, Hurstpierpoint and Ditchling were visited. Ditchling bells having been silent for several years, the ropes became decayed and resented the long pulls and the strong pulls of the Southover men, for they broke four out of the six ropes. Loughton, Hellingly and Hailsham were visited the following year by the same means. The series continued until 1913.

The annual outing as an institution was revived in 1919. In 1939 the foundry from which the bells came was visited as part of the centenary celebrations.

One of the best means of measuring the virility of a Guild is by the number of new ringers that join. In 1900 eight ringers were elected, among whom was W. H. Paris, an organist, who became master of the Chailey Union Workhouse. Also at the same time was H. H. Ebrall, a clerk by profession, who became hon. secretary in 1902, holding this office until he emigrated to Perth, Western Australia.

BAD ATTENDANCE

There are many references to the irregular attendance of members in the minute book. Things came to a head in 1900, for a special meeting was called on March 5th to consider the case of Mr. C. Parker, who only attended five times out of 43 possible attendances for service ringing between November and March. He was asked to resign. From the number of possible attendances given it would appear that the bells were rung more often than not three times on each Sunday. This would suggest morning, afternoon and evening services.

The first record of the Guild's annual meeting being opened with prayer occurred on October 8th, 1900, this being done by the recently-

appointed Rector, the Rev. D. Lee Elliott. During a discussion on reviving interest in change-ringing, the Rector offered to provide each member with a copy of 'Ropesight' if he did not already possess it, and also promised to award a medal to each ringer if a local band could ring a peal before the end of the year. This they failed to accomplish until 1902. The meeting passed a rule that the ringers should attend church at least once on a Sunday. Ringers, being what they are, did not fit in with the rule, and by January, 1901, the secretary was instructed to affix a paper on the notice board so that those attending service could enter their names. This rule appears to have wisely faded into the background.

CHRISTMAS BOXES

A custom that has now lapsed was the collection of Christmas boxes for the ringers, the collector invariably being given 5s. for his trouble. The object of the collection was to secure a better attendance of members. We read that the Christmas boxes collected in December, 1902, were shared out with great exactness, for members received six and one-seventh farthings for each attendance they had made. The Guild's register of attendance appears to have been commenced about this time. The collections continued until 1914; they were revived in 1919 and finally lapsed in 1923.

The year 1902 saw the young Guild on the top of its form, partly due, no doubt, to the encouragement it received from the Rector. On March 15th they rang the first peal on the bells by an entirely local band. It was conducted by R. J. Dawe, who called Parker's Twelve-Part of Grandsire Triples. The ringers were Stephen W. Shoesmith 1, John S. Goldsmith 2, Alfred S. Langridge 3, William Pelling 4, Richard W. Hoather 5, Alfred J. Turner 6, Robert J. Dawe 7, John F. Stedman tenor.

Southover ringers apparently were not going to rest on their laurels, for in the same year eight members were admitted to the Guild. Among them were the brothers Sturt—George and Frank—who were bakers. Frank rang his first peal on Boxing Day, 1902, his brother George on February 2nd the following year, both peals being Grandsire Triples.

In 1902 the new ringing floor was erected. The old wooden staircase was removed and an iron spiral staircase substituted. The first peal in the new ringing chamber was called on June 21st, 1902. To take off the bareness of the walls matchboard panelling was erected, also the peal boards rehung.

BEST SUITS SPOILED

The Guild's handbells had many adventures, for it is recorded that one Christmas, as the custom was, Jack Goldsmith and Alf Turner with others went to various villages calling on the gentry and ringing tunes and carols. For some reason or other, Jack and Alf became separated from the rest and found great difficulty in carrying the box containing the bells along the river bank in attempting to take a short cut home. What they did not know was that a day or so before the sludge had been dredged up on the bank. Of course the night was dark, the box was heavy, and to cap it all they had to wade through the mud and rushes deposited on the path, arriving home with their best suits ruined almost beyond repair.

By 1905 the bells were causing great anxiety to the steeplekeeper. A meeting was called, and Mr. John Thornton Rickman suggested that it would be a good opportunity to add two bells, making Southover the second tower in Sussex to possess a ring of ten. Mr. Rickman said it would cost £355 to carry out the suggested improvement, and that he and his mother would give the two trebles, leaving £120 to be raised by the parish. In the event of difficulty in raising this sum they would contribute between them another £60.

The order was given to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who made an excellent splice with the two trebles. They were rehung in a new

oak frame and the back eight bells were quarter turned. It was on Friday, February 23rd, 1906, that the bells were dedicated after Evening-song, there being a good company of ringers from surrounding towers present. Three weeks later a peal of Grandsire Caters was rung—the first 10-bell peal in the tower.

WOMEN RINGERS

The bell ropes were requiring attention in 1914, and at a meeting in September the churchwardens disclaimed responsibility. The ringers persisted in their request for new ropes, which were eventually supplied by the wardens in November, 1919. The war years of 1914-18 saw many changes. David Turner became steeplekeeper for a short time and was killed on active service, as well as Walter Moor and Wilfred Anson, son of the late rector. Lady ringers were introduced in 1916. They were the Misses Alice, A. and R. Ward, and they progressed as far as ringing rounds and call-changes.

On the announcement of the Armistice, Charlie Errey was the first ringer to reach the tower. He pulled all the bells off and let them lower themselves. It must have been a rather awe-inspiring sight with ten bell ropes uncontrollably flying through the air, as well as the din of clashing bells. Jack's mother became treasurer of the Guild in 1919 and held office until her death on March 3rd, 1931.

Charlie Errey resigned the post of secretary on account of 'Old Father Time' in 1922, and in August was presented with a gold bell watch pendant, inscribed 'Southover Church Bell-ringers' Guild; Charles Errey, hon. secretary, 1914-22.' In the same year Bob Dawe became captain, a position he held until his death, and William Ward secretary for the next six years. Mr. C. J. Rugg, son of the late Ald. Rugg, a past Mayor of Lewes, was elected secretary in 1928, and it was he who revived the annual outings in 1930. The third local peal was rung on January 27th, 1932.—Grandsire Triples. The ringers were Alfred J. Turner treble, Cecil J. Rugg 2, John H. Crees 3, Alfred J. Morris 4, Douglas H. S. White 5, Richard C. Hide 6, Robert J. Dawe (conductor) 7, George P. Elphick tenor.

The Guild maintained its position through the years that followed, the two great events of the year being the annual dinner at the King's Head and the annual outing; until 1939, when the centenary of the back eight bells was celebrated by a visit to the Whitechapel Foundry where they were cast; and by special permission of the police, 100 leads of Grandsire Triples were rung, conducted by Jack Goldsmith, the founder of the Guild, followed, of course, by a dinner which was attended by many well-known members of the Exercise, the local ringers and their friends.

The Guild prepared for the difficult times that lay ahead by an intensive drive for new ringers. A band of ladies came forward and were taught both tower- and handbell ringing. By their aid the tower bells were kept going until the ban on tower bell ringing came. But Southover still kept the lamp alight, for change-ringing on handbells became part of the evening service until brighter days returned.

SAMUEL KNIGHT

Dear Sir,—The sixth paragraph of the article dealing with Southover bells in our Jubilee issue should read: 'Samuel Knight at his celebrated foundry.' The words: 'took over the Whitechapel Foundry' should never have been written. My apologies, especially to Mr. A. A. Hughes.—Yours sincerely,

GEORGE P. ELPHICK.

Lewes.

Miss Mikaela Erik has rung each of her 25 peals with Mr. Derek E. Sibson. Her 25th peal at St. Olave's, Hart Street, on March 18th, was also the 25th together by Mr. Sibson and Mr. Michael R. Rose.

OBITUARY

THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY

Since the foundation of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers, in 1882, the Guild has had only three presidents: the Earl Nelson, Capt Acland (earlier known as John E. Troyte, editor of the revised edition of Troyte's 'Change Ringing,' and the Earl of Shaftesbury, who held the office for just over forty years.

The death of the last-named on Lady Day, at the ripe age of 91, will be keenly felt by all members of the Guild. No one could have graced the presidency with more dignity than he. A fine type of English gentleman of the old school his aristocratic bearing—in which no trace of patronage was ever met—and the sincerity of his eloquence, backed by a devout churchmanship, left everyone easy and happy in his presence. Up to 12 years ago until illness intervened he was no sleeping partner in the Guild's activities. With all his manifold commitments he was to be seen at many of the annual festivals and found time to be present at some Branch meetings. Nothing would satisfy him until he had mastered the handling of a bell himself and it was our joy, no less than his, when he could share in the ringing with us. The ring of eight at his own tower, Wimborne St. Giles', was his especial pride.

To such a personality the Guild owes a volume of gratitude and it is safe to say that the inspiration received from him has sustained it through many adversities and been the—perhaps unrealised—background of its progress.

We commend his soul to the keeping of his beloved Master and pray that he may be granted the reward of life and light eternal.

C. CAREW COX.

Shaftesbury. Master, Salisbury Guild.

MR. CHARLES W. BIRD

The death occurred, at St. Mary's Hospital, Kettering, on March 15th, of Charles W. Bird, after a short illness, at the age of 74.

Mr. Bird was a ringer at Kettering Parish Church for 58 years and a member of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild since its formation. He was one of the last remaining members of the band which, under the leadership of the late David J. Nichols, became one of the best in the Midlands between 1900 and 1930, ringing many peals at Kettering and surrounding towers on eight and ten bells.

His first peal was one of Bob Minor at Kellmarsh on December 20th, 1905, and his final total was about 160, all on tower bells, and ranging from Grandsire Doubles to London Major and Cambridge Royal. He was not a conductor, and possibly never called a bob in his life, for, as he used to say, there were plenty of others keen to call in his young days and he never needed to bother.

In 1912 he became a member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, and rang a peal with the Society in that year at St. Anne's, Highgate.

Being a farmer until 1940, for many years he made an annual visit to the Smithfield Show, and invariably managed to get in a peal, or other ringing, with the late William Pye or Charles Coles. One of which he was particularly proud was Cambridge Royal at St. Clement Danes' in 1925, and he never tired of telling of his visits to the belfry at St. Paul's Cathedral.

A man of great patience, he was particularly good with beginners in the early stages, and the writer remembers with gratitude the help given to him when he first embarked upon learning to handle a bell. Though he never became reconciled to the Catholic teaching and practice at Kettering after 1911, Mr. Bird was always to be seen at Evensong on Sundays and was a sidesman for many years.

His beloved wife predeceased him by about ten years, and having had no children his last years were years of loneliness, when ringing was his greatest pleasure.

Several of his former colleagues were present at his funeral on March 20th, and the bells he cared for as steeplekeeper for so many years were rung half-muffled to his memory in the evening.

May he rest in peace.

P. I. C.

AN INSIDE STORY OF EARLY ISSUES

By JOHN H. GOLDSMITH
(son of the founder)

I was delighted to have the golden jubilee issue of 'The Ringing World' and I am very grateful to you for sending me a copy. It took me back to the milestones on the 'R.W.' road, between 1911 and 1942.

I can remember quite clearly, even at this distance in time, the launching of the first issue, when as a small boy barely seven years old the pile of wrapped copies ready for the post seemed a mountain of at least a million. And I remember even before that—it must have been a Sunday, I think—when my father and mother spent the whole day addressing envelopes to potential subscribers, announcing the new journal. And, as small children often do, I sensed that something was afoot that was supremely important to my parents. I still remember those milestones.

I remember, too, that when I was about 12 years old I began to address the postal wrappers for the 'R.W.' and was paid sixpence a week for the job. What a job it was! The book of addresses, arranged alphabetically, seemed as long and as large as the family Bible. I remember what a tremendous effort of will it was to settle down at the kitchen table with address book, a pile of wrappers and some pen carbons (I did two weeks' supply at a time) knowing that I simply had to finish the lot 'before bed-time tomorrow night.'

My handwriting was never good: it became unreadable by the time reached letter 'S.' I hated the 'S' list because there were more subscribers under this letter than any other, although 'W' ran it close. I can still recall the heart-lightening relief with which I reached the 'free list' which came last in the book.

'THE MOOR'

Denis—

We know you're very poor,
You'd have shouted, your greetings
Up to 'The Moor.'

From 'Three Well-upholstered Friends,' St. John's, Cumberland.

My friends, I read your message well,
And wondered who had sent it;
I fancy 'twas Miss Vera Bell—
She thought I'd ne'er ha' kent it!

And Eleanor, too, was in the scheme,
And also there was Edna;
But, though I understood your theme,
A point or two I didna.

Ye sent it frae 'The Moor,' ye say,
But leave to folks' opinion
Whether ye mean up Cleator way,
Or Princeton's dark dominion!

Another thought has just occurred—
Perhaps 'the Mare' ye're thinkin',
Where ye went back upon your word,
And didna join our drinkin'.

Does 'well-upholstered' mean a girth
(I trust he will excuse it)
To equal that of auld John W.—?
Right well then could ye lose it!

Farewell then, friends, my kind regards,
Pray think me not a menace:
Nae doubt ye've guessed what sent these
words:
'Twas rhyming, rantin' Denis.

JENKINS DELIGHT

As I cam' down frae Oldham town,
I chanced to meet wi' Teddy:
Said I to he: 'Are ye for a brie?'
Said he: 'I'm always ready.'
(brie=brew)

My father was obliged, as you may well understand, to check my work. This was usually done late on Wednesday night—publishing day was Thursday—and what he had to say to me next morning was both private and very much to the point. But, as you and hundreds of his friends will recollect, he was a man of almost infinite patience: he always paid up.

I well remember some of the names you print in the golden jubilee number—the first issue subscribers—and I used to know their addresses by heart. For example, the Rev. Canon C. Carew Cox, A. W. Coles, J. T. Dyke, Frank Hairs, A. C. Hazelden, A. B. Peck and Ernest Morris, and Albert Walker (the first of the 'Ws'). And, of course, others, for example, Jim Trollope, Bert Hughes and Rupert Richardson. And then, of course, there was that slightly remote, elevated and august hierarchy known as the College Youths. As a boy, I could never quite see why they were called 'Youths'; they all looked very old to me.

As I grew older—and by the age of 16 or 17, one begins to know and understand adult motives—I saw that the 'R.W.' and all it stood for was my father's consuming passion: other events, his livelihood and the pattern of living were moulded above all by the requirements of 'The Ringing World.' Only a single-minded devotion to his paper and to the Exercise could have overcome the difficulties—both private and professional—which constantly took toll of his energies. He had a very good mind; but I suppose the qualities which brought him so many warm friendships were his humanity, tolerance and sympathy. He was a respecter of persons, whoever they were, and he himself was untainted by so much as a thread of false dignity.

He cared little for his outward appearance and usually had his hair cut only when we had told him that he simply could not go to a meeting 'with his hair as long as that.' But what did that matter: he loved ringing. Not least among the sacrifices he made on account of my mother's health—and I never once heard him utter a word of complaint—was that he was obliged to forgo many of the peals in which he could have taken part. And this was so for as long as I can remember.

I was never really interested in ringing. If this was ever a disappointment to my father he never said so nor did he ever try to persuade me to take it up; that he took a liberal view of other people's inclinations was obvious in his relations both with his family and with the great variety of people and opinions with whom he dealt as editor of the 'R.W.'

One's private recollections of a lifetime range over the whole spectrum of feeling—proud, happy, sad, poignant—but at this moment of writing to you I am both proud and grateful that my father's memory is still so widely and so affectionately held among ringers. Every good wish to them and to 'The Ringing World.'

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX
GUILD

The March meeting was held at All Souls', Haley Hill, a tower not visited by the Guild for many years. Ringing began at 2.30 p.m. and continued until 8.30, with a break for a service, tea and a business meeting, and ring-from rounds for the numerous learners present, to Surprise Major. The ringing was reasonably good.

At the meeting, tribute was paid to the work of the Rev. Arthur Minns, who died recently at Chester. While living in Halifax he gave a great deal of time and effort to the work of the Guild and was, in fact, a strong force in its foundation.

Next meeting at Cross Stones, Todmorden, May 6th.

D. S.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

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

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

Displayed: 7/6 per single column inch.

No guarantee of insertion after Monday, first post.

BIRTHS

CHAPMAN.—On April 1st, 1961, at 50, High Street, Daventry, to Pat and Joan, a son (Dominic Julian). 7982

ECCLES.—On Saturday, March 25th, 1961, to Roland and Dorothy (nee Schofield), of 53, Alexandra Road, Sale, a daughter (Alison Karen). 7957

ENGAGEMENTS

HARRIS—MAYES.—The engagement is announced between Peter Richard, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Harris, of Ipswich, Suffolk, and Jill, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Mayes, Clifton, Beds. 7971

ROAF—HUGHES.—The engagement is announced between Dermot, eldest son of Dr. D. Roaf, of Oxford, and Caroline, eldest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. A. H. Hughes, of Gerrards Cross. 7978

VERNON—WILCOX.—The engagement is announced between Elizabeth Anne, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Wilcox, of Priesthills Road, Hinckley, and John, twin son of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Vernon, of Stoney Stanton, Leicestershire. 7943

DEATH

LINTERN.—On March 23rd, 1961, at St. Peter's Hospital, Shepton Mallet, Albert James Lintern, aged 82. 8001

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of John A. Smith, secretary of the National Police Guild, is now Police House, Leicester Road, Thurmaston, Leicester, telephone Anstey 2614. 7987

From March 31st the address of George Roobottom, Newchurch, will be Mackley House Farm, Sudbury, Derby. Phone Sudbury 283. All ringers welcome as usual. 8002

PERSONAL

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SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Latest annual report (revised edition) now available at 2s. each. Also few previous years' at 1s. each.—C. M. Smith, 'Fosseway,' Talbot Avenue, Streethay, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire. 7968

MISCELLANEOUS

SURPRISE PRACTICES.—Ash, April 10th, methods: Canterbury, Carlisle, Cuneastre, Flamstead, Sedlescombe, Wells, Holy Trinity, Guildford, April 20th, methods: Bristol, London, Superlative, Yorkshire. 7981

WANTED.—Suitable for binding, copy of 'Ringing World,' No. 2588 (November 25th, 1960). State price required; out of print.—D. T. Matkin, 26, Wellington Road, Bournemouth. 7951

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MEETINGS

CHESTER GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Meeting at Bowdon, April 8th, with Grappenhall Branch. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. For tea, please advise Mr. A. J. Brown, 30, Priory Road, Bowdon.—C. K. Lewis. 7951

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Derby, Saturday, April 8th. Bells: St. Alkmund's (8) 2.15-3.15 p.m., Cathedral (10) 3.15-4.15. St. Peter's (8) 4.4.30 and after meeting. Committee meet, St. Peter's Parochial Hall, 3.45. Service in St. Peter's Church 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Note: Have a thought for the caterers and send in names for tea to Mr. A. Mould, 22, Silver Lane, Elvaston, Derby.—B. P. Morris. 7925

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EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Saturday, April 8th, meeting at Merstham. Tea at the Golden Wheel Cafe. Names to Mr. A. Cheasley, 20, High Street, Merstham, by 6th. Nutfield in evening.—C. A. Bassett. 7933

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Evening meeting at Haddenham, Saturday, April 8th. Bells (6) 5.30 until 8.30 p.m.—D. F. Murfit, Dis. Sec. 7936

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Peabmarsh (6), on Saturday, April 8th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Mr. G. Trendell, Manor House, Peabmarsh. 7889

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.W. District.—Quarterly meeting, Epping, April 8th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Miss B. McClelland, 1, Beulah Road, Epping. 7898

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Meeting at Horsell, Saturday, April 8th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Miss P. Drury, 2, Manor Road, Horsell, Woking, Surrey. 7945

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Hertford, on Saturday, April 8th. Service at St. Andrew's 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at St. Nicholas' Hall (adjoining) 5 p.m. Special business: resolution to alter Rules 8 and 13. Ringing arrangements: Aston (6), Benington (8) 9.30-11.30 a.m.; Little Munden (6) 10.30-12 noon; Braughing (8) 11-1 p.m.; Great Amwell (6), Widford (6), Hunsdon (8) 2.3.45; Hertingfordbury (6), Bengeo (8), All Saints' (10) 2.30-4; St. Andrew's (8) 3.4.30. All Saints', St. Andrew's, Bengeo, Hertingfordbury and Great Amwell after meeting. Names for tea must be sent to A. R. Agg, 76, Wymondley Road, Hitchin. (Telephone 3612.) 7863

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—(General body).—Saturday, April 8th, St. Mary's Church Road, Leyton. (Central London Underground—Leyton Station.) Ringing 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business in Parish Hall 5. Further ringing 6.30 to 8 p.m. Names for tea please. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 53, The Grove, Isleworth, ISL 3921.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—Practice meeting, Garboldisham, Saturday, April 8th. Bells (6) 6 to 9 p.m.—C. F. W. Philippo, Hon. Sec. 7885

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Brigstock (5), April 8th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea, please.—L. Witten, 4, John Street, Thrapston, Kettering, Northants. 7956

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Quarterly meeting, April 8th, Kingsbury. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Please notify for tea.—G. E. Fearn, 92, Etwell Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28. Phone SPR 1025. 7888

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Ecclesfield, 3 p.m., Saturday, April 8th. Names for tea, please, to Mr. L. Smith, 3, Park Crescent, Ecclesfield.—J. Seager, Sec. 7910

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Annual meeting, April 8th, at Nottingham. St. Mary's bells (10) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., in St. Mary's Church Rooms, for those notifying Mr. S. Adams, 54, Wilford Road, Ruddington. Business meeting follows tea.—J. W. Raithby, Gen. Sec. 7899

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Annual general meeting, Ipswich, Saturday, April 8th. Bells: St. Mary-le-Tower (12) 2.15-3.45 and 7-9 p.m., St. Margaret's 3-4.30 and 7-9, Rushmere 3.15-4.15, St. Matthew's 7-9. Service, St. Margaret's, 4.30. Tea, Ipswich Co-op, 5.15. Business meeting, Diocesan House, immediately after tea. Committee meeting, St. Mary-le-Tower Room, 3 p.m. Names for tea.—J. W. Blythe (Gen. Sec.), 29, Holton Road, Halesworth, Suffolk. 7942

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Ruspur, Saturday, April 8th, not April 1st, as advertised. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., to those who notify Mrs. E. L. Hairs, Norman Cottage, Park Corner, Groombridge, T.N. 438. 7893

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Practice meeting at Wisborough Green (6), on Saturday, April 8th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to E. W. Keys, 'Greystones,' Salthill Road, Fishbourne, Chichester, by previous Wednesday. 7931

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Quarterly meeting, Swanmore, Saturday, April 8th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. A. Sturgess, 4, Potters Avenue, Fareham. 7924

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Old Alresford, on April 8th. Bells (6) available 2.45 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to P. Dickinson, Riverbank Cottage, Cheriton, near Alresford, Hants. 7935

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Oxford, Saturday, April 15th. Ringing arrangements: St. Ebbe's (8) 10.30-12 noon. All Saints' (8) 11-12.30 p.m., New College (10) 11-12.30, Magdalen College (10) 2.30-4, Merton College (8) 2.30-3.30, St. Mary-the-Virgin (6) 3.30-5, Christ Church (12) 3.30-5, St. Giles' (8) 3.45-5.15. Luncheon 12.45 for 1 p.m., at the 'Forum Restaurant,' High Street, for those who notify Mr. Philip Walker, 66, Fairacres Road, Oxford, by April 8th. Please remit cash (10s.) with application. Business meeting in St. Giles' Parish Room, Woodstock Road, 5.15 p.m.—John Chilcott, 42, Lavender Road, West Ewell, Surrey. 7892

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Quarterly meeting, Backwell, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Divine service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Names by April 13th, please.—D. G. Yeo, 'Estune,' Brockway, Nailsea. 7958

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Ashbrittle, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea, please.—A. H. Reed, 'Mimosa,' George Street, Taunton. 7967

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Radstock (6), Saturday, April 15th. Usual arrangements.—E. Chivers, Chilcompton. 7979

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Glaston Branch.—Meeting, Croscombe, Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting. Notify for tea by Tuesday, 11th.—W. Marsh, 4, Dovecotes, Street. 7984

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Meeting, Husbome Crawley, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names by 13th to Mr. R. Churchill, 33, Turnpike Road, Husbome Crawley. 7973

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Monthly meeting, North Ferriby, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by April 13th, to Rev. J. H. Armstrong, The Vicarage, North Ferriby. 7962

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—First quarterly meeting, St. Peter's (8). Macclesfield, Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to H. C. Loryon, 8, Cardigan Close, Macclesfield. 7918

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Church Minshull, April 15th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by April 12th. No name no tea.—W. Kerr, 107, Moreton Road, Crewe. 7972

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—St. Bridget's (8). West Kirby, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea free for those notifying by Wednesday previous.—Alexander J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 7998

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting, St. Oswald's (10). West Hartlepool, Saturday, April 15th.—P. Wishart, Hon. Sec. 8000

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting on Saturday, April 15th, at Stratford-on-Avon. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 5.30. Tea 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. The agenda contains important matters which concern you so please attend. Names for tea would be appreciated (as this is at a cafe), by April 12th, to L. J. Garner-Hayward, 8, Orchard Crescent, Coventry. 7904

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—Monthly meeting, Staveley, Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—A. B. Cooper. 7994

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting, Saturday, April 15th. Lanchester. All Saints' 2.30 p.m. Names to Mr. H. Thompson, Hallgarth Terrace, Lanchester. 7966

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Denver (6), Saturday, April 15th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. (own food), cups of tea provided.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 7993

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting, Eynesbury, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. (Parish Room, Eynesbury), followed by meeting.—M. J. Dyer, Dis. Sec. 8003

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—Meeting, Chipping Sodbury (6), Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea and service.—B. T. Cooper, Rangers House, Dursley. 7975

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—St. Michael's (8), St. Albans, Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names, please, to J. D. Chamberlain, 3, Milehouse Lane, St. Albans.—M. A. Coburn, Dis. Sec. 7976

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting at Rainham, Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by previous Wednesday, please, to Mrs. F. C. Cheal, 49, Ivy Street, Rainham. 7938

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting, St. John's Parish Church (8), Blackpool, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided.—J. F. Turner. 7996

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD (Loughborough District) and **MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.**—Joint meeting, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, April 15th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—C. W. Hall and J. W. Cotton. 7960

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Lubenham, on Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for outing on June 17th and deposit of 10s.—L. W. Allen. 7986

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Bicker, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45 p.m. Names for tea by April 11th, to Mr. A. Bennett, Bicker, Boston. 7917

LONG SUTTON, SOMERSET.—Dedication, by the Master of the Bath and Wells Association, of the 'Flo Field' Memorial Treble on Saturday, April 15th, at 3 p.m. Tea 4. Ringing after tea till 9 p.m. Numbers for tea by previous Wednesday, to Mrs. Lewis, The Forge, Long Sutton, Langport (L.S. 301). Definitely no name no tea. National buses 12.30 p.m. ex Taunton and 12.30 p.m. ex Yeovil stop at Church. 7745

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Meeting, Aylsham (10), on Saturday, April 15th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Method for practice, Double Norwich Caters. Names for tea by the 13th to Mr. J. Pumphrey, 14, Buxton Road, Aylsham, Norwich (NOR 07 Y).—C. Bird, Hon. Sec. 7929

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Interim meeting to be held at Great Ryburgh, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to G. Cooke, 24, Back Street, Hempton, Fakenham. Please note alteration of date.—C. Tovell, Sec. 7932

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Hurst on Saturday, April 15th, at 6 p.m. Special method for practice, Double Norwich.—B. C. Castle. 7990

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Meeting, Shenington, Saturday, April 15th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45 p.m. Names for tea by April 11th to C. Clarke, Deddington, Oxford. 7921

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—Meeting, Oakham (8), Saturday, April 15th. 3 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday previous to W. C. A. Clark, Middle Street, Wing, Oakham. 7977

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, Wolstanton.—On Saturday, April 15th, an open invitation is extended to all ringers to ring the bells of the above church from 6 to 9 p.m. Convenient buses to all parts from the church.—D. R. W. 7914

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—Meeting, Powerstock (6), on Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Numbers for tea, please.—Barrett, 120, Gerrards Green, Beaminstor, Dorset. 7980

SUFFOLK GUILD.—North West District.—Ringing meeting, Elveden (8), Saturday, April 15th. Bells 2.30 to 9 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting follows. Names for tea, please, to Mr. J. Paul, 127, Brandon Road, Elveden, near Thetford. 7940

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Reigate, on April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting, in Parish Hall, Lesburn Road. Notifications for tea by April 11th, to A. Streeter, 4, Maple Road, Earlswood, Surrey.—R. I. F. Parsons, Gen. Sec. 7944

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Shoreham (8), Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify numbers by Wednesday, April 12th.—George North, 11, Richmond Terrace, Brighton. 7970

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—South West Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Revelstoke, Saturday, April 22nd. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea (2s. 6d. each) 5 p.m. Names for tea by 17th to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth. 7944

HALIFAX ASSOCIATION.—Ringing meeting, Armitage Bridge, Saturday April 22nd. No cafes—bring own teas.—A. Farrand, Hon. Sec. 7908

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Quarterly meeting at Hythe, Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. W. J. Bidnell, 'Kenora,' London Road, Hythe, by previous Thursday. Annual reports, certificates of memberships, badges, programmes, etc., all then available.—C. T. H. 7941

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—The District annual dinner will be held at the Village Hall, Thurnby, on Saturday, April 22nd, at 6 p.m. Ringing at Thurnby and Stoughton (4) from 4.15 to 5.45 p.m. Tickets, price 5s., by April 17th, please, from Mr. H. L. Wykes, 81, Main Street, Bushby, Leicester.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Billingborough, on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, 17th, to Rev. C. F. Ward, The Vicarage, Billingborough, Sleaford, Lincs.—F. G. Vickers, Hon. Sec. 7991

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Branch.—Meeting, Ranworth, Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to me, please, by Wednesday, April 19th, at 23, Barnard Avenue, Great Yarmouth.—P. G. W. Newstead, Branch Hon. Sec. 7952

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Yattendon, Saturday, April 22nd. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, April 18th, to C. Kent, Church Cottage, Yattendon. Ringing after tea: Hampstead Norris and Compton. 7997

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, April 22nd, Codford St. Peter's. Bells 3-4.45 p.m. Tea 5. The George, for those who notify by 18th. Service 6.30 p.m.—Heytesbury, and ringing after.—Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury. 7989

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Frampton, on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 5 p.m., followed by meeting. Sydling bells available after meeting. Names for tea by Wednesday, April 19th, to Mr. F. J. Watts, 3, Church Lane, Frampton, Dorchester, Dorset. 7999

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, Boughton-under-Blean, Saturday, April 29th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Inclusive charge for tea and transport from church to Village Hall 2s. 6d. Names, together with cash, please, by April 25th to Mr. S. F. J. Harris, Bridge Cottages, Brenley, Boughton, Faversham. 7974

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Liverpool, April 29th. Towers available: Liverpool Cathedral (12) 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Our Lady and St. Nicholas' (12) 2 to 3.30 and 6 to 8 p.m., St. Francis Xavier (R.C.) (8) 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m., St. Mary's, Walton (8) 10.30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Emmanuel, Everton (8) 10.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. It would be desirable if local ringers could be in attendance to meet visitors. Service to be held in Liverpool Cathedral at 3.45 p.m. Tea at 4.15 p.m. (4s. per head) at the Cathedral. Names for tea, together with money, to Mr. J. H. Wilton, 30, North Linkside Road, Woolton, Liverpool, by Tuesday, April 25th. Tower secretaries are asked to make block orders for their towers and to send stamped, addressed envelopes with their requests. Note: Tea will only be available to persons in possession of a ticket. Meeting to follow at approximately 5 p.m. at the Cathedral. 7963

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual festival, St. Michael's, Macclesfield, Saturday, May 13th. Service 4 p.m. Preacher, the Ven. T. Clarke. Tea 5 p.m., in the Stanley Hall Annexe, Castle Street, followed by business meeting. Tickets for tea 4s. each if purchased before May 8th. 4s. 6d. afterwards, obtainable from Mr. H. C. Loryon, 8, Cardigan Close, Macclesfield and Branch secretaries. Towers available: St. Michael's (12) 2-4 p.m. and after the meeting, Christ Church (10), St. Peter's (8) and Sutton (6) 2-3 p.m.—Henry O. Baker, Gen. Sec. 7965

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