



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

No. 2703 Vol. LIX

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1963

Registered at the G.P.O. for 8d.
transmission as a newspaper.

THE OLDEST EXISTING RING OF EIGHT

By RANALD W. M. CLOUSTON

THE recent correspondence in 'The Ringing World' on the rings of eight at Bishop's Canning, Wilts, and Merton College, Oxford, only gives part of the story of the early octaves in this country. Mr. F. Sharpe, in Part X of 'The Church Bells of Berkshire,' page 9, gives a list of the first octaves in a number of counties, but in some cases all or a few of the bells have been subsequently recast.

Gloucester Cathedral had an octave of bells in 1527, but it is not clear if they were hung for swinging. At about the same time Bristol Cathedral had a set of nine bells, and the slots in the frame make it fairly certain that they were swung. In both cases only three of the pre-Reformation bells remain.

The Bishop's Cannings octave was completed in 1602, but the late H. B. Walters, in his work on Wiltshire bells, records only four of the original bells remaining. Worcester Cathedral had a ring of eight in 1640 or 1643, and of these four ancient ones remain, at Didlington Church, Norfolk. By 1650 the Curfew Tower at Windsor had a ring of eight, and of these only the treble and fifth have subsequently been recast.

New College and Merton College, Oxford, both had early rings of eight cast by Michael Darbie, the former in 1655 and the latter in 1656. Of the former, four 1655 bells remain in the present ring of ten. The Merton ring of 1656 was entirely recast by Christopher Hodson in 1680 to give the present bells.

St. Laurence's, Reading, had a ring of eight in 1662 by Henry Knight, but all the bells were recast and made up to ten by Robert Catlin in 1748. Great St. Mary's, Cambridge, had two trebles to make eight added in 1667, but these were all recast into ten by Richard Phelps, of Whitechapel, in 1722-3.

Next in age is the ring of eight at Horham, Suffolk, by Stradbroke. The latest bell in the present ring is dated 1673, so this can be claimed to be the oldest existing ring of eight in England. The next oldest would appear to be the Merton College, Oxford, ring.

At Horham, as at Bishop's Cannings, there was an enthusiastic incumbent, one John Clubb. Of the present ring only two bells were cast before his time—the tenor of 1568 by John Brend, of Norwich (33½ in. diameter, about 7 cwt.), and the fifth of 1605 by John Draper, of Thetford. At the Reformation the church had four bells, and the frame for these four still remains and shows that at one time it housed a bell larger than the present tenor. It is not clear how many bells there were in the tower when John Clubb

came to the parish; the earliest bell bearing his name is the fourth, cast in 1658, probably at the Brends' Norwich foundry. This was during the Commonwealth, and Clubb is described as 'Clerke' with three other words filed off.

In 1663, John Darbie, of Ipswich, recast the sixth and seventh, and he or an assistant cast the three trebles—the treble dated 1673 and the other two 1672. The Terrier of December 13th, 1672, records 'Eight bells, with frames, ropes, etc.', so it is probable that the present treble replaces a slightly earlier bell. John Clubb died in 1693, and left 6s. 8d. to be given to the poor on Plough Monday, a charity which still remains.

The bells as they hang now with their peculiar gear make a visit to them one of particular interest, though alas they are now unringable. The 4-bell frame had a pit parallel to each wall and a central opening for hoisting the bells through. Fortunately there was enough room to make two pits by the west wall, using an additional side frame. The end of the seventh bell pit was cut off by the wall and the second bell hung in the resulting opening. The fourth bell was hung in the central opening, the bearings being set up on blocks as the pit was not long enough. This fitting bells in where space permitted resulted in a peculiar rope circle in the ringing chamber; clockwise it is 1, 5, 6, 4, 3, 2, 7, 8.

Only the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh are maiden bells, and they are moderately well in tune with one another. The tenor, which has for some reason been flattened by chip tuning, is now over half a semitone too flat compared with them. The third is about correct and the two trebles are about a quarter of a semitone too flat. These latter are quite small, 20½ in. diameter, say 2 cwt., for the 7 cwt. tenor. Only the tenor has ever been quarter turned.

Quite a bit of the gear is of some age. The fifth and tenor to this day only have three-quarter wheels; this must now be extremely rare in a ring of bells. The clappers all hang from cast-in staples, except in the treble where a false one has had to be fitted; they are all without exception far too long, ranging from 1¼ in. excess in the tenor to ½ in. in the sixth.

The gudgeon pins on the sixth and seventh are just driven into the stocks and hooped, and are not bolted to them in any way. On the treble the pins are recessed into the top of the stock and bolted through to the bottom, the reverse of normal. The fourth, which hangs over the hatchway, has curved metal guards fitted to the frame just below the bearings. If a gudgeon pin snapped, the hoop on the end of the stock in falling would catch on the metal guard and would prevent the bell falling through the frame. This feature is quite rare.

(Continued on page 91)

LEADING PEAL RINGERS OF 1962

Second List

Because of the indisposition of the Editor last Monday week, certain of the leading peal ringers of 1962 were omitted from our last issue (page 75). Others have been received since we went to press. Mr. B. S. Payne is now the leading handbell ringer for the year, and not Mr. R. D. Smith as announced last week. The additions are:—

	Tower	Hand	Total
B. Stedman Payne	36 (6)	29 (22)	65
Geo. E. Thoday	57 (16)	—	57
Michael W. Brown	46 (13)	2	48
Rupert A. Clarke	20	21 (5)	41
F. Shalleross	41 (8)	—	41
Brian J. Wyld	39	—	39
Stanley E. Bennett	38	—	38
Malcolm D. Barsby	22	15 (1)	37
David F. Moore	17 (1)	20 (2)	37
Ronald C. Noon	35 (24)	—	35
Edwin T. Chapman	34 (3)	—	34
Brian Harris	34 (5)	—	34
Maurice R. A. Kirk	33 (7)	—	33
John R. Cooper	31 (1)	—	31
Donald F. Murfet	30	—	30
Cyril R. Burrell	28 (5)	—	28
John C. Baldwin	25 (6)	1	26
David Hilling	26	—	26
Albert W. A. Leggett	26	—	26
John E. Allen	25	—	25
W. L. Weller	25	—	25

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

To All Secretaries Of Affiliated Associations

Affiliation fees for 1963 are now due and should be forwarded without delay. Cheques and postal orders made payable to 'The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers' and no. to me personally, please.

Will secretaries who have not already done so please forward names and addresses of representatives for the 1963-65 session, together with certified membership in accordance with Rule 5 (i) (a), as renumbered.

E. A. BARNETT,
Hon. Secretary.

LAUNTON HANDBELL RINGERS

The Launton Handbell Ringers were much in demand around Christmas, giving several recitals each week in December, and in one week six. They ranged from a carol recital in our parish church to distances up to a radius of 60 miles.

Besides the two TV. recordings we visited London on two other occasions. At the University we rang to students from 47 foreign countries, and at Cecil Sharp House we took part in the English Folk Dance and Song Society's annual Christmas concert. Here we rang six items in four-part harmony ourselves, and either provided the melody or the harmony for eight other items while the orchestra played the other parts. For all these recitals 76 bells were used, and on many occasions I gave a short talk also.

F. S.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS

Visitors from as far afield as Northants, Leicestershire and Derbyshire were in the company of 31 for the A.G.M. of the Society of Sherwood Youths, held at St. Mary's Church, Nottingham, on January 19th. They enjoyed a variety of methods there and at St. Peter's in the evening.

At the business meeting Mr. F. A. Salter was re-elected Master, and Mr. W. Nichols for his 25th year of office as treasurer. Mr. P. Nix was elected secretary in succession to Miss A. Henson, who was thanked by the Master for her work on behalf of the Society.

An outing is to be arranged, and the W. D. Crofts memorial dinner is to be revived and held in the evening of the next annual general meeting.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

North and East District

Despite the unfavourable weather prevailing in North London on January 12th. over 40 hardy enthusiasts braved the elements to attend the meeting of the North and East District at Upper Clapton, where the bells were put to good use in a variety of methods during the afternoon and evening.

The Church of St. John at Hackney was also visited prior to the service, which was held at St. Matthew's and was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Trevor Southgate, who is also president of the St. Matthew's Society of Voluntary Ringers. Mr. Stanley Coles was at the organ. In his short but inspiring address the Vicar extended a warm welcome to the Association. Tea followed in the new Church Parlour, tastefully decorated in pastel shades, arrangements being in the hands of Mrs. Charles Neal, Mrs. Dennis Neal and Miss Grove, of the local company.

The Vicar took the chair at the business meeting, at which the following new members were elected as ringing members: The Misses Patricia Rix, Sheila Moore, Theresa Langdon and Beryl Platt, of All Saints', Edmonton; R. Drew, R. Dyas, Miss E. French and Mrs. E. Speller, of St. John at Hackney; D. J. Duggan, R. Ash and D. Reeves, of St. Andrew's, Enfield. Four members of the Enfield band (Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Towers, J. R. Towers and M. R. J. Gander) had left the district, but still wishing to be associated with the Guild were transferred to non-resident life membership.

The ratification of the prior tower election of the following as non-resident life members was made: David Bennett (Oxford), David Darby (Oxford), L. R. H. Smith (Ifield) and J. V. Clark (Workshop). Mr. David P. B. Miles was also elected as a N.R.L. member.

Reference was made to the passing of Mr. W. J. Bowden, of Southgate, a valued and respected member of the Association since 1912. During his early days he was attached to Edmonton, but later joined the Southgate band, where he remained until his death. At the cremation service the Middlesex Association was represented by Mr. T. J. Lock, general secretary.

Visitors were present at this meeting from places as far apart as Evercreech, Chalfont St. Giles, Oswestry, Sandridge, Hampton and Brighton.

Mr. H. G. Hart, District chairman, proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, the organist, the ladies who had prepared the tea, coupled with the names of C. F. Neal and J. Steele, and also to the Vicar of St. John at Hackney and to Mr. L. Hinkley for making the local arrangements at that church.

E. H. K.

A VISIT TO KELHAM

By permission of the Father Warden, arrangements were made for a representative of the Central Council to give a talk at the House of the Sacred Mission, Kelham, Newark, Notts, on January 26th.

A party of six set out from Rotherham Parish Church complete with projector, screen, handbells and various other paraphernalia piled into GVH 203 and left for Kelham, some 40 miles distant. A stop was made en route at Mansfield for a ring on the fine light eight, where the Southwell Guild were holding a meeting.

A few miles further on snow ploughs were encountered clearing huge drifts from roads recently impassable. At Kelham the party were met by Roger Davis, who quickly produced tea and biscuits and made the party comfortable.

After a conducted tour of the House, and attending Evensong in the unique chapel, the party were taken to the common room, where the talk and demonstrations took place. The students and brethren showed great interest in the illustrated talk and demonstrations, and a lively discussion followed before joining the community for the evening meal.

The visit proved enjoyable to both visitors and the hosts, giving both the opportunity to obtain an insight into each other's interests and activities.

N. C.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

St. Albans District

Considering the weather conditions (one member disappeared between the station and the church) a good number attended the annual District meeting at Hatfield Parish Church on January 19th. Ringing on the easy-going bells ranged from rounds to eight Spliced Major, a record for a District meeting, and included half a course of the special method, Cambridge Royal.

In the tea room the Rector, the Rev. J. Stowe, said that the service had had to be cancelled, owing to a breakdown in the antique church heating system. After prayers he helped the local ringers serve a delicious tea.

For the business Mr. H. V. Frost, the president of the Association, took the chair and asked the meeting to stand in memory of Messrs. H. E. C. Goodenough and S. E. Linsell, who had died during the previous year. It was agreed to hold the 1964 meeting at St. Albans. Four new members were elected—Messrs. R. L. Arnold, A. Peters, M. J. Sherrick and Miss G. Brearley.

In her report, the secretary said that the representation of towers at meetings had improved and that Sunday service ringing was being well maintained in most cases. However, the number of peals rung was low. She asked all members, especially those in the first flood of enthusiasm, to remember why they rang. In conclusion all those who had made the District activities possible were thanked. The statement of accounts showed that the Voluntary Bell Fund was in a very healthy state.

Mr. G. Dodds was elected Ringing Master and Mr. J. D. Chamberlain to the committee and 'R.W.' representative. Thanks were expressed to all the previous year's officers for their work, Mrs. M. A. Coburn, the secretary, being presented with a box of chocolates by Mr. J. G. Cull on behalf of the committee.

Much discussion took place on Coventry Cathedral v. Big Ben, as the object of the Lent outing on March 16th: Big Ben was selected. A summer car rally was also discussed. It was announced that Mr. Walter Ayre would give a talk on 'Bells and Ringing' at the meeting at St. Stephen's, St. Albans, on February 23rd. A vote of thanks was passed to the Rector and to the local ringers.

J. D. C.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION Cary Branch

Many members were unable to attend the annual meeting of the Cary Branch on January 26th due to the icy condition of the roads, but just over 20, including the general secretary, took part in the service in the parish church, which was conducted by the Rector, Rev. R. B. H. Kay. The lesson was read by Rev. O. H. Skipwith and the organist was Mr. Escudier.

Tea was followed by the business meeting, presided over by Rev. O. H. Skipwith in the absence of the Branch chairman.

Members stood in silence in memory of the following members of the Association who had passed away: L. A. Fudge, A. J. Lintern, A. Rapson and A. J. Whitehead.

The secretary in his report spoke of the success of the recently-started Branch practices, and of a slight increase in membership.

The Rev. G. S. Robinson was re-elected Branch chairman, and Rev. O. H. Skipwith vice-chairman. Mr. H. J. Sanger, who has been Ringing Master for 34 years, did not seek re-election, due to many other commitments. He was warmly thanked for his services, and Mr. D. M. C. Hill (Ditchat) was elected in his place. Mr. L. McCreadie was re-elected secretary and Mr. J. Gilbert (Long Ashton) was nominated as a Central Council representative.

The Rev. R. B. H. Kay (Wincanton) and A. C. A. Sellick (Evercreech) were elected associate members.

Subject to permission, meetings for 1963 will be at Barton St. David, West Camel, Horsington, and the next annual at Castle Cary, with practices at North Barrow and Batcombe.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector of Wincanton, the organist, the ladies who provided tea, and Mr. J. H. Chilcott for making the local arrangements.

SOCIETY OF RAMBLING RINGERS' 1962 TOUR

The tour began in Oxford and proceeded on a curved, westerly course to London, and ended, via Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk, at Cambridge.

The ringing and numbers attending ebbed and flowed. The first week was badly undermined, the first day being so poor that it would have been impossible to have rung more than Doubles. It was possibly fortunate that no one turned up at the scheduled towers to meet us. Numbers slightly increased during the week, but it was still only possible to ring ten bells with local assistance.

Friday saw the influx of members, and Spliced Surprise appeared for the first time, and by Saturday numbers had increased by such a degree that a shift system had to be rigorously applied. The focal point for this gathering was London, and the efforts of those who should have done better did not impress. Some of the fault must be with the first-weekers who were beginning to feel the heat and burden of the day. This was a great pity, for the Society is capable of a high standard of ringing.

After leaving London the ringing began to improve considerably, and Spliced Surprise Major in eight, ten and 12 methods began to roll out, interspersed with Redcliffe, Yorkshire and Cambridge Surprise Royal and Maximus, together with some excellent Grandsire, Stedman and Plain.

The final tower of the tour was, perhaps, suitably chosen—St. Benet's, Cambridge; and there we paid our respects to those who prepared for us the change-ringing we so much enjoy today.

This account of a three-week tour may seem brief, but to those that took part the memory of the tour with its highlights and yes, times of depression, will live again. It is good to have a tour of this nature, not only for the ringing but for the comradeship, humour and lasting friendship that grows from these ventures.

REUNION

The reunion of the Society was held on December 15th in Leicester. Ringing took place at All Saints', St. Margaret's, St. John's and the Cathedral. The dinner and meeting were held in the Golden Lion.

The meeting itself was fully in keeping with the Society—rambling! At length, order did evolve out of chaos, and the following were either elected or decided upon: President, Denis Mottershead; Ringing Master, John E. Cook; deputy Ringing Masters, Alan J. Frost and John H. Fielding; secretary, William A. Lacey; treasurer, Michael Vernon; and the reluctant member of committee Denis A. Frith. The subscription was raised to 5s. touring and 2s. non-touring, and the next reunion is to be in Manchester.

From the point of view of those attending it was a grand effort. However, it was supposed to be a reunion not only of those who are still active touring members but also of those who, for various reasons, can no longer come on tour. To those we make this plea—try to come to a reunion and make it worthy of its name.

W. A. L.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Melton District

The annual meeting of the Melton District took place at Melton on January 19th, when some 27 members and friends, including the president of the Guild, attended. The service was conducted by Canon Clark, followed by tea and meeting in the Blackeney Hall. Officers for the District were elected as follows: Chairman, Mr. F. Williams; secretary, Mrs. M. Stimson; committee, Mr. R. N. Cook and Miss B. Smith.

M. S.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Farnham District

A critical comment was made by Major E. J. Bragg, the retiring District Ringing Master, at the annual meeting of the Farnham District at Farnham on January 19th. He said that for many years Farnham was the leading District in the Guild for numbers and enthusiasm, but they were not so now. Lately there had been a dropping off in membership and attendances at meetings had been reduced. He suggested that the latter was due to too many meetings and practices—one nearly every other week.

Major Bragg recalled the successful peals—two at Farnham, another at Seale to mark the 70th birthday of Mr. Ernest Gardner who rang the tenor and 'completed the circle,' and one of Stedman Triples at Aldershot, the first in the method for all except the conductor (Mr. John Wells). Quarter peals had been numerous, particularly at Farnham and Farnborough.

The hon. treasurer (Mr. R. H. Mills) reported a decreased balance due to the District outing costing the funds £7. Paid-up membership was ringing 123, junior 34, honorary 23—a total of 180 compared with 194 last year. A silent tribute was paid to Mr. Harold Harris, captain of the Crondall company, who died last year.

District officers elected were: Ringing Master, Mr. T. Page (Aldershot); assistant Ringing Master, Mr. R. A. Clist (Yorktown); hon. secretary, Mr. D. P. Elsmore; hon. treasurer, Mr. R. H. Mills; Press correspondent and executive committee, Mr. A. D. Elsmore; hon. auditor, Mr. W. H. Viggers.

Mr. C. W. Denyer, in a report on the Cathedral bells, said the Cathedral authorities were leaving it to the diocesan ringers to find the money for the ten bells. It was intended to issue the Cathedral Bells Appeal after the Guild annual meeting.

The Guild's form of service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. R. Wilds) in Farnham Parish Church, and Mr. C. W. Denyer (churchwarden and vice-president) read the lesson; Mr. L. S. Cooke was the organist.

THE OLDEST EXISTING RING OF EIGHT

Continued

The sliders on the sixth and tenor are normal traditional type; the four trebles have horizontal bars in the side frames set at mid-waist and pivoted at the end away from the bell; a short stay engages the other end. The fifth and seventh have a horizontal sliding bar stapled to the lower cill members of the frame with a projection upwards on which the tip of the traditional stay engages and which is prevented from going too far either way by the staples.

Canon K. W. H. Felstead has kindly made available his records of peals rung here; they number three in the period since 1881.

5.056 Oxford Treble Bob Major.

2 hours 56 minutes, August 11th, 1888.

Conducted by F. Day.

5.184 Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

3 hours 1 minute, April 20th, 1908.

Conducted by E. Borrett.

5.088 Kent Treble Bob Major.

2 hours 45 minutes, January 19th, 1911.

Conducted by James Motts.

The tower was cracked in its east and west faces, and in 1908 Days, of Eye, installed a tie bar system. This trouble would not seem to have been the cause of ringing ceasing as a peal was rung three years later with Frederick Day, the bell-hanger, on the treble. A more likely cause was World War I and general decay of the fittings.

It is to be hoped that the bells will be overhauled and rehung in a new frame set lower in the tower. This will allow the existing frame and fittings to be preserved as objects of some interest.

Guildford District

Evidence of more activity in the Guildford District was forthcoming at the District annual meeting, held in St. Nicolas' belfry, Guildford, on January 26th. More towers were represented than for some years. It was with smiles that the hon. secretary (Miss Elizabeth Stevinson) was able to announce that there was only one tower (Hascombe) where there was no regular ringing. At Witley, Dunsfold and Stoke there had been a vast improvement. Miss Cherry White was in charge at Dunsfold and Mr. W. Savill was doing good work at Stoke.

The District Ringing Master's report made mention of 27 quarter peals being rung in ten different towers, and nine sharing in the conducting. Godalming was producing more ringing than ever before, and the monthly Surprise Major practices at Holy Trinity had been well attended.

The balance in hand was less as the result of the donation to Melbourne Cathedral Bell Appeal, and Mr. T. W. White mentioned the pleasure it gave Miss Monica Collins, a former District officer now in Melbourne, to know that her District was associated with the appeal.

Mr. Leslie Hunter was elected District Ringing Master in place of Mr. Harold A. May. Other elections were: Assistant Ringing Master, Mr. Stanley G. Ponting; hon. secretary and treasurer, Miss E. Stevinson; hon. auditor, Mr. J. Horstman; executive committee, Miss Cherry White and Mr. W. Savill.

The Guild Master (Mr. Douglas May) presided, and announced that the Guild's summer festival would be held in the Guildford District on June 22nd and the Guild dinner on October 12th.

In answer to questions, he said that the estimated cost of Guildford Cathedral bells, including frame and builder's work, was £7,250. The Pullen Memorial Bell would be the seventh of a ring of ten.

In reply to a question by Supt. R. J. C. Hagley, the Master said he would bring the question of the Revision of Rules before the executive. The superintendent maintained that the steps taken in promoting a ballot on the proposed merger of the Guild with the Surrey Association was out of order.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. H. A. May for his services as Ringing Master, to Rev. M. Hocking for conducting the service in Holy Trinity Church, to Mr. S. G. Ponting for acting as organist, and to Miss Stevinson for making the arrangements for so successful a meeting which attracted about 60 ringers.

OBITUARY

MR. J. A. TOMLINSON

We regret to record the death of Mr. Joseph A. Tomlinson suddenly on January 13th, at the age of 53. A native of Blackburn, he was taught to ring at St. Michael's by his father, and in 1920 he became a member of the Lancashire Association.

He later, with his father and son, joined the band of Blackburn Cathedral, where he was a regular and reliable ringer up to a few years ago, being forced into an early retirement due to ill health. He left a gap which has never been filled, for Joe, though a quiet and unassuming man, was ever ready to give help and advice to a learner.

The funeral took place on January 16th at St. Matthew's Church, Blackburn, prior to cremation at Pleasington Crematorium. In the evening of that day a half-muffled quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Cathedral ringers as a mark of respect, and to his memory.

CHURCH CLOCKS

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Letters to the Editor

Great Yarmouth, 1963

Dear Sir,—We wonder if any other members of the Central Council felt the same way as we did when they read the notice in 'The Ringing World' dated January 11th, 1963, regarding the arrangements for the Central Council meeting arranged for Great Yarmouth at Whitsuntide.

Our first reaction was why should we take the trouble to travel such a long journey (at our own expense as the Irish Association cannot afford to contribute towards their representatives' expenses) for such poor arrangements which have been officially announced by the hon. secretary of the Central Council?

No help has been given—as is usually done by the host Association—other than 'Fend for yourself, because of accommodation difficulties.'

It seems that Council members—at least those who intend being present—will have no option but to find accommodation many miles from Great Yarmouth. The position is one of 'disgust,' and in view of the importance of the occasion, viz. the triennial elections, something better is expected.

Is it too late for the chief officers of the Council to get their heads together and to change the venue to one where there are no accommodation difficulties? Otherwise the Great Yarmouth meeting will in all probability become a 'farce.' We are not advocating a suitable venue, but there seems to be much in favour of London district principally because of the importance of the meeting.

Can we have the views of other members before it is too late?—Yours faithfully,

FRED E. DUKES,

Irish Association. JOHN T. DUNWOODY,

More Explicit, Please

Dear Sir,—I would like to ask 'An Exasperated Ringer' who these 'illustrious ringers who are known to ring regularly at such towers as York Minster' are?

At York we only have the ordinary ringer who respects tradition and adapts himself or herself to local custom and practice when visiting other towers, to the best of individual ability.—Yours sincerely,

HAROLD WALKER.

Method Extension

Dear Sir,—Mr. Jelley may not know that the Methods Committee were ordered by the Council to define an Extension, and what they produced was the result of many years of experiments and research. They were certainly not blinded by science, and their work made it possible for the first time to say with authority whether a method was or was not a correct extension of another.

Mr. Jelley's figures of so-called Durham Surprise Major to Maximus introduce a front subsection (14-14) which does not appear in the parent Minor and cannot by any degree of imagination be interpreted as an 'extension'; it is something completely new. The Major Royal and Maximus themselves belong to one family with the Major as the parent. In York nothing is introduced in the higher numbers which is not in the parent.

Bourne and Norwich also extend to Maximus, and although his figures are correct there is another extension of Norwich of the 'expanding' type and can be identified as BX/E.

Obviously it was impossible to draw up such a formula understandable to everybody without illustrations, and if Mr. Jelley cares to call at the address below when in the London area, I (as one who helped to compile the report) will be happy to answer his questions.—Yours faithfully,

C. H. KIPPIN.

61, Southwood Road, Cove, Hants.

Middle-aged Novice's Pleasures

Dear Sir,—I should like Mr. Brueton to know that I am another middle-aged bellringing 'novice,' and how very much I enjoyed your recent article in 'The Ringing World,' particularly as my own experience has been so very similar to his.

I did at least have the purely theoretical advantage over him in that before I started I had some general knowledge of what goes on in a belfry (if only from having read some years ago 'The Nine Tailors,' by Dorothy Sayers, which I can thoroughly recommend), but otherwise I 'started from scratch' in the autumn of 1961, shortly after my 50th birthday.

I was encouraged to make the attempt by the enthusiasm of my younger daughter, who is now just 16 and has been ringing for nearly three years. I was warned by our tower captain (who gallantly agreed to try to teach me) that my progress would probably be slow. And how right he was! I don't wear glasses, otherwise I am sure they would have suffered the same fate as Mr. Brueton's, but pretty well everything else seemed to happen in the early stages!

I am told that our bells do not 'go' at all well (the frame is wooden and nearly 200 years old, so rehanging is very much in mind), which has perhaps slowed me up, but I have at last reached the stage where I can 'cover' after a fashion on the tenor for Grandsire and Stedman Triples.

It was, I suppose, about two months ago when I first felt that perhaps I had made some progress. There were about ten minutes left of practice time, when my colleagues suggested that I should 'help' them to ring a short touch of Stedman Triples. On looking round I realised with considerable concern that by then there were only eight of us left in the belfry, the other seven being all experienced ringers! However, I managed to get the tenor going to a reasonably steady rhythm, and they were afterwards kind enough to say that they thought there was hope for me yet!

Seriously speaking though, I do agree most wholeheartedly with the conclusions Mr. Brueton reached about ringing. In my own brief experience it has been brought home to me what a striking bond of friendship there is between ringers, and it doesn't seem to matter whether one happens to meet some of the leading exponents of the art or the merest beginners.

To Mr. Brueton I wish the best of luck in his further progress; perhaps we may meet in the same tower one of these days.—Yours sincerely,

ALLAN PEARCE.

Sevenoaks, Kent.

Oldest Octave

Dear Sir,—In the late Rev. William C. Pearson's book on rings of bells in East Anglia are details of the eight at Horham, Suffolk (now unringable), as follows:—

1. 1673, by Robert Gurney.
2. 1672, by Robert Gurney.
3. 1672, by Robert Gurney.
4. 1658, by John Brend, jun.
5. 1605, by John Draper.
6. 1663, by John Darbie.
7. 1663, by John Darbie.
8. 1665, by John Brend, sen.

It appears they originally were a ring of five cast between 1605 and 1668, with three trebles added in 1672 and 1673.

As none have been recast these might be considered the oldest intact octave in the county if not in the country.—Yours, etc.

G. E. SYMONDS.

57, Mornington Avenue,
Ipswich.

Southgate Surprise Major

Dear Sir,—Of late there seems to have been an increasing interest in Southgate Surprise Major (split-lead Superlative), which method is simple and more interesting than Superlative and is to be found in this year's Diary.

Although we have seen none of the compositions which have been rung recently, we think the following may have some claim to originality as it utilises one of the most interesting features of the method's falseness—or lack of it. It will be seen that by calling bobs at V-F the method is rendered CPS; furthermore, if a course of the type OOOXY is rung in full, then any course of the type OOOYX may be rung provided it is short (i.e., V-F). This feature allows a theoretical extent of approximately 11,500, with the tenors together externally, but this length cannot be had using one type of call only.

The appended compositions may be found of interest; they have been kindly checked by one conversant in these matters who pronounces them to be true.

5,088 W V-F M H 2 3 4 5 6

		X				6 4 5 2 3
		X				3 5 2 6 4
—				3		6 3 2 5 4
2	X	—				6 2 5 3 4
	X					4 5 3 6 2
	X					2 3 6 4 5

Twice repeated.

June 10th, 1962.

8,640 V-F M H 2 3 4 5 6

2X	—					2 5 4 6 3
X	—					6 3 4 2 5
5X	—					4 6 3 2 5
5X	—					3 4 6 2 5
4X	—					4 5 3 6 2
X	—					2 3 6 4 5

Twice repeated.

December 29th, 1962.

8,800 W V-F H 2 3 4 5 6

—	5X	—				4 5 2 3 6
—	5X	—				2 4 5 3 6
—	5X	—				5 2 4 3 6
	A					3 5 4 2 6
—	5X	—				4 2 3 5 6
—	X					6 3 5 4 2
—	5X					4 6 5 3 2
—	5X					3 4 5 6 2
—	4X	—				3 4 2 5 6
—	5X	—				2 3 4 5 6

January 22nd, 1963

Yours, etc.,

GILES B. THOMPSON.
SIMON PADDINGTON.

Long Length Attempt on Handbells

Dear Sir,—I wish to give notice of an attempt to ring 15,840 Plain Bob Minor on handbells on Wednesday, February 20th, 1963. The attempt will take place at 1, Rosedale Road, S.W.15, and will commence at 2 p.m. If successful, the peal will be credited to the University of London Society.—Yours faithfully,

BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

London, S.W.15.

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Simple Callings for Handbell Peals of Major

By A. S. HUDSON

Ease of calling can play an important part in the success of handbell peal attempts. The compositions described below have been designed specially for conducting from 56, and may be of interest to newly-formed bands in the early stages of attempting peals.

It is often the case that experienced ringers of the inside pairs are lacking, while the bob caller is not over keen on ringing an inside pair and calling the peal. For this reason, compositions with 5-6 or 3-4 in course or at home are desirable. Such peals have few qualities apart from the caller's point of view, although some of the music, particularly in the titlums, may be quite pleasing.

Below is an eight course block which contains 5-6 the extent in course for a given relative coursing order of the other three working bells. This block forms the basis of nearly all the compositions described.

BLOCK A												
Coursing Order				Course Ends								
5	6	2	3	4	W	M	H	2	6	3	5	4
2	3	5	6	4	S		S	5	3	6	2	4
2	3	4	6	5		S		4	3	6	2	5
2	6	5	3	4				5	6	3	2	4
6	5	2	3	4	—			2	5	3	6	4
2	3	6	5	4	S		S	6	3	5	2	4
2	3	4	5	6		S		4	3	5	2	6
2	5	6	3	4				6	5	3	2	4
5	6	2	3	4				2	6	3	5	4

The use of singles at Wrong, Home and Middle consecutively moves 5-6 all the way through the remaining coursing order by reversing the pair at each single, one bell being unaffected in 2nds, the other making the bob. The bobs Middle, Home and Wrong which follow one course later are in effect three before on 5-6, thus bringing them back to the front of the coursing order the opposite way to that in which they started. Repeating the procedure arrives back in the original starting course. Repetition of this block six times, calling — S — — S at the middle in every eighth course gives the 48 course extent of 5-6 continuously coursing.

In order to produce a peal composition, five of these blocks (A) may be used, together with a 'going-off' and a 'coming-home' course, and three so-called plain courses.

For example:—

Example 5.056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR															
5	3	2	4	6	W	B	M	H	2	3	4	5	6		
5	2	4	3	6					—	4	2	3	5	6	
5	3	4	2	6					S	4	3	2	5	6	
5	4	2	3	6					—	2	4	3	5	6	
6	5	2	3	4	X		—				2	5	3	6	4
6	5	3	4	2	A		—				3	5	4	6	2
6	5	2	4	3	A	S					2	5	4	6	3
6	5	4	3	2	A						4	5	3	6	2
6	5	3	2	4	A		—				3	5	2	6	4
6	5	4	2	3	A	S					4	5	2	6	3
5	3	2	4	6	—				S		2	3	4	5	6

I have given the coursing orders in the left-hand column, since they show more readily the way the composition works and in any event are far more useful than course ends in calling and keeping the bells right.

Before we leave Plain Bob, the following composition is of interest, since the work of 5-6, although only consisting of coursing and plain course work, is more broken up and gives greater variety.

5,008 by HADLEY HUNTER													
5	3	2	4	6	W	B	M	H	2	3	4	5	6
6	5	4	2	3		X	—		4	5	2	6	3
4	2	6	5	3	S			S	6	2	5	4	3
4	6	5	2	3				*	—	5	6	2	4
6	5	3	2	4	—		S		3	5	2	6	4
3	2	6	5	4	S			S	6	2	5	3	4
3	2	4	5	6			S		4	2	5	3	6
6	2	4	3	5		X		—	4	2	3	6	5

Repeated five times, with S half way and end, and two singles at * in first part only.

Once peal standard in Bob Major has been achieved, there arises the problem of what to attempt next. One or more of the Plain or Little Major methods is probably the easiest step. It is not easy to find compositions for Little Bob which have simple work for 5-6, since some 90 courses are required for peal length. Inevitably some of the work with 5-6 split up must be included, and if the conductor is still obliged to ring an inside pair the following may be useful.

5,040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR							
2	3	4	5	6	W	M	H
6	2	4	3	5	—	S	
3	2	4	6	5	S		
5	2	4	3	6	S	S	
4	6	3	5	2	2	—	S
4	3	6	5	2	A		S
4	2	3	5	6	2	—	

Repeated five times, with S half way and end.

Here the full extent of 5-6 coursing has been included, there being one round block (A) to each of the six parts. Each part also contains one course with 5-6 at home, and one with them reversed in the home position. In this way the work is the same in each part, being regular and not too difficult to remember.

Gainsborough Little Bob affords easier prospects. Not only is it easier to ring but it also requires a mere 60 courses for a peal, and there is no need to split up 5-6 except to get in and out of the plain and coursing positions. A similar composition to the Plain Bob above is possible:—

5,040 GAINSBOROUGH LITTLE BOB							
2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H
5	3	4	6	2	S	S	
2	3	4	6	5	S		6
4	6	3	5	2	S	S	—
3	4	6	5	2	6A		—
3	2	4	5	6	2		—
3	2	4	5	6		S	—
2	3	4	5	6			—

This composition, rearranged and extended slightly, could be useful if an easy calling for 5-6 is required for Spliced Plain Major methods. (Continued in next column)

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

Newark District

The annual meeting of the Newark District, held on January 19th, was much better attended than in the last two or three years. Newark was the meeting point, and after ringing on the fine 10 and a well attended service, between 30 and 40 ringers sat down to tea in St. Mary's Rooms. Visitors were present from the Bingham District and from Norfolk and Burton-on-Trent.

At the business meeting Canon J. H. D. Grinter, Vicar of Newark, who will shortly be leaving for a parish in Somerset, took the chair. The District chairman, Mr. F. W. Midwinter, paid tribute to his helpfulness and friendliness both towards the District and the Newark Parish Church ringers, and said how much he would be missed.

An encouraging start was made to the year, with seven new members being elected, viz.: the Misses F. Dicken (Balderton), A. Bateson and B. Harding (Newark), David Williamson (Sutton-on-Trent), and Messrs. C. W. Soles, J. Cox and J. Bettle (Southwell). The financial statement was approved, and the secretary, in her report for the year, made a plea for new faces at meetings, and, as Canon Grinter remarked, the meeting would be memorable for quite a few new faces, if for nothing else.

Mr. F. W. Midwinter was re-elected chairman, and Mrs. C. W. Reed honorary secretary. Mr. J. W. Raithby and Mr. A. E. Chilton were appointed joint Ringing Masters, and Miss Grace Burchnell a committee member.

The tower progress report showed a slight general improvement, and Mr. Denis Simpson said he was hoping to start teaching a new band at North Muskham. The meeting was closed with the customary votes of thanks.

Ringling continued in a crowded ringing room, and included a course of Cambridge S. Royal.

Next meeting: Balderton, March 16th.

B. N. R.

SIMPLE CALLINGS—Continued from previous column.

The standard course—Wellington, Reverse, Double, Gainsborough, Little, Plain—should be called.

5,040 IN SIX METHODS							
2	3	4	5	6	W	M	H
6	3	4	2	5	S	S	
2	3	4	6	5	S		6
5	3	4	6	2		S	
4	6	3	5	2	S		—
3	4	6	5	2	6A		—
4	3	2	5	6		2	2
4	2	3	5	6			S
2	3	4	5	6			2

In conclusion, it should be remembered that the above arrangements are designed purely to enable newly-formed bands to acquire experience in peal ringing without the frustration of prolonged failures. There is also a touch of 'belfry-(or lounge)-manship' involved in conducting from 5-6, as a treble ringer once remarked after the first composition given above had been rung: 'I don't know how you people manage to ring the inside pairs!'

???? STOPPED

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



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THE SMITHS

THE STORY OF A RINGING FAMILY

By I. N. QUICK

(Continued from page 6)

THE DETOUR

'ALICE,' whatever her faults, had never let them down. She may have been a trifle heavy in oil; even Joe himself admitted, 'A pint of oil for every two gallons of petrol is a bit much!'

Unsuspecting filling station attendants had been known, on lifting the bonnet in order to replenish the oil supply, to be overcome, no doubt in admiration, at the miracle of engineering that lay revealed before them.

For Fred Sutcliffe, who owned the only garage at Hexworth, was a man of profound knowledge and not a little ingenuity, and would disdain to order from the makers any broken or faulty part that could be forged in his own fire, or turned on his own lathe, or held together by a piece of his own wire. He was well acquainted with 'Alice' for he had nursed her, as it were, since she was an infant. The makers of her engine would have had great difficulty in deciding which part of it was original and which had been renewed, remade or invented by Fred Sutcliffe.

But she went, and as Joe remarked, 'That was all that mattered!'

On the occasion that we are about to relate she was chugging merrily through the bylanes of England's green and pleasant land far from her native haunts, for the Smiths were on holiday.

It was Saturday and Joe was driving with Annie by his side, a road map spread across her lap. John and Phyllis were in the back. They were on their way to a popular seaside resort to which they went every year—for Joe was a creature of habit—and having discovered from the 'R.W.' the previous week that it was possible to call in at a meeting, were making a detour to reach a church which, to avoid revealing its identity and perhaps thereby causing embarrassment, we will call Kirkbridge, a name that is not inappropriate as the church was, in fact, situated near a bridge that spanned a river.

At about 3.30 p.m. with a triumphant snort 'Alice' drew up outside a pretty little country church. The bells were already ringing and the Smith family wandered through a well kept churchyard and having found the belfry door went up into the ringing chamber.

A touch ceased just as they entered. There were a dozen or so ringers in the room, which was fairly spacious. A fresh-faced young man looked at them inquiringly as they entered. He came across to them.

'Ringers?' he asked.

Joe nodded and introduced himself and his family, and in next to no time he and his two children were ringing in a touch of Cambridge. The bells were a bit lethargic and the ringing somewhat shaky.

He reflected as he rang on the wonderful spirit of comradeship that pervaded his beloved art. Seldom had he entered a strange belfry or attended some other Society's meeting without being made welcome.

His cogitations were interrupted as the touch was brought round by a long-haired youth who called out desperately, 'This should be all!'

Causing, Joe observed, several bells to jump viciously several places. Joe sat down next to a middle-aged man with red curly hair and prominent teeth, with gaps between them which gave the impression that each tooth had been, like gravestones, individually erected.

He gave Joe a toothy smile.

'That young man,' said Joe, indicating the person who had greeted them on entry, 'who is he?'

Fred (which, as it turned out, was the name of Joe's neighbour) mentioned the name of one who was, Joe realised, an up-and-coming ringers.

'He's Ringing Master,' confided Fred.

That much Joe had gathered. The young man was certainly a bundle of energy, and as the ringing chamber filled up as more and more ringers arrived he was kept busy.

'Took over from me,' continued Fred, 'at the beginning of the year. I had been Ringing Master for 25 years.'

'Indeed,' said Joe.

'Thankless task,' pursued Fred, shaking his head. 'Bell ringers are a funny lot.'

'Don't I know it,' said Joe.

'It's impossible to please everybody, no matter what you do. It's not so bad at a six-bell tower like this. The choice is limited and so you do not get such a variety of requests. It is easier to fit the novices between the experts who, in their turn, seem willing enough to help. But what happens when you meet in a 12-bell tower?'

'What does happen?' said Joe.

'I'll tell you what happens! You get six-bell ringers, eight-bell ringers, 10- and 12-bell ringers all mixed up together. Some who can ring only rounds, or have just learned to handle a bell, rubbing shoulders with those who can ring Surprise Maximus. You'd think that that was a good thing, wouldn't you?'

'You would think so,' said Joe.

'Ah, but is it? Royal and Maximus ringers consider at a meeting that six- and eight-bell ringing is a waste of ropes; six- and eight-bell ringers take hold for higher numbers when they can't even ring their own. Stedman Doubles ringers take hold for Stedman Caters and Cinques, because, after all, they think the only difference is the extra double-dodging! All classes expect to be catered for and the Ringing Master who can manage to do this without offending somebody is a superman.'

'Indeed he is,' said Joe.

'For instance, I remember a ringer coming up to me and asking for a course of London Major, so I told him I would put it on as soon as possible. Quarter of an hour later when I'd got a team fixed up he'd disappeared. I discovered that he had gone off in a temper because he couldn't have a course of London! He didn't speak to me for a twelve month!'

'Stupid man,' said Joe.

'Then there are others who come to demonstrate their superiority; grab hold for a touch of Spliced Surprise and then disappear. Sometimes this type turn up with a complete ready-made band and ask for some high-faluting method that they know nobody else has ever heard about. They may strike it impeccably, but if they don't muck in when you are trying to raise a team for Bob Minor it doesn't help much, does it?'

'Not much,' said Joe.

By this time the ringing chamber was crowded and Joe could see that the young Ringing Master was having quite a problem trying to accommodate everybody; he looked harassed and worried; beads of perspiration stood out on his forehead.

'To make matters worse,' continued Fred, 'some people come and sit down and say nothing and get overlooked. They go home disgruntled, complaining that they went to such and such a meeting and were never asked to ring! What can you say about such behaviour?'

'What indeed?' said Joe.

A young man stuck his head through the doorway and called out, 'How many for tea?'

Joe approached him and finding out that there were provisions in plenty for an extra four who hadn't booked said that they would stay.

Whilst he was on his feet he joined in the last touch before tea, which was two courses of Spliced Minor, calling it at the suggestion of the Ringing Master.

After tea, which was followed by a short business meeting, it was 'time to be pushing

on' and the Smiths made their way back to 'Alice.' Joe talking meanwhile with the local head-ringer, whom he had met several years previously when he had been a member of a touring party that had called at Hexworth. The young Ringing Master passed them, on his way back to the tower.

'What happened to Fred?' he asked. 'I didn't notice him at the meeting.'

'No,' replied the head-ringer, 'he had to leave early.'

He looked after the retreating figure and shook his head.

'I didn't like telling him,' he said to Joe, 'but Fred went off in a huff. Said he'd been stuck in the corner all afternoon and never been asked to ring!'

[To be continued]

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD Portsmouth District

The annual meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at St. Mary's, Portsea, on January 12th, when in spite of adverse weather conditions there were 37 members and friends present, representing the majority of the District towers.

The service, which followed the afternoon ringing, was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. F. S. Temple, after which tea was served in the Parish Institute.

For the business meeting, the Vicar was invited to take the chair.

Officers elected for the next triennial period were: Chairman, Mr. H. A. Nobes; secretary, Mr. L. D. Duguid; auditor, Mr. A. York-Bramble; Ringing Master, Mr. T. R. Taylor.

New members elected were: Ringing—Messrs. Jupe, Hartley and Mapson (Fareham), and Jones (Portsmouth Cathedral); associate—Rev. F. S. Temple, Mr. Harding (Portsmouth Cathedral); compounding—Mr. A. Rushton (Luton).

The matter of a gift towards the cost of the rehanging of Curdrige bells was raised, and it was decided to send a donation of 2 gns. The increase of subscription rates was announced, these being now 5s. for ringing and associate members, 2s. 6d. for juniors, 7s. 6d. for compounding members.

It was agreed to hold the next annual meeting at Portsmouth Cathedral on January 11th, 1964.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. York-Bramble to the retiring secretary (Mr. A. H. Sturges) for his efforts during the last three years, and Mr. Nobes proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, the organist and to the ladies who prepared such a fine tea. Both these votes were carried with acclamation.

The evening's ringing was at Portsmouth Cathedral. L. D. D.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

The attendance was lower than usual at the annual meeting of the Biggleswade District at Biggleswade on January 12th, when only 20 ringers were present for tea, provided by Mrs. A. Smith and her helpers. The Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Dominey) conducted Evensong and gave a short address.

The Vicar presided at the business meeting. In his report the secretary, Mr. A. Smith, said that 21 peals had been rung by District members for the Association in 1962, which was over half the total for the county.

Officers elected were: Chairman, Mr. L. Bywaters; secretary, Mr. A. Smith; treasurer of Belfry Repair Fund, Mr. C. Mayers; Press secretary, Miss S. Percival; committee, Messrs. M. Lockey, G. Mayes, R. Houghton, R. Sharp; organist, Mr. M. Lockey.

HARWORTH, NOTTS.—On Jan. 18th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss F. Chester 1, S. Barton 2, F. Jackson (cond.) 3, A. Jewitt 4, R. Smith (first quarter) 5, W. Breu 6.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

Dorchester Branch

Icy roads and Arctic conditions did not deter members of the Dorchester Branch from attending the annual meeting on January 19th, and all parts of the Branch, which extends in a 10-mile radius of Dorchester, were represented.

Ringling for an hour preceded the Guild service, which was held in St. Peter's Church and conducted by the Rector, the Rev. K. W. Meiklejohn, the lesson being read by the Branch chairman, the Rev. C. E. C. Brinkworth. Tea was served to 41 members in St. Peter's Institute.

Canon E. B. Brooks (vice-chairman) presided at the business meeting, owing to the chairman having to leave early.

The annual report was presented by the hon. secretary, Mr. R. H. Duke, who stated that there had been a slight decline in membership, which now stood at 129 ringing members, 4 honorary members and 14 associate members. Meetings during the year had been held at Litton Cheney, Cattistock and Preston, with a by-meeting at Hilton. Branch practices had been held fortnightly throughout the year. Repairs and overhauls had been carried out to Abbotsbury and Charminster bells, and repairs were still being carried out to St. Peter's, Dorchester. It was reported that there was a satisfactory financial balance.

Officers elected were: Chairman, the Rev. C. E. C. Brinkworth; vice-chairman, Canon E. B. Brooks; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. R. H. Duke; Ringing Master, Mr. J. W. Rose; deputy Ringing Masters, Mr. A. J. Slade and Mr. E. H. Amey; assistant hon. secretary, Miss B. J. Dyke.

Eleven new members were elected from Bere Regis, St. Peter's (Dorchester), Fordington St. George, Preston and Wyke Regis.

It was agreed that meetings during the year should be held at Bere Regis, Abbotsbury, For-

dington St. George and Charminster, subject to confirmation.

Branch practices were arranged for the first quarter (subject to confirmation): February 9th, Charminster; February 23rd, Preston; March 9th, Wyke Regis; March 23rd, Abbotsbury; April 6th, Cattistock; April 20th, Wool.

R. H. D.

Salisbury Branch

The deep snow and ice probably halved the attendance at the Branch annual meeting at St. Paul's, Salisbury, on January 29th, but 21 members and two visitors were present, with a few more during the evening. A message of good wishes was received from the Master (the Rev. R. H. Longridge).

The report for the year included the festival held at Salisbury for the 80th anniversary of the Guild, the first meeting on record at Ludgershall and the rededication of the bells at Chitterne in the centenary year of that church. Membership had dropped to 108, but this was partly due to four towers being in arrears with subscriptions. Messrs. H. A. Roles and A. Trimby were re-elected chairman and vice-chairman, the Misses Y. L. Eloie and M. Page hon. secretary and treasurer and auditor respectively. Messrs. L. Page, C. Haines, A. Haines and R. Jones Ringing Masters.

It was decided to continue holding meetings on the fourth Saturday of each month, the places chosen for 1963 being South Newton, Durrington, Netheravon (quarterly, April 27th), Durnford, Donhead St. Mary, Damerham (quarterly, July 27th), Compton Chamberlayne, Semley, Broadchalke (quarterly, October 26th) and Amesbury. These are all subject to confirmation. It is also hoped to run a striking competition in the Branch at one meeting.

The Rector of St. Paul's conducted the Guild service, and spoke of three reasons for ringing church bells: firstly, to the greater glory of God; secondly, to call people to worship (including many prevented from joining in public worship who yet could lift up their hearts with us); and also because we enjoy it, adding that if we did not we might as well give up at once, as otherwise our ringing would not be done to God's glory.

T. E.

SHOPSHIRE ASSOCIATION

The annual general meeting of the Shropshire Association was held at Shrewsbury on January 26th. Uppington bells being available in the early afternoon as well as St. Mary's and St. Chad's at Shrewsbury.

At the business meeting at St. Chad's Hall it was decided that the membership fee should go up to 3s. for adults and 1s. 6d. for those still going to school. The president (Rt. Rev. W. A. Parker, Bishop of Shrewsbury) was in the chair, and expressed regret at the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Poyner from Shrewsbury. Members stood in silence in memory of Michael Ford and Mr. E. James-Moore, who died during the year.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Poyner were elected honorary life members in recognition of their work in Shropshire.

The new Ringing Master is Mr. Roger Morris, of Oswestry; new general secretary Mr. Richard E. Morris, of Hodnet; new area secretaries Miss M. Cotton (Shifnal area), Mr. M. Wycherley (Shrewsbury area) and Mr. B. Williams (Oswestry area). Mr. Roger Morris was elected as C.C. representative.

The accounts for the year showed a profit of £8 10s. 8d.

E. M.

The many friends of Mr. Philip Eastland, a well-known Notts and Derbys ringer, will be pleased to hear of his gradual recovery after an illness in Mansfield Hospital.

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The Editor, 'The Ringing World,'
c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, Surrey
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W. G. WILSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Coventry Diocesan Guild are planning a national rally similar to that at Croydon, when the bells of Riverside, U.S.A., were on view. The difference this time is that it is a new cathedral that is on show; there are bells in the old tower, but so far not ringable. The date is Saturday, April 20th, when ringers from all Guilds and Associations are invited to a service in the Cathedral at 3 p.m., when it is hoped that the Bishop of Coventry (Rt. Rev. Cuthbert K. Bardsley) will give the address. There will be ringing before and after tea.

Guildford Diocesan Guild dinner has been fixed for October 12th, when the Bishop has promised to attend.

Members from Somerby attending the annual meeting of the Melton Mowbray District on January 19th had, on the homeward journey, to abandon their car and walk because of the snow. Another had to spend the night in Melton.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Francis are shortly leaving London for Southampton. Canon K. W. H. Felstead, one of the Cumberland ringing parsons, will welcome this acquisition of strength with the departure of Mr. and Mrs. C. Kippin.

The Rev. Roy Deasy, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Holborn, quoted at the dinner of the Society of Cumberland Youths last Saturday two unusual names—a sign outside a photographer's in Old Kent Road which read 'Parsons for Weddings,' and an undertaker's business in Australia run by 'Doug. A. Pitt.'

A peal of Spliced Doubles has been rung at Bradford-on-Avon in 18 individual plain course methods and six variations (24 in all). Is this the most Spliced Doubles methods yet rung for the Salisbury Diocesan Guild? enquires the conductor, Mr. R. J. Purnell.

We have received a letter from Mr. Paul A. Brand, replying to points raised concerning Regular and Irregular Methods, Cartwheeling, etc., by Mr. Harold Chant, Mr. Noel Moxon, 'Artful Dodger' and 'Exasperated Ringer.' As we do not wish to prolong this discussion, Mr. Brand's reply is not published.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The front nine bells of the new ring of ten (tenor 26 cwt.) for St. George's Cathedral, Cape Town, South Africa, were cast during January at the Whitechapel Foundry. The tenor will follow in about a month's time. It is just five years since the Cape Town ringers began to agitate and lobby for action.

The Rev. Meredith Davies, a popular figure at dinners of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, is to be the next Mayor of Shoreditch.

Following the gift of five bells to Smeeth Church, Ashford, Kent, estimates have been obtained from the bellfounders for installing a ring of six.

There were five firsts, including the conductor, Mr. John Keddie, in a quarter to mark the close of 1962 rung at St. Elli's, Llanelly, Carm. Well done!

The Coventry Guild members appreciate the co-operation of Mr. Stockley, captain of Wootton-Wawen, in helping them out for the meeting on February 2nd.

A creditable performance took place at Nut-hall on January 12th when the first peal, Cambridge Surprise Minor, was the first peal for each member of the band.

At Wallington, Herts, on Christmas Eve was scored the first quarter peal by the local band. It was also the first quarter for all except the conductor (Mr. T. Hatchett).

In sending the peal records of the leading members of his tower, a well-known ringer writes: 'I must state in the most emphatic terms that these regular peal ringers are the backbone of the Sunday ringing, as they are the "regulars" who keep the service ringing going, and not the "casuals" who appear at unspecified intervals.'

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Chester Diocesan Guild, the Wirral Branch planned to ring a peal in all the 19 towers in their area. Through various reasons this was not achieved, but 13 peals were rung, including one of Minimus to enable the Moreton captain (Mr. R. Harry Davies) to score his first peal—and in his own tower.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED



1570

MEARS & STAINBANK,
BISHOPSGATE 2599.

34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD,
LONDON, E.1.

TEN BELL PEALS

STEPNEY, LONDON.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 19, 1963, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 28½ cwt.

LEONARD J. FOX Treble	LIONEL S. WOODS 6
BRIAN DOWNES 2	TERRY EARLE 7
JANE K. A. COOK 3	JAMES G. A. PRIOR 8
JOHN ARMSTRONG 4	MICHAEL P. MORETON 9
DENNIS A. HEWITT 5	JOHN H. CRAMPION Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN.

Conducted by BRIAN DOWNES.

BRISTOL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5067 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

PATRICK J. BIRD Treble	ROYSTON BLACKLER 6
JANE K. A. COOK 2	ANTONY R. KENCH 7
DAVID J. MARSHALL 3	BRIAN J. WYLDE 8
MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING 4	TUDOR P. EDWARDS 9
DAVID HEIGHTON 5	FRANK D. MACK Tenor

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES.

Conducted by PATRICK J. BIRD.

First peal of Stedman Caters for the Society.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 32 cwt. 20 lb. in C sharp.

MARTIN L. HOWE Treble	MONTY W. GILBERT 6
CYRIL S. JARRETT 2	ANDREW M. MACVE 7
*LEONARD MANNERING 3	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON 8
THOMAS E. SONE 4	BERNARD F. L. GROVES 9
HERBERT W. WOOLVEN 5	TREVOR A. CROSS Tenor

Composed by W. PYE.

Conducted by BERNARD F. L. GROVES.

* First peal of Royal in the method.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 29, 1962, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

RONALD KENRICK Treble	*DENNIS JONES 5
*FRANCIS LOW 2	*CYRIL LOW 6
V. DAVID JENNER 3	JOSEPH RIDYARD 7
*VICTOR DRAPER 4	*FREDERICK PEARSON Tenor

Composed by J. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by FREDERICK PEARSON.

* First peal in the method. First of Major as conductor.

WESTBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 12, 1963, in 3 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 35 cwt. 14 lb.

REGINALD W. REX Treble	FRANK W. LEWIS 5
JENNIFER M. DAVIES 2	JOHN N. DISERENS 6
R. GEORGE MORRIS 3	CYRIL E. LEWINGTON 7
RONALD F. DISERENS 4	NOEL J. DISERENS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by RONALD F. DISERENS.

FARNWORTH-WITH-KEARSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Jan. 18, 1963, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

*JEFFREY SAWYER Treble	THOMAS W. SMITH 5
RICHARD HOLT 2	IAN MUNRO 6
STANLEY ANDERTON 3	H. DAVID HOLLAND 7
NORMAN TOMPKINS 4	GEOFFREY FOTHERGILL Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON.

Conducted by H. DAVID HOLLAND.

* First peal of Major.

CALVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 19, 1963, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb.

MRS. JOAN M. DAWSON .. Treble	WILFRED LEE 5
S. BARRY SCHOFIELD 2	BARRY SULLIVAN 6
ROGER J. LUMLEY 3	GORDON BENFIELD 7
B. GILLIAN SCHOFIELD .. 4	PETER DAWSON Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by S. BARRY SCHOFIELD.

Rung in memoriam Sidney Keighley, 60 years a ringer at this church.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 19, 1963, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 lb. in E.

EDWARD JENKINS Treble	HAROLD C. LONYON 5
MICHAEL D. FISHWICK .. 2	C. KENNETH LEWIS 6
JOHN WORTH 3	BASIL JONES 7
DEREK BUTTERWORTH .. 4	FRANK OSBALDISTON Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by BASIL JONES.

LONG SUTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Jan. 21, 1963, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5088 INVERNESS-SHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 lb.

DENIS WOODS Treble	KEITH R. DAVEY 5
JOHN E. ALLEN 2	ALBERT W. A. LEGGETT 6
RONALD C. NOON 3	CYRIL R. BURRELL 7
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN 4	BRIAN HARRIS Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY (3).

Conducted by RONALD C. NOON.

First peal in the method.

FARNWORTH-WITH-KEARSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Jan. 23, 1963, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

*JOSEPH THORNEY Treble	H. DAVID HOLLAND 5
*SYDNEY G. OSBORNE .. 2	*GEOFFREY FOTHERGILL 6
*JOHN O. FREEMAN 3	*IAN MUNRO 7
*ALBERT GREENHALGH .. 4	JOHN ASHCROFT Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by JOHN ASHCROFT.

* First peal in the method.

A compliment to Rev. R. W. Davison on his appointment as Hon. Canon of Manchester Cathedral.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 24, 1963, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 28 lb.

RONALD CHAFFER Treble	GEORGE W. MOODY 5
JOHN HALL 2	*MICHAEL WHITING 6
C. AUBREY HARRISON .. 3	JACK BRAY 7
HAROLD JUDD 4	PHILIP BARNES Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal on eight.

In memoriam Rupert Richardson and John A. Freeman.

BENINGTON, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 12 cwt.

Holt's Ten-Part.		
J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE .. Treble	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 5	
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. 2	COLIN A. S. HARWOOD .. 6	
ERIC EDMONDSON 3	JACK S. DEAR 7	
*MICHAEL D. STANFORTH .. 4	†F. JACK ROBINSON Tenor	

Conducted by CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal.

ABERAVON, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb. in F.

*RUTH HAVARD Treble	ROGER KING 5
†NICHOLAS W. H. SIMON .. 2	BRYN A. TAYLOR 6
ADRIAN F. R. HARTLEY .. 3	ROGER G. HAVARD 7
THOMAS YEOMANS 4	DAVID J. LLEWELLYN Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by DAVID J. LLEWELLYN.

* First peal in the method. † First in the method 'inside.'

INVERNESS-SHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

x 38 x 1458 x 56 x 36 x 14 x 38.14 x 14.78. F.C.E.: B. L.E.: B.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY NATIVITY, KNOWLE.

A PEAL OF 5056 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb. in G.

REGINALD G. HOOPER .. Treble	*MICHAEL J. HOBBS .. 5
*BRYNLEY A. SHACKLETON .. 2	ERIC J. HITCHINS .. 6
*GILLIAN M. HUSSEY .. 3	PHILIP M. J. GRAY .. 7
*MIKAELA ERIC .. 4	D. JOHN HUNT .. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by BRYNLEY A. SHACKLETON.
* First peal in the method. First of Surprise as conductor.
Rung for the anniversary of the reconsecration of the church.

HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Sheffield and District Society.)

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5184 NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

MRS. I. M. HOLLAND .. Treble	JOHN S. SEAGER .. 5
GEOFFREY N. GOODALL .. 2	CYRIL RUSBY .. 6
JOHN J. L. GILBERT .. 3	IAN M. HOLLAND .. 7
MALCOLM P. PHIPPS .. 4	JOHN E. TURLEY .. Tenor

Composed by E. WIGHTMAN. Conducted by IAN M. HOLLAND.
First peal in the method on the bells, and by all except the ringer of the third.

MEOPHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5152 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In eight methods, comprising 960 London, 928 Watford, 768 Bristol, 672 Cambridge, 512 Dorchester, 448 each Pudsey and Superlative and 416 Lincoln; with 117 changes of method, and all the work of each method for each bell.

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in F sharp.

*DORIS E. COLGATE .. Treble	*IAN H. ORAM .. 5
*ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. 2	*STANLEY JENNER .. 6
JOHN R. COOPER .. 3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. 7
*RALPH BIRD .. 4	*PHILIP A. CORBY .. Tenor

Composed by ALBERT J. PITMAN. Conducted by IAN H. ORAM.
* First peal of 8-Spliced on this plan. † 50th of Spliced Surprise Major. ‡ First of 8-Spliced. First of 8-Spliced as conductor.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

*FREDERICK PEARSON .. Treble	*WILLIAM E. COURT .. 5
RONALD KENRICK .. 2	*KENNETH J. HESKETH .. 6
*VICTOR DRAPER .. 3	*DENNIS R. JONES .. 7
*V. DAVID JENNER .. 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.
* First peal in the method.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

HOLME PIERREPONT, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1962, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

Being seven extents.	
RUTH BLACKSHAW .. Treble	C. RICHARD DAFT .. 4
*ELIZABETH SMITH .. 2	RAYMOND BENFIELD .. 5
†JOHN SHONFELD .. 3	MAURICE HARRISON .. Tenor

Conducted by RAYMOND BENFIELD.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal.
Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter, Karen, to Mr. and Mrs. Longley.

KESSINGLAND, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Jan. 14, 1963, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb.

Being seven extents, called differently.	
TERENCE G. PAGE .. Treble	THOMAS G. BROCK .. 4
JOHN W. SAMPSON .. 2	MICHAEL UTTON .. 5
*LEONARD M. RAPHAEL .. 3	MICHAEL J. PARKER .. Tenor

Conducted by MICHAEL J. PARKER.

* First peal of Minor.
Rung as a final tribute to the late Albert E. Coleman, Ringing Master of St. Margaret's, Lowestoft, for more than 40 years.

SHENINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 19, 1963, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being one extent each of 42 methods and variations: (1) Stedman, (2) St. Simon, (3) Eynsham, (4) Cassington, (5) St. Albans, (6) Shropham, (7) Elford, (8) St. Martin, (9) St. Leonard, (10) St. Peter, (11) St. Paul, (12) Mileham, (13) Austrey, (14) St. Nicholas, (15) St. Andrew, (16) St. Thomas, (17) St. Giles, (18) Norwich, (19) Sharneshill, (20) Winchendon Place Bob, (21) St. John, (22) St. Luke, (23) St. Miles, (24) Walsingham, (25) Ryton, (26) Plain Bob, (27) April Day, (28) Old, (29) Kennington, (30) Besthorpe, (31) Seighford, (32) Norfolk, (33) Dedworth Bob, (34) Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, (35) Clifford's Pleasure, (36) St. Columb, (37) Southrepps Pleasure, (38) Costessey, (39) Little Aston, (40) Grandsire, (41) Reverse St. Bartholomew, (42) Northrepps Pleasure.

Tenor 9½ cwt. in A flat.

HERBERT H. ALEXANDER Treble	ANTHONY K. FORTIN .. 3
*BARRY J. DAVIES .. 2	*MICHAEL W. COLEMAN .. 4

CHRISTOPHER C. CLARKE .. Tenor

Conducted by CHRISTOPHER C. CLARKE.

* 25th peal together. Most methods and variations yet rung by all the band, and on the bells.

Rung for the 82nd anniversary of the founding of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Jan. 20, 1963, in 3 Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E flat.

ROBERT T. LAMBERT .. Treble	RALPH DENGATE .. 4
JUNE M. LAMBERT .. 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT .. 5
MICHAEL R. T. LAMBERT .. 3	CHARLIE BASSETT .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT T. LAMBERT.

Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Lambert.

ADDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Jan. 24, 1963, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb.

*MARGARET C. GODFREY .. Treble	†D. PAUL SMITH .. 4
*ROBERT RAYFIELD .. 2	†JOHN D. FAIRCLOTH .. 5
†CHRISTOPHER H. MACVE .. 3	ANDREW M. MACVE .. Tenor

Conducted by ANDREW M. MACVE.

* First peal. † First in the method. ‡ First of Minor in the method.
First in the method as conductor.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Jan. 25, 1963, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In seven methods: (1) London and Wells, (2) Bourne, (3) Beverley and Surfleet, (4 and 5) Ipswich, (6 and 7) Cambridge. Tenor 10 cwt.

ANDREW T. BECKWITH .. Treble	JOHN A. WARNER .. 4
*ROBERT J. LINDSELL .. 2	ALAN R. SYDER .. 5
DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS .. 3	PATRICK W. SALTmarsh .. Tenor

Conducted by PATRICK W. SALTmarsh.

* First peal of seven Surprise methods.

BARKBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In ten methods, viz.: (1 to 21) Plain Bob, (22) Rev. Canterbury Pleasure, (23) Southrepps Pleasure, (24) Clifford's Pleasure, (25) St. Columb, (26) Little Aston, (27) Rev. Canterbury Pleasure, (28) April Day, (29) Seighford, (30) Old Bob, (31) Kennington, (32) Plain Bob, (33) Southrepps Pleasure, (34) Rev. Canterbury Pleasure, (35) Little Aston, (36) St. Columb, (37) Clifford's Pleasure, (38) April Day, (39) Seighford, (40) Old Bob, (41) Kennington, (42) Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb. in E.

*JEAN A. ENDALL .. Treble	BRIAN C. LAW .. 4
RICHARD A. COBLEY .. 2	†MAURICE R. A. KIRK .. 5
ALAN HOLLING .. 3	RON CHAPMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by MAURICE R. A. KIRK.

Witness: ROSEMARY TAILBY.

* First peal of Doubles. † 50th peal.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Maurice Kirk, grandmother of the conductor; also a birthday compliment to John B. Bennett.

**BRADFORD-ON-AVON, WILTSHIRE.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**
(Devizes Branch.)

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes.
At CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF 5040 SPICED DOUBLES

In 16 individual Plain course methods and six variations, viz.: (1) St. Simon's and Merton S.C., (2) St. Martin's and Slapton, (3) St. Osmund and Rugby S.C., (4) St. Simon's, (5) St. Martin's, (6) St. Osmund, (7) Plain Bob, (8) Plain Bob and Candlesby, (9) Plain Bob, (10) Plain Bob and Candlesby, (11) St. Nicholas' and Hascombe, (12) Winchendon Place and Thornborough, (13) St. Remigius' and Longworth, (14) St. Nicholas', (15) Winchendon Place, (16) St. Remigius', (17) Rev. Canterbury Pleasure, (18) Rev. Canterbury and Raveningham, (19) Rev. Canterbury and Raveningham, (20) Rev. Canterbury, (21 and 22) Rev. St. Bartholomew, (23 and 24) April Day, (25 and 26) Old Bob, (27 and 28) Besthorpe, (29 and 30) Seighford, (31 and 32) Kennington, (33 and 34) Clifford's Pleasure, (35 to 38) Grandsire, (39) Plain Bob, (40 to 42) Grandsire; 40 changes of method. Tenor 12 cwt. 7 lb. in G.

JONATHAN NIBBS Treble	FRED BOX 4
RICHARD HUMPHRIES 2	ROBERT J. PURNELL 5
PHILLIP GAISFORD 3	RICHARD LOVELOCK Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT J. PURNELL.

Most methods to a peal by all the band, and for the Salisbury Guild. Rung as a compliment to Phillip Gaisford on his 21st birthday; also to Miss Elizabeth Thorpe and Michael Jones on their engagement.

**BREDON'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.
At THE CHAPEL-OF-EASE TO ST. GILES'.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores with ten callings. Tenor 6½ cwt. in B.

*JAMES ATTWOOD, JUN. .. Treble	†HARRY PLUMB 4
RALPH HARRIS 2	FREDERICK WOOD 5
JAMES ATTWOOD, SEN. .. 3	RALPH PERKS Tenor

Conducted by RALPH HARRIS.

* First peal attempt (aged 14). † First of Doubles.
A welcome to the Rev. L. J. Birch on his induction to the living of Bredon with Bredon's Norton.

**CHELFORD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.
At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Consisting of seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb.

ROBERT BARRATT Treble	*F. GEORGE FORRESTER .. 4
ERNEST PIMLOTT 2	PETER W. HORN 5
VICTOR NEAL 3	HARRY W. HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

* 25th peal on the bells.

MORECAMBE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes.
At THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In three methods, being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in G.

*NICHOLAS M. NEWBY, JUN. Treble	JAMES E. DICKINSON .. 4
WILFRED BOLTON 2	NICHOLAS M. NEWBY .. 5
AIAN CAPSTICK 3	THOMAS F. METCALFE .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS F. METCALFE.

* First peal in three methods. First in three methods as conductor. Rung to mark the engagement of Diana J. Perrins and Peter Handley.

HANDBELL PEALS

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD
On Fri., Jan. 18, 1963, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes.
At WHEWELL'S COURT, TRINITY COLLEGE.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 14 in D.

S. C. WALTERS (Pembroke) 1—2	J. M. H. HUNTER (Trinity) 3—4
*C. H. ROGERS (Emmanuel) 5—6	

Conducted by HADLEY HUNTER.

* First peal 'in hand,' and first on six bells.

**BIRSTALL, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**
(The Humphrey Perkins School Campanological Society.)
On Sun., Jan. 20, 1963, in 1 Hour and 27 Minutes.
At 44, GREENGATE LANE.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores in 14 methods: (1 and 2) Grandsire, (3 to 5) Plain Bob, (6 to 8) Kennington, (9 to 11) Seighford, (12 to 14) April Day, (15 to 17) Old, (18 and 19) Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, (20 to 22) Southrepps Pleasure, (23 to 25) St. Columb, (26 to 28) Clifford's Pleasure, (29 to 31) Little Aston, (32) Plain Bob, (33 to 35) St. Simon's, (36 to 38) St. Martin's, (39) Grandsire, (40 to 42) Reverse St. Bartholomew. Tenor size 13 in D.

RUPERT A. CLARKE 1—2	DAVID F. MOORE 3—4
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*MICHAEL W. BROWN 5—6

Conducted by DAVID F. MOORE.

* First handbell peal in 14 methods.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Sun., Jan. 20, 1963, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes.
At WHEWELL'S COURT, TRINITY COLLEGE.

A PEAL OF 5072 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 18 in G.

S. C. WALTERS (Pembroke) 1—2	J. M. H. HUNTER (Trinity) 5—6
V. NUTTON (Selwyn) 3—4	*C. H. ROGERS (Emmanuel) 7—8

Composed and Conducted by HADLEY HUNTER.

* First peal of Major 'in hand.' First of Major for the Guild by freshmen only.

HALIFAX, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Jan. 23, 1963, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.
At 9, FIRST AVENUE.

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor size 17 in A.

JOHN F. BRYANT 1—2	WILFRID F. MORETON .. 7—8
ROBERT E. MOULDS 3—4	GEOFFREY F. BRYANT .. 9—10
J. HENRY FIELDEN 5—6	J. NEVILLE PARKIN .. 11—12

Composed by JOHN CARTER (C.C.C. No. 8).

Conducted by J. HENRY FIELDEN.

First 12-bell peal on the bells.

HARROW, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Jan. 25, 1963, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes.
At 170, HEADSTONE LANE.

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

*THOMAS J. LOCK 1—2	*JOHN R. MAYNE 5—6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3—4	*FRANK C. PRICE 7—8

Composed by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

* First peal of Bristol on handbells.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1963, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes.
At ST. ANDREW'S, CHESTERTON LANE.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

*CLAIRE DILLAMORE 1—2	ANDREW S. HUDSON .. 5—6
VIVIAN NUTTON 3—4	S. CLARKE WALTERS .. 7—8

Composed and Conducted by ANDREW S. HUDSON.

* First peal of Major 'in hand,' and 75th peal.

BARROW-UPON-SOAR, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(The Humphrey Perkins School Campanological Society.)
On Fri., Feb. 1, 1963, in 1 Hour and 30 Minutes.
At THE HUMPHREY PERKINS SCHOOL.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In 42 methods: (1) Plain Bob and Candlesby S.C., (2) Rev. Canterbury and Raveningham S.C., (3) Plain Bob and Boxford Bob, (4) Rev. Canterbury and Dorton Bob, (5) St. Simon's and Braywood Bob, (6) St. Martin's and Welford Bob, (7) St. Nicholas' and Fundenhall Bob, (8) Winchendon Place and Haddiscoe Bob, (9) Grandsire, (10) Morning Star, (11) St. Simon's and St. Osmund, (12) St. Nicholas' and St. Remigius', (13) St. Simon's, (14) St. Albans, (15) Cassington, (16) Eynsham, (17) Elford, (18) St. Giles, (19) St. Nicholas, (20) St. Thomas, (21) St. Andrew, (22) Austrey, (23) St. Martin, (24) St. Paul, (25) St. Peter, (26) St. Leonard, (27) Shreshill, (28) St. Miles, (29) Winchendon Place, (30) St. Luke, (31) St. John, (32) Ryton, (33) Plain Bob, (34) Kennington, (35) Old, (36) April Day, (37) Seighford, (38) Southrepps, (39) Rev. Canterbury, (40) Clifford's Pleasure, (41) St. Columb, (42) Little Aston. Tenor size 15 in C.

RUPERT A. CLARKE 1—2	DAVID F. MOORE 3—4
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B. STEDMAN PAYNE 5—6

Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.

First peal in as many methods 'in hand' by all the band, and for the Guild.

TOWER CLOCKS

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FACTORY No. 11

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THE DESIGN OF STAYS

This article is prompted by several months' experience as steeplekeeper in a tower with light bells and heavy-handed learners. Replacing stays at a rate of one a fortnight is tedious and expensive.

What are the requirements of a really satisfactory stay? I would say that it should be cheap and simple to replace and it should be as strong as is safe, so that it needs to be replaced as infrequently as possible.

Ash is the usually recommended wood for stays but, with correct design, there seems to be no strong reason why some other wood should not be used. Ash is often difficult to find and always expensive. The two most important parameters of the wood chosen are U , its Ultimate Tensile Strength, and E , its Young's Modulus of Elasticity. Other considerations include how well it is seasoned (will it warp in an exposed belfry?), whether the grain is straight and uniform, and whether it 'creeps' (deflects slowly but continuously) under constant load, as for instance when the bells are left up.

SIMPLICITY

There seems to me to be no doubt that the best shape for a stay is the simplest: rectangular or square in section, and untapered. This kind of stay requires the very minimum of work to make and fit: one sawcut to make it the right length, and one or two holes for the holding bolts. I cannot see any reason for the complicated taper (on seven faces!) of a Hastings stay, nor for the groove cut in the end of a stay to fit over the gudgeon in some cast-iron headstocks. Why not just make the stay that much shorter? That end serves no useful purpose.

SAFE LOADS

A bell and its fittings could fail in one of several ways if it hits a very strong stay too hard. The bolts holding the bell might fail in tension as the headstock is wrenched off the bell. The cast lugs on an iron headstock could snap off. The crown of the bell could break. The gudgeons or bearings might fail. If the bearings are plain, with no cover caps, the gudgeon could be forced up out of its groove. A stay must be designed so that none of these things happen before the stay breaks, and to design the stay the most likely form of failure must be determined.

The gudgeons and bearings are fairly strong and withstand horizontal forces up to twice and vertical forces up to four times the weight of the bell during normal ringing. The strength of the crown of a bell is a difficult problem for me to deal with theoretically, as I have an inadequate knowledge both of the required mathematical theory and of raw data to which it can be applied. How thick is the crown of a bell? How strong is bell metal? I may be able to obtain answers to these questions in the next few months, but for the moment I must confess ignorance.

Rough calculations assuming conservative values for the strength of cast-iron in shear show that the lugs fail at a considerably greater load than the bolts can withstand, so that the lugs are not a governing criterion.

If the bell has plain bearings, whether these will jump out is determined so much by the geometry of any particular hanging that it requires individual calculation for each bell: as this article is meant to treat the problem fairly generally, in what follows I shall assume that the gudgeons are firmly held in the bearings.

Putting numbers into the appropriate expressions shows that the most likely mode of failure is snapping of the headstock bolts. Equating the moment of the force acting on the end of the stay at failure to the moment of the safe working loads in the bolts (say $1/5$ of the breaking loads) about the bearing axis gives an expression for the maximum value of this stay-breaking force.

WORK ABSORPTION

The amount of work absorbed in the stay before it breaks is a measure of how difficult the stay is to break. It should be as large as is consistent with a safe breaking force, and will be determined by the value of this force

and by the deflection of the end of the stay at fracture.

It is desirable on any but the smallest bells to have this work at least 200 foot-pounds (1 ton-inch), so that a ten-stone man would have to pull with his whole weight for a foot-and-a-half to break the stay.

The deflection of the end of a beam supported at one end, like the stay, is determined from its length, breadth and thickness, by the force applied, and from E , the Young's Modulus.

The breaking load is given by the dimensions of the stay and by the value of U , the Ultimate Tensile Strength.

Working backwards, given the failure load and work-absorption to fracture, we may calculate any two of the stay dimensions given the third. Usually the length L is determined by the size of the bell, so we may determine a the width measured parallel to the length of the headstock, and b the thickness. If V is the amount of work absorbed, and P (fail) the maximum safe stay-breaking force as calculated from the breaking loads of the bolts, then

$$a = 27 E^2 V^2 / 2 U^3 L^3 P(\text{fail})$$

$$b = 2 P(\text{fail}) L^2 U / 3 EV$$

and in consistent units. (E.g.: P (fail) in tons, L in inches, U and E in tons/square inch.)

If the stay is not supported in a socket or by a staple, then a is the effective width of the stay, allowing extra width for the bolt holes—add the diameter of the bolt to the calculated value to obtain the overall size of the wood.

If absurd values of a or b are obtained, then try other values for V until a well-proportioned shape is obtained.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Bell: Tenor at Trumpington, Cambridge.

Weight: $10\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

Holding bolts: $2 \times \frac{1}{2}$ " diameter mild steel bolts, one on each side $3\frac{1}{2}$ " from centre line of headstock, $2 \times \frac{1}{2}$ " diameter on the centre line. Length of stay required: 30".

For mild steel $U = 20$ tons/square inch at least, so the bolts will fail at a load of $20 \times 0.625^2 \times \pi \times 0.25 = 6.2$ tons.

Then, if the safe working stress is $1/5$ of the U.T.S.

$$P(\text{fail}) = (6.2 \times 2 \times 3.75 + 6.2 \times 2 \times 0) / (5 \times 30) = 0.31 \text{ tons.}$$

If the stay is made of ash, $U = 5.3$ tons/square inch, and $E = 670$ tons/square inch. Take $V = 1$ ton-inch.

$$\text{Then } a = 27 \times 670^2 \times 1^2 / 2 \times 5.3^3 \times 30^3 \times 0.31 = 4.9 \text{ inches.}$$

$$\text{and } b = 2 \times 0.31 \times 30^2 \times 5.3 / 3 \times 670 \times 1 = 1.5 \text{ inches.}$$

The stay actually fitted has $a = 3"$, $b = 1.5"$, so that $P(\text{fail}) = 0.20$ tons and $V = 0.63$ ton-inches.

CONCLUSIONS

The method outlined above leads to a reasonable design of stay on a sound theoretical basis. It provides a known margin against the type of failure considered, and seems to indicate that founders are perhaps slightly over-cautious about fitting strong stays.

I would be most interested to hear from anyone who has performed similar calculations or has any comments on these, and from the founders. In particular, any information about the strength of the crown of a bell would be most welcome.

J. J. McCLENAHAN.

Christ's College,
Cambridge.

!cy!

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent Michael King ('R.W.', page 76) writes about ringing handbells in temperatures below freezing point.

Since it is not the delight of the multitude to practise their art in such adverse weather conditions, the performance of Mr. King's band, in a temperature of 17°F , may well constitute a record for such a feat; and they need have little fear of it being broken, for it is difficult to imagine another band attempting to sink any lower!—Yours faithfully,

J. D. FAIRCLOTH.

West Wickham, Kent.

ST. PETER'S, STAINES

'A MODERN church with modern bells' is often applied to many towers and churches by history writers, and scant attention is paid to anything of interest in such buildings. Yet there is something about St. Peter's, Staines, that has always attracted the writer since his first visit, just 60 years ago, so a short story in modern history may be of interest to many who have visited the church by the riverside at Staines.

Back in the Victorian days of the early 70's, Staines was served by the Parish Church of St. Mary and those living in the Laleham Road area had no church nearby. In 1874 a small brick building was erected in the vicinity, and years afterwards an iron building was erected to seat double the number, but still the district grew. Then Sir Edward Clarke, the famous lawyer, came to reside nearby the River Thames in 1890, and, with Lady Clarke, he became a member of the congregation at the little church.

During a visit to Devonshire, Lady Clarke saw a picturesque church situated by the River Dart, and it was this scene that gave her the idea of a church by the banks of the Thames at Staines. Sir Edward took up the idea warmly and in his autobiography, he wrote: 'A little higher up the river than "Thorncoote" there was a charming site, where a row of fine elms stood along the river-side of a field which it was proposed to let in building plots. I was afraid these trees would be cut down, so I told my neighbours that if they would buy the site I would build a church on it. The site was secured and I employed Mr. G. F. Prynn to design the church and superintend its construction.'

How promptly the work was carried out can be judged by the fact that Lady Clarke laid the foundation stone on July 22nd, 1893, and the church was dedicated on July 28th, 1894, by the Bishop of Marlborough.

STUMPY RED TOWER

Outside we see a stumpy red tower with a green spire, and a church in red brick and stone. On entering the west door we notice on the left a convenient place for books, etc., while on the right is a lobby, where overcoats, hats and wet clothing can be hung, also a place for umbrellas.

The interior has a nave of four bays, and the chancel is the same width and height as the nave. At the south-west end of the south aisle, near the font, is the entrance to the tower. There is a southern transept and Lady Chapel, each with a separate entrance, while on the north side of the chancel are clergy and choir vestries, also the organ chamber.

The altar is elevated by steps from the nave floor level, and the carved screen is worthy of close inspection. The organ and choir stalls were two of the many gifts of Sir Edward Clarke, and the altar, with frontals and furnishings, was presented by Lady Clarke. The fine brass pulpit is also worthy of note. The visitor cannot fail to admire the stained glass windows, many of them given by Sir Edward, and two in the north aisle, one in 1931 by the people of Staines to mark Sir Edward's 90th birthday, the other by friends and fellow citizens of the City of London in 1932, as a memorial to him.

In 1902 a ring of eight bells was Sir Edward's gift to mark his thanksgiving for the safe return of his son-in-law, Major Rees-Webb, from the Boer War. The founders were Warner and Co., and the tenor is 154 cwt. Before the octave was formed in 1902 St. Peter's had but two bells, and these formed the largest and smallest of the present ring. Many peals have been scored on them and the tower has proved a magnet for visitors from many parts, due in many ways to the assiduousness of the tower keeper, Billy Parker, who took charge of the bells from 1902 and was a popular ringer and steeplekeeper for over 50 years.

In recent years we read of activities by the local band, and the writer's memory goes back to 1903, when he first heard and rang this pleasing riverside octave.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

QUARTER PEALS

ABINGDON, BERKS.—At St. Nicolas' Church, on Jan. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. A. Smith 1, M. Hodge (first quarter) 2, J. W. Berry 3, Philippa J. P. Dixon 4, Anne M. Rowson 5, C. I. Rowson (first quarter on six as cond.) 6. For Matins.

ADDINGTON, SURREY.—On Jan. 27th, 1,250 Plain Minor (St. Clement's, Single Oxford and Plain Bob): D. Lewsey 1, R. Rayfield 2, P. J. Milton 3, C. H. Macve 4, J. C. Perrin 5, A. M. Macve (cond.) 6. First in three methods by 1, 2 and 4.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, LANCs.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (tenor covering): J. E. Burles 1, R. Fletcher 2, J. Bagnall 3, H. Wood (Dalton-in-Furness) 4, F. H. Crawley 5, D. Ellesdon (cond.) 6, R. Jesson (first quarter) 7. A farewell to ringer of six.

BLEWBURY, BERKS.—On Jan. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Corderoy 1, H. W. Dunsden 2, A. R. T. Greenough 3, E. J. Grace 4, P. Corderoy 5, R. B. Blond (cond.) 6, J. H. Napper 7, C. Corderoy 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam William Walters, one time ringer at this church, whose funeral took place this day.

BOREHAM, ESSEX.—On Jan. 18th, 1,272 Plain Bob Minor: P. Snelling 1, J. Everett 2, Mrs. K. Childs 3, Jane Everett 4, A. H. Everett (cond.) 5, P. Childs 6. First quarter 1, 2 and 4.

BRAMPTON, HUNTS.—On Jan. 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Cooper 1, R. F. Baker (cond.) 2, E. A. Bailey 3, Maureen Allen 4, E. J. Whiting 5, J. W. Allen 6. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of John Beatty Harper and Elisabeth Jayne Waller.

BRISTOL.—At St. Ambrose's Church, on Jan. 27th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. Hibbert 1, Patricia Hibbert 2, F. J. Sampson 3, Gillian M. Hussey 4, J. D. J. Hunt 8.

BURTON, HANTS.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles: Lesley Read 1, D. Hibbert 5, B. A. Shackleton 6, C. Hibbert (cond.) 7, Hughes 2, K. Sansom (cond.) 3, B. Walton 4, A. Betsworth 5, Patricia Smith (first quarter) 6.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Jan. 27th, at St. Andrew the Great, 1,280 Bristol Surprise Major: C. H. Rogers 1, Hilary Muirhead 2, A. S. Hudson (cond.) 3, Claire Dillamore 4, J. M. H. Hunter 5, I. M. Smith 6, D. J. Munday 7, J. R. Hough 8. For Evensong.

CONSETT, CO. DURHAM.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: S. Zvezgintov 1, J. Vickery 2, W. Tyson 3, R. B. Skelton 4, N. Errington 5, M. Armstrong (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

CROPREDY, OXON.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Doubles (eight methods): R. A. Reeves 1, Miss D. French 2, B. J. Davies (cond.) 3, M. W. Coleman 4, C. C. Clarke 5.

EGG BUCKLAND, PLYMOUTH, DEVON.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss R. J. Marks 1, Mrs. M. A. Bould 2, J. Cornelius (cond.) 5th quarter) 3, T. G. Myers 4, D. R. Bould 5, W. H. Marks 6.

EPSOM, SURREY.—At Christ Church, on Jan. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (tenor covering): D. J. Herschell (cond.) 1, R. E. Fentiman 3, Sally Parrott 4, Sylvia Marsh 5, F. Oakshott 6, N. D. J. Webb 7, W. Parrott 8. For the Feast of the Epiphany, and as a farewell to the curate, the Rev. J. Smith, who is taking up teaching at Sevenoaks, Kent. Also on Jan. 12th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Rosemary Blyth 1, R. E. Fentiman 2, Sally Parrott (first of Major 'inside') 3, Adrienne Gibson 4, Sylvia Marsh 5, W. Parrott 6, D. J. Herschell 7, N. D. J. Webb (cond.) 8. As a wedding compliment to Miss Sally Hewett (a former member of the band) to Mr. Hugh McCafferty.

GRANTHAM, Lincs.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Beryl Stannage 1, D. A. Frith (cond.) 2, P. A. Slight 3, J. E. Cook 4, F. W. Pirchbeck 5, K. Ketteringham 6, H. R. Woods 7, J. R. Holmes 8. Rung in honour of the engagement of Miss Irene Harrison to Vaughan P. Evans, of Branston, Lincs.

GRAVENHURST, BEDS.—On Jan. 14th, 1,260 Doubles (April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire): Mrs. C. D. Mann 1, P. J. Lawton 2, G. M. Pickwell 3, T. P. Harris (cond.) 4, C. D. Mann 5, Rung as a farewell to the Rt. Rev. Basil T. Guy, recently appointed Bishop of Gloucester, late Bishop of Bedford.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES, OXON.—On Nov. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. J. Smith 1, S. G. Scott 2, Rosemary Rich 3, G. C. F. Murrell (first quarter 'inside') 4, A. K. Street 5, F. Henbest 6, H. Smith (cond.) 7, Jesse Smith 8. Rung for St. Cecilia's Day.

KINGSTHORPE, NORTANTS.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: B. E. Frost 1, D. Truman 2, E. Winkworth 3, S. F. Earl 4, J. Payne 5, S. Ruddlesham (first quarter as cond.) 6. Rung for a combined service for Christian Unity.

LIMPSFIELD, SURREY.—On Jan. 20th, 1,260 Doubles (Candlesby, Plain Bob and Grandsire): R. Allen 1, M. Wall 2, A. Stenning 3, E. Jarrett 4, E. Nixon (cond.) 5, F. Reed 6. For evening service.

LLANELLY, CARMS.—On Dec. 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Joan Bailey 1, Norma Cooch 2, S. V. Rees 3, J. Beckett 4, J. Keddie (cond.) 5, B. McKay 6. First quarter 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6. Rung half-muffled to ring out 1962.

LONDON.—At the Church of St. Clement Danes', on January 20th, 1,263 Stedman Caters: Miss Y. Edwards 1, Miss D. A. Deverell 2, Miss D. M. Lawless 3, Mrs. D. E. Sibson 4, R. Powell 5, A. G. Osborne 6, D. E. Sibson (cond.) 7, N. J. Davies 8, J. C. Eissell 9, M. P. Barton 10. First of Stedman Caters for 5, 6 and 8. For Evensong.

LUPPITT, DEVON.—On Dec. 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss M. Sage 1, A. J. Crabb 2, T. J. Thorne 3, J. Sage 4, F. J. Sage (first of Minor as cond.) 5, C. Churchill 6. First of Minor for 1, 2, 3 and 6. First of Minor on the bells by a local band.

MANCHESTER.—On Jan. 16th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob, Grandsire): D. R. Forsythe (first quarter) 1, S. M. J. Young 2, D. M. Barracklough 3, D. Ogden 4, D. Gillespie 5, M. Buchanan (first quarter) 6. The conducting was shared by the ringers of 2, 3, 4, 5.

MISTLEY, ESSEX.—On Jan. 26th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: Marle Wager (first quarter) 1, J. E. Honeywood 2, Gillian Brown 3, A. E. Honeywood 4, U. W. Wildney (cond.) 5, N. J. Osborne 6.

MERRIOTT, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 19th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: H. E. Turner 1, K. E. Pinney 2, A. C. Best 3, Rev. C. J. B. Marshall 4, S. A. Turner (cond.) 5, A. W. Robinson 6. First of Surprise for 1, 3, 5, 6. First quarter of Surprise by all Crewkerne Deanery band. Also on Jan. 26th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Rev. C. J. B. Marshall 1, H. E. Turner 2, K. E. Pinney 3, A. C. Best 4, S. Turner (cond.) 5, A. W. Robinson 6. First quarter in the method for all except the ringer of the treble.

NAILSEA, SOMERSET.—On Nov. 20th, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire and Plain Bob): Rose Quient 1, L. Derrick (cond.) 2, Olwen Quient 3, Jennifer Brake 4, C. Kortright 5, H. Hardwidge 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Walter Philpott, for many years a ringer of this parish, who was interred this day. Also on Jan. 22nd, 1,260 Doubles (five methods): J. Yeates 1, Rose Quient 2, L. Derrick 3, J. Brain (cond.) 4, C. Kortright 5, Olwen Quient 6. Rung with the band's best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Horseman on the birth of a son (Christopher Paul).

OXFORD.—At St. Ebbe's Church, on Jan. 20th, 1,296 Little Bob Major: A. R. Pink 1, E. R. Venn 2, S. D. Edwards 3, P. J. Heritage 4, C. Coles 5, H. K. Nichols (first of Major) 6, D. J. Roaf 7, J. G. Pusey (cond.) 8. For evening service.

PETERSFIELD, HANTS.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Doubles (Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob, Plain Bob and Grandsire): Dawn Handley 1, H. DeCombe 2, K. Sansom (cond.) 3, K. Tipper 4, W. Davison 5, B. Kercher 6. For Evensong.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.—On Jan. 20th, at St. Andrew's Church, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Miss R. J. Marks 1, A. W. Myers 2, H. W. Milford 3, J. W. Perkins 4, F. E. Day 5, D. F. Wheeler 6, S. F. O'Shaughnessy 7, H. F. Myers 8, T. G. Myers (cond.) 9, W. H. Marks 10. Rung for 6.30 Evensong, and to mark the visit of Rev. Donald Mason, Presbyter of the Church of South India, who preached the sermon. Also on Jan. 27th, at St. Andrew's, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: J. Cornelius 1, Mrs. D. R. Bould 2, D. F. Wheeler 3, J. W. Perkins 4, D. R. Bould 5, S. F. O'Shaughnessy 6, F. E. Day (cond.) 7, H. F. Myers 8, T. G. Myers 9, W. H. Marks 10. For Evensong, and J. Cornelius, of Shepton Beauchamp.

ST. CRANTOCK, CORNWALL.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Joy Mewton (first quarter) 1, D. Docking 2, J. Roberts 3, C. Stephens 4, A. H. Eplett (cond.) 5, Margaret Weston 6. Rung for the engagement of Joy Mewton and Spencer Robinson.

SHARNBROOK, BEDS.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: K. Forder 1, Miss B. Parsons 2, Miss B. Lovell 3, R. Forder 4, F. Tysoe 5, B. Makeham (cond.) 6.

SILK WILLOUGHBY, Lincs.—On Jan. 16th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: C. R. Muxlow 1, H. P. Collin 2, W. Weston 3, Patricia Chant (first quarter) 4, J. H. Mueson (cond.) 5, C. J. N. Dalton 6.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. P. Snowwell 1, Janet Elphick 2, Angela Wright 3, R. C. Hide 4, H. S. James 5, A. W. Bond 6, G. P. Elphick (cond.) 7, F. Fuller 8. A birthday compliment to the Rev. D. G. Matthews and in appreciation of his 32 years' ministry at Southover.

STANMORE, MIDDx.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss K. Richman 1, Miss S. White 2, Miss J. Bannister (first quarter) 3, A. Keir 4, L. North 5, E. J. Leversuch (cond.) 6.

STONEV STANTON, LEICS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Dorothy Vernon 1, J. Vernon 2, G. Vernon 3, J. H. Bailless 4, G. T. Ball 5, M. Lindsey 6, M. Vernon (cond.) 7, N. L. Walker 8. Rung in memoriam Mrs. Read, of Farnborough, Hants.

STOTFOLD, BEDS.—On Jan. 6th, 1,196 Kent T.B. Minor: P. Mehew 1, Audrey Alexander 2, M. D. Stanforth 3, D. Sanderson 4, R. L. Smith (first 'inside') 5, D. P. Jones (cond.) 6. For Epiphany. Also on Jan. 10th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. Mehew 1, G. Goodwin (first quarter) 2, Audrey Alexander 3, A. Mayes 4, Christine M. Rimmer 5, D. Sanderson (first as cond.) 6.

THORNBERY, GLOS.—On Jan. 26th, 2,000 Plain Bob Major: Angela Grainger 1, Beryl W. Baldwin 2, Judith Atkinson 3, Barbara Stephens 4, A. Bennett 5, A. Wright 6, J. C. Baldwin (cond.) 7, I. C. Maycock 8. A peal attempt called round.

UPPER CLAPTON, LONDON.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on Christmas Eve, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. C. F. Neal 1, Mrs. D. Neal 2, Mrs. R. K. Wilkins 3, J. A. Hales 4, J. M. Steele 5, R. K. C. Wilkins 6, D. Neal (cond.) 7, C. F. Neal 8. For Midnight Mass.

WALLINGTON, HERTS.—On Dec. 24th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss M. Pine 1, Miss A. Roden 2, Miss A. Sanderson 3, Miss M. Roden 4, T. Hatchett (cond.) 5, L. Hatchett 6. First quarter peal by local band and first by all except conductor. For Christmas Festival.

WARMINSTER, WILTS.—On Jan. 26th, 1,280 Grandsire Doubles: Susan Porter (first of Grandsire Doubles) 1, Mrs. P. F. Tambling 2, E. C. Shepherd (cond.) 3, L. Hawkins 4, E. Norris 5, N. G. Knee 6.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: M. Turner 1, Miss D. Mullins 2, E. Fosberry 3, Miss I. Gocher 4, E. Rapley 5, J. Nelson 6, G. Francis (cond.) 7, G. Rix 8. In memoriam Canon F. S. Farebrother, Vicar of Warnham, 1921-1957.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Jan. 20th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: A. Hickson 1, Kathleen Baldwin 2, W. G. Paul 3, R. G. Smith 4, D. Laud 5, R. G. Bell 6, R. Baldwin 7, W. G. Paul 3, R. G. Smith 4, D. Laud 5, R. G. Bell 6, R. Baldwin 7, G. W. Seaman (cond.) 8. For Morning Prayer.

WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTS.—On Jan. 29th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 780 Grandsire): G. Butler 1, Valerie Taylor 2, R. W. Winstanley 3, W. L. Ratcliffe 4, I. F. Taylor (cond.) 5.

WESTHAM, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 28th, 1,260 Doubles (four methods): R. J. Fuller 1, Kathleen Fuller 2, D. R. Fuller 3, J. Barlow 4, A. Baldock (cond.) 5, J. W. Evans (first quarter) 6. First in four methods for all.

WINCHESTER, HANTS.—At the Cathedral on Jan. 27th, 1,344 Grandsire Triples: T. C. Holland 1, Ann M. Cox 2, M. J. Best 3, B. B. Hullah 4, A. R. Carter 5, D. B. Brown (cond.) 6, P. N. Tubbs 7, C. S. Williams 8. For Evensong.

WORLE, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 18th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: M. Legg 1, Mrs. D. Gay 2, R. Ballam 3, D. Gay 4, S. Lewis 5, G. Proccott (cond.) 6. Rung in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Baker, Rampton, Notts, friends of the ringer of fifth.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—B. C. Ashford 7s., 'Paludian' 10s., Syston District £1 10s. 4d., Luppitt Ringers £1 1s.

Peals.—Bredon's Norton 3s., Bristol University 5s., Morecambe 3s.

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NOTICES

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BIRTH

HOLLAND.—On January 27th. 1963, to Pauline (née Eyre) and David, a son, Jonathan. brother for Timothy David. 1924

ENGAGEMENTS

BENFIELD—HICKS.—The engagement is announced between Edward Benfield, of Manor Farm, Marsh Gibbon, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Benfield, Kensington Villas, Marsh Gibbon, Bucks, and Rosalind, only child of Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Hicks, of Selby House, Amersham, Bucks. 1907

WYLDE—STEPHENS.—The engagement is announced between Brian, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Wyld, of Totton, Hants, and Barbara, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Stephens, of Ebbw Vale. 1890

PERSONAL

'Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run that ye may obtain . . . looking unto Jesus.' (I Cor. ix, 24. Heb. xii, 12.)

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

CORNWALL.—Williams, Copperhill House, Redruth. Ideal holiday centre for all Cornwall's beauty spots. Extensive sea views, overlooking north coast. Every comfort, excellent cuisine. Very highly recommended. Terms moderate.—Tel.: Redruth 533. 1805

WIMBORNE.—Bed, breakfast. Children welcomed. Car space.—R. Vacher, 24, Grove Road, Wimborne, Dorset. 1899

MISCELLANEOUS

SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—Mr. Peter Nix, of 23, St. Patrick's Road, Hucknall, Notts, is the new honorary secretary of the Society of Sherwood Youths in succession to Miss A. Henson. 1893

STANWELL, MIDDLESEX.—From Wednesday, February 6th, there will be Spliced Surprise Minor practices. Time of ringing 7.45-9.15 p.m. All ringers welcome.—D. Pickett. 1849

OFFERS INVITED for a copy of 'Campanologia', leather bound, part of Preface missing, fly-leaf and date also missing—it may be a First Edition.—John E. Allen, 31, Quadring Road, Donington, Spalding. 1928

BACK NUMBERS for most recent issues and some as far back as 1947 are available, price 8d. post free.—Apply 'Ringing World' Office, Onslow Street, Guildford. 1904

PEAL CARDS AND QUARTER PEAL CARDS, minimum 12 in set, price 7s. 6d. post free. For quarter peal cards, second copy written out in style of a peal is essential.—'The Ringing World' Office, Guildford.

MEETINGS

EAST GRINSTEAD & DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Leigh (6), February 9th. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. B. Pankhurst, Chestnuts, Leigh. Ringing at Tonbridge (8) from 6.30-8.30 p.m. Will committee members please try to attend this meeting.—Margaret A. Ladd, Sec. 1856

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Trumpington, Saturday, February 9th. Bells (8) 3.15 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock.—E. W. Bullman, Dis. Sec. 1883

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, February 9th, St. Giles', Cripplegate, 2.15 to 3.15 p.m. St. John's, Waterloo, 3.45 to 5. Tea 5.30 p.m. at 'The George', Fleet Street, followed by business, election of officers for 1963, handbell contest and social evening. Names for tea essential.—Miss Powell, 56, Narbonne Avenue, S.W.4. Kelvin 2390. 1827

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—North and East District.—Saturday, February 9th, Hendon (annual District meeting). Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business. Further ringing to 8.30 p.m. Bells of St. Mary's, Finchley, available 2.45 to 4 p.m.—E. H. Kilby, Hon. Dis. Sec. 1871

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Meeting at St. John's, Newhall, on Saturday, February 9th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. All welcome.—J. Cotton. 1848

NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—Ringing arrangements for annual dinner on February 9th are: Daybrook (8) 11.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m., Bulwell (8) 2-3, Basford (8) 3.15-4.15, St. Mary's, Nottingham, 4.15-5.30, St. Peter's, Nottingham, 5.15-6.30. Dinner 7 for 7.30 p.m. 1920

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The A.G.M. will be held on Saturday, February 9th, 1963, at Reading. Ringing: St. Mary's (8), 2.30-3.30 p.m.; St. Giles' (8), 3-4; St. Laurence's (12), 6.30-8.30. Service 4 p.m. at St. Giles'. Tea and meeting 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. R. Hudson, 57, Edgehill Street, Reading. 1876

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—Meeting, Dundee, Saturday, Feb. 9th, St. Paul's Cathedral, from 2.15 p.m. Ringing at Old Steeple later.—Rognvald Wilson, Sec., 15, Durham Road, Edinburgh, 15. 1926

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bingham District.—Meeting on February 9th, Oxtun, 2.30-3.30 p.m. East Bridgford from 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to W. L. Exton, 'St. Ouens', Whatton.—R. Blackshaw, Hon. Dis. Sec. 1859

SUFFOLK GUILD.—North West District.—Practice meeting at West Stow (6) on Saturday, February 9th, 6.30 to 9 p.m. Please note the alteration of meeting place.—A. F. Ballam. 1903

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual Divisional meeting will be held at Arundel (8) on Saturday, February 9th, at 3 p.m. Names for tea to E. W. Keys, 'Greystones', Salthill Road, Fishbourne, Chichester, Sussex, please. 1872

LADIES' GUILD (Western District combined with Bridgwater area).—Evening practice at Chewton Mendip on Monday, February 11th, at 7.30 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—H. Kingcott. 1884

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Wistaston, February 16th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by February 13th.—W. Kerr, 107, Moreton Road, Crewe. 1910

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Darlington, Saturday, February 16th. St. Cuthbert's (8) 3.5 p.m. Tea 5. St. John's (8) 6-8 p.m.—P. Wishant, Hon. Sec. 1921

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—Meeting at Berkswell on Saturday, February 16th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by 14th to Callow, 36, Torbay Road, Coventry. 1904

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Meeting at St. Giles', Matlock, Saturday, February 16th. Bells 3 p.m. For teas please advise Mr. Kingman, 40, Lynholmes, Matlock, by Thursday, February 14th.—Mrs. G. Richardson, Dis. Sec. 1917

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Wisbech St. Mary, Saturday, February 16th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 1911

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—Meeting at Yate, Saturday, February 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to P. Mills, 23, Church Street, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos. 1902

LADIES' GUILD.—Beds and Northants District.—A.D.M. at Irthlingborough on Saturday, February 16th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea (5.15 p.m.) to be sent to Mr. A. Bigley, 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, by Wednesday, February 13th. Please make every effort to attend. 1908

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Meeting, Flookburgh, Saturday, February 16th, 2.30 p.m. Names to A. Edgar, Main Street, Holker, Grange-over-Sands.—N. M. Newby. 1922

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Loughborough District.—Meeting at Hathern (6) on Saturday, February 16th, at 2.30 p.m. Tea in Church Rooms at 4.30. Service 5.30 p.m. No names for tea required. 1896

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Great Bowden, Saturday, February 16th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.—L. W. Allen, Dis. Sec. 1912

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—S.W. District.—Practice, Feb. 16th, Ealing. St. Stephen's, 3 to 4.45 p.m.; St. Mary's, 6.15 to 8 p.m. Own tea arrangements. Some District business to discuss at 7 p.m.—F. T. B. 1925

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Branch.—Annual meeting, Loddon, February 16th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, February 13th, certain, please, to Mr. H. W. Barrett, 'Fernhill', Bungay Road, Loddon, Norwich, NOR 21W.—P. Newstead, Hon. Sec. 1881

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Easthampstead on February 16th at 6 p.m. Special method: Killamarsh Treble Bob. Branch annual meeting at Wokingham on March 16th.—B. C. Castle. 1897

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755)

The 75th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held on February 16th at the Imperial Hotel at 6 o'clock.

Chairman:
Rev. Canon F. F. Guy Warman.

Tickets 23s.

G. E. Fearn, Hon. Sec., 92, Etwell Rd., Hall Green, Birmingham 28.

Phone: Springfield 4025. 1725

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Henry Johnson Dinner, February 16th. Ringing arrangements: St. Martin's (12) 2-3 p.m. St. Chad's (8) 3-4. Cathedral (12) 4.5-5.30 p.m. 1918

SUFFOLK GUILD.—N.E. District.—Annual meeting at Halesworth on Saturday, February 16th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Miss M. Branch, Fern Bank, Bungay Road, Halesworth. 1915

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Social evening at Putney, Saturday, February 16th. Bells 6 p.m. Refreshments, fun and games in Vestry Hall. 7.30 p.m. All welcome. Names, please, to Mr. C. Mew, 219, Felsham Road, S.W.15, by Wednesday previous. Inclusive charge 1s. 6d.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 1808

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Annual Divisional meeting, Southover (10), Saturday, February 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Special method: Double Norwich. Names for tea by Wednesday, February 13th, please, to J. R. Norris, 117, Cuckfield Road, Hurstpierpoint. 1914

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY.—Feb. 16th, dinner arrangements: 2 to 3 p.m., Shoreditch; 3 to 4, Jewry; 4 to 5, St. Andrew's, Holborn; 2.30 to 3.30, St. George's, Borough; 4.30 to 5.30, St. Vedast's. Dinner, 6.30 for 7 p.m., Church House, Westminster. Sunday, 17th, Corporate Communion, 11 a.m., St. Vedast.—P. C. 1927

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting at Conisbrough, February 16th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. Names to Mrs. Braithwaite, The Vicarage, Conisbrough, Doncaster, by 14th. All welcome.—J. J. L. Gilbert. 1909

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Annual dinner and social will be held in the Parish Hall, Earl Shilton, on Saturday, February 23rd. Bells available 5 to 6 p.m. Dinner 6.15 for 6.30 p.m. Licensed bar. Application for tickets please by the Saturday previous to Mr. Geo. Newton, 26, Avenue South, Earl Shilton, Leics. Tickets 10s. Please bring own K.F.S.—M. Vernon, Dis. Sec. 1901

LADIES' GUILD (Central District), **MID-DESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (South and West District) and **OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD** (East Berks and South Bucks Branch).—Joint meeting at Beaconsfield, Saturday, February 23rd. Bells 3.30 p.m. Service 5, followed by tea and social evening. Ringing, Penn. 2.30 to 3.30 p.m. Names for tea by 19th, please, to Miss Hague, 6 Stompits Road, Holyport, Maidenhead.—Mrs. Bullock, E. T. Blagrove, Miss Hague.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Annual meeting at Spalding, Saturday, February 23rd. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday previous to Mrs. R. C. Noon, 13, Pennygate, Spalding. St. Paul's, Fulney, bells (8) also available 2.30-4 p.m.—B. B. Tyrrell, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Lindsey Branch.—Meeting at Lea, Saturday, February 23rd. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify Miss P. Lunn, Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. Tel. 2623 by previous Tuesday. Special methods: London Scholars' Pleasure and Single Oxford.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Llandaff Branch.—Annual meeting, Llantrisant, Saturday, February 23rd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business to follow.—R. E. Coles, Branch Sec.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—Annual dinner, at the Griffin Hotel, Boar Lane, on Saturday, February 23rd. Ringing at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, 4-6 p.m. Tickets, price 21s., available from J. A. Hervey, Devonshire Hall, Cumberland Road, Leeds 6.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Annual meeting at Fakenham, Saturday, February 23rd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Thursday, February 21st, to Mr. G. Cooke, 24, Back Street, Hempton, Fakenham.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Practice meeting, South Newton, February 23rd. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea at The Bell, 5 p.m. Names by 19th, please, to Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—S.W. District.—District meeting at Hadleigh, Saturday, February 23rd. Bells (8) 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by February 20th, please, to Miss E. R. M. Cansdale, 8, Brook Street, Bures.

APPLETON, BERKS.—The 145th anniversary will be held on March 2nd. Bells open 1.30 p.m. Dinner in Village Hall 6 p.m. Tickets, 10s., from F. A. White, Bellringer, Appleton, Abingdon, Berks, before February 23rd.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting on Saturday, March 2nd, at Great Yeldham. Bells (6) 2 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Members, please note: District striking competition takes place in the afternoon. All entering teams should meet at 1.50 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. M. Wood, 4, Duck End, Finchingfield, not later than Wednesday, February 27th.

BELLRINGERS' PILGRIMAGE to the HOLY LAND August 1st to 15th, 1963. 110 Guineas.

Places limited. Book at once.
Form a Group from your Area.
We hope to ring the Holy Land Bells.
Holy Land Advice Centre (RW),
6, Borrowdale Avenue, Ipswich.
Other dates available.

A Cheshire Broadcast

The bells of Astbury, Cheshire, can be heard on B.B.C. Television this Sunday morning, February 10th, at 10.30. The programme is a tele-recording of the induction of the new Rector, and we are told that the bells will form a background to the introduction which describes Astbury village and church.

PEAL AND QUARTER PEAL CARDS

As from January 1st, 1963, the charge for sets will be 7s. 6d. With quarter peals send second copy written out in the style of peals.

THE LADIES' GUILD South Wales District

The South Wales District held its annual meeting at St. Mary's, Swansea, and despite the preceding freezing weather January 26th proved to be a sunny, spring-like day. Various methods were rung on these fine bells, including Grand-sire Triples, by a band of ladies.

The service was taken by Canon Harry Williams, who warmly welcomed the Guild to Swansea. The address was given by the curate, the Rev. Edward Hunt, who had been taught to ring by Mr. Arthur Hoare at Sketty.

The usual excellent tea was provided in the Church Room by Mrs. Whitworth and her helpers. These kind people were thanked by Mr. Trevor Roderick.

At the business meeting Miss Kathleen Watkins, of Sketty, was elected vice-president, Mrs. J. S. King was re-elected secretary, and committee members elected were Miss Hulbert, Mrs. Whitworth, Mrs. Griffin, Mrs. Bruton and Mrs. Coles. New members elected were Mrs. Stith (Newton Nottage), Miss P. Jenkins, Miss S. Harris and Miss D. Hargreaves (Sketty).

It was decided to try to hold two further meetings during the year—at Chepstow on April 27th, and at either St. Woolos' or All Saints', Newport, on October 26th.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD West Lindsey Branch Annual Meeting

In spite of a bitterly cold wind and drifting snow, there was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the West Lindsey Branch, held at Gainsborough on January 19th.

Members were present from the following towers: Gainsborough, Saxilby, Blyton, Upton, Haxey, Belton, Willingham and Lea, while visitors from Burton Stather, Scunthorpe, Branston, Ulceby and Lincoln towers helped to swell the numbers.

Following ringing in the afternoon, the service was taken by Canon J. E. Roberts, Vicar of All Saints', Gainsborough, who is also president of the Branch. A very enjoyable buffet tea was served in the Gainsborough Old Hall, and the business meeting followed with Canon Roberts in the chair.

The reports of the Master, the secretary and the treasurer were read and accepted, and meetings for the coming year were arranged.

A little over a year ago a cup was presented to the Branch in memory of Mr. Harry Bingham. The first holders of the cup are Saxilby, and Mr. W. Cox received it on their behalf from Mrs. G. H. Bingham.

The business concluded with a vote of thanks to the Vicar and other people who had contributed to the success of the meeting. Ringing then continued until 9 p.m.

H. C. R.

50 YEARS AGO

'R.W.', Feb. 7, 1913.—

LONG STANTON'S MISFORTUNE

The misfortune which has befallen the village of Long Stanton, in Cambridgeshire, can seldom, if ever, have been the lot of a rural parish. They have only just had their bells increased from three to eight, and now, while a very considerable sum is still outstanding on the restoration, the ancient tenor has cracked in such a way as to render it useless, and the new peal has been spoilt until the bell can be recast. Such a happening would be enough to dishearten the authorities of any church, but in Long Stanton the circumstances are specially unfortunate. The recent increase of the bells to an octave was only carried out in the face of all kinds of discouragement and opposition.

ALL ENGLAND RALLY TO COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

The Coventry Diocesan Guild at their last quarterly meeting agreed to invite all ringers from all Guilds and Associations to a rally to be held on Saturday, April 20th, 1963, culminating in a service at the new Coventry Cathedral. It is hoped that the address will be given by the Bishop of Coventry, the Rt. Rev. Cuthbert K. Bardsley.

As Coventry is situated in the centre of England, and the new Cathedral has aroused so much interest, it is thought that ringers would appreciate this opportunity to visit it and take part in a service especially arranged for them. The service will take place at 3 p.m., to enable long distance travellers to commence their return journey in good time.

All towers within easy reach of Coventry will be made available during the morning and afternoon up to 2.30 p.m., and some will be open after the tea.

A buffet tea will be arranged as near the Cathedral as possible immediately after the service.

From whatever direction Coventry is approached there are good bells available, and visitors are assured of a hearty welcome at them all. Suggested routes, and towers on them, will be published in 'The Ringing World' at an early date.

Will all secretaries of Guilds and Associations who are interested inform the secretary of the Coventry Diocesan Guild as soon as possible of the numbers who may attend, to enable final arrangements to be made, as it may be necessary to issue tickets for the service: J. L. Garner-Hayward, 5, Burges, Coventry.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

The annual meeting of the S.W. Branch was held at Plympton St. Mary on January 26th. Ringing, under the Ringing Master (Mr. T. G. Myers), comprised Stedman and Grand-sire Triples, Plain Bob Major, with 'rounds' for several beginners who were present.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Ven. F. A. J. Matthews), who extended a hearty welcome to the Branch. In his address he spoke of the gifts that are employed in the service of the Church; churchwardens, sidesmen, secretaries and treasurers of the various organisations, organist, choir; and last, but by no means the least, the ringers. They all formed the Body of the Church, the whole which made the House of God.

Tea was served in the Church School, and this was followed by the business meeting.

In his report the hon. secretary stated membership remained about the same. Four peals had been rung at St. Andrew's during the year and 20 quarter peals, a number having been put on for Sunday evening services for visitors. Mention was made of the great progress being made by the Lifton ringers. Mr. Myers also stated that Mr. Fred E. Day had called his first peal. This was unique, as his first peal was Grand-sire Caters, and this he followed by calling a peal of Bob Royal, both at St. Andrew's.

One new member was admitted—Miss Patricia Sims, 13-year-old daughter of Mr. J. P. Sims, captain of Emmanuel. Her sister, Miss Sylvia Sims, now at Salisbury Training College, has been a ringer for about eight years. Messrs. F. Welch, J. Cornelius and F. F. Lock, of Shopton Beauchamp, were admitted as non-resident members. The chairman expressed a welcome through Mr. Cornelius, who was present.

Many apologies were received owing to the state of the roads, but several visitors made long journeys to be present, including Messrs. C. Sangwin and H. Stacey (Stratton), Mr. Pearce (Bridgerule), Mr. Watt (Dartmouth), Mr. Read (Yelmerston), whilst there were also present Brother William (Nottingham), Mr. Foster (Blackpool) and Mr. Cornelius (Shepton Beauchamp), on holiday in the district.

All the officers were re-elected, viz.: Chairman and Press officer, Mr. H. H. Thomas (Emmanuel); hon. secretary, treasurer and Ringing Master, Mr. T. G. Myers (St. Andrew's); auditor, Mr. H. O. Thomas (Emmanuel); general committee, Messrs. Wheeler (St. Andrew's), Bould (Tavistock) and Sims (Emmanuel).

About 40 sat down to tea, the local member towers being well represented.

H. H. T.

5,056 LONDON SURPRISE MAJORBy STEPHEN IVIN
23456 M B W H

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23456 'A'

Rung at Maulden on October 6th, 1962.

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