

THE RINGING WORLD

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**The Church of St. Mary Magdalene,
Taunton, Somerset**

OUR COVER PICTURE

Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton

TAUNTON is the county town of Somerset, lying between the Quantock and Blackdown ranges of hills in the Vale of Taunton Dene. It lies on the River Tone which rises in the Brendon Hills above Wellington and joins Somerset's main river, the Parret, at Burrowbridge, where King Alfred is alleged to have burnt the cakes on the Isle of Athelney. Not far from the Parret is the site of the Battle of Sedgemoor and fugitives from this were brought before the notorious Judge Jeffreys at the infamous Bloody Assize in Taunton.

From a distance the pink towers of the Parish Churches of St. James and St. Mary dominate the centre of the town, and holidaymakers have ample time to contemplate their elegance on summer Saturdays when queueing on the A38 at either side of the town. St. Mary's tower at 163½ feet is the tallest parish church tower in Somerset, slightly less than Downside Abbey (166 ft.) and the central tower of Wells Cathedral (182 ft.). Nikolaus Pevsner called it the "grandest of all English parish church towers" and its detail design merits some attention.

The church dates from the 13th to the 16th centuries and is of red sandstone and Ham Hill ashlar. It has double aisles of six bays, a most unusual feature, and the nave has a richly-decorated king-post roof dating from Tudor times. The tower has a fine fan vault and was rebuilt from the ground in 1862 by Ferrey and Sir G. G. Scott. (An interesting point is that the stones were raised by a system of pulleys, the rope being drawn by a donkey walking up Hammet Street, which is shown in the photograph.) It features set-back buttresses ending in pinnacles standing clear of the wall below the battlements. The crown would be top-heavy without the filigree battlements and filigree top pinnacles which give a lace-like effect. Above the west window there are three tiers of three-light windows, all pierced with Somerset tracery, with quatrefoil friezes below and flanked by shafts and pinnacles.

Within the taller bell stage hang 15 bells. Three are semitones hung "dead" and used by an electro-pneumatic carillon apparatus. The remainder form a ring of 12, tenor 30 cwt. in D (recast in 1861 by George Mears). Originally there were five bells and a sixth was added in 1816. Two trebles were added in 1840 to complete the octave. After the tower was rebuilt two more bells were added and the 7th recast in 1885. In this year is the first record of a peal on the bells, 5,079 Stedman Caters, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, for the Oxford Guild. Unfortunately this was false and was later withdrawn. Thus the first true peal was Grandsire Caters for the College Youths in 1894. The local band also rang a peal that year, Grandsire Triples, and proceeded to ring Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Caters until the Great War, 13 peals in all. In 1920 the bells were augmented to 12 and the late Albert Walker called the first peal of Stedman Cinques in the county in 1923, rung by men from Bristol. Since then only four peals have been rung: one of Cambridge Maximus by W. Pye in 1931 and three more of Caters. The last was Stedman Caters in 1947.

After this the tower was found to be badly cracked and extensive repairs were made in 1949. However, the bells were not rung for eight years. Ringing only began again in 1955 and is now limited to one hour's duration. This is a direct consequence of heavy bells being hung at the top of a relatively slender tower which has many features that could fall off. It is to be hoped that this fundamental mistake is never repeated in these times since to have some first-class bells in a magnificent tower and to be unable to ring them without restriction is a fairly galling situation. However, the fundamental aim of ringing for service can be achieved, and the inscription on the tenor bell makes a suitable ending:

"Come when I call to serve God all
I sound to bid the sickle repent
In hope of life when breath is spent."

THE RINGING WORLD

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COMMENT

Behind Great Companies—Leadership

THERE is always something thrilling in hearing a really competent band at work: in the sound of the City of London echoing Stedman Cinques, or the bells of St. Philip's Cathedral, Birmingham, pounding out Surprise Maximus. There has been in the past, and probably will be again, criticism of those who seek to push the standard of their ringing as near to the human limit of perfection as possible, but whatever the rights and wrongs of the dispute (and if anything has been proved by recent correspondence it is that the distinction between "Sunday service ringer" and "peal ringer" is a false one) the Exercise would surely be poorer for not having the example of really fine ringing.

Various factors have promoted the growth of great companies: the close proximity of towers; a long tradition, as in London and Birmingham, of ringing on the higher numbers; but, above all, leadership—not just the skill of a Ringing Master, but that quality which can instil enthusiasm and discipline into others. Some of the great leaders of the past may serve to remind us of the importance of this

gift: John Ashley Freeman, who trained his Lincoln band to a high degree of skill on twelve bells and in the field of Spliced Surprise; Harold Poole, of Leicester, the strength of whose personality was known and respected by people in many walks of life; John Worth, of Cheshire, who was taken from us suddenly last year, and who could always be relied upon to smooth over any discord that might arise; Derek Ogden, who died at a tragically early age, and whose band are even now setting up new records in Spliced Royal and Maximus.

These men, giants not only in their skill as ringers, but also in their capacity as human beings, have their successors today, but not nearly as many as the Exercise needs. There is, in fact, something approaching a crisis of leadership, which extends from the traditional centres of ringing down to the isolated parish church. Sad experience tells us how swiftly a band can disintegrate if it is leaderless or if discord arises or if the wrong sort of man is in charge. Every tower is trying to attract more recruits; let us also hope for the devoted leaders required to train them and to build up new companies.

R. A. G. I.

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BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Warning about Adequate Insurance of Bells

The 77th annual general meeting was held at Taunton on June 29th. The weather became sunny and hot and ringing took place at 23 local towers during the morning and evening. At 2.30 approximately 90 members and visitors attended the annual general meeting in the Corfield Hall, next to St. Mary's Church.

Opening the meeting with prayer, the Master (the Rev. H. F. Warren, of Exford) asked those present to remember the names of members who had died since the last meeting. Thirteen apologies for absence were received.

The minutes of the 1967 annual general meeting, having been circulated to those present, were taken as read and signed. There were no matters arising but the meeting approved of the revised procedure. Following the change in meeting date last year from Easter Monday, the annual reports had been available to all Branches by early June. Therefore the reports of the Master, secretary, treasurer, peal secretary and diocesan adviser on the care of the bells were all taken as read and adopted.

The Master's report referred to the deaths of two valued older members in George Coles and Jack Pugsley, who was the last founder member of the Association. The procedure adopted in the Dunster Branch to improve the number and quality of new members was described for guidance. Progress had been slow but membership had shown a marked increase and six new towers were now practising change ringing. A revision of the Association Form of Service had been made and would be printed when the Bishop's sanction had been obtained. Bell restorations had been put in hand at Dunster and Brompton Regis.

A BELL FOR TRINIDAD

Mr. J. H. Gilbert, general secretary, reported continuing progress in all fields. Two vice-presidents had resigned on leaving the diocese. Work was in hand to find a Somerset bell for a school in Trinidad and this had been successfully concluded in 1968. (In fact the bell in question was on the platform for all to see.) Ringing courses had been instituted and more instructors recruited but there were still several vacancies. Extra copies of "The Ringing World" had been distributed in connection with the rededication of eight bells at Batheaston and two subsequent features on Somerset towers. Striking competitions were increasing in popularity, and this was commended. Since the report was written the Association had become a Corporate Friend of Wells Cathedral. A new stock of certificates were to be ordered and people with more than 40 years' continuous membership were to receive special mention in future reports.

The treasurer, Mr. E. Naylor, reported a slight increase in the General Fund balance with results as shown above. He reiterated his appeal for subscriptions to be paid in early so as to provide funds for the year's working.

Mr. H. J. Sanger, advisory expert, reported an inspection at 15 towers and emphasised the importance of providing adequate insurance cover for bells and fittings. Two maintenance points which continually arose were "loose crown staples" and "dry pulleys." Too little attention was paid to the general maintenance of bells and it was felt to be the duty of all incumbents to see that a competent steeple-keeper was appointed.

PEAL STANDARD HIGHER

The peal secretary, Mr. G. W. Massey, reported that the peal total had exceeded 100 for the third year in succession, mainly due to

1967 STATISTICS

Ringling members (211 towers) ..	1,852
Hon. life and associate members	34
Affiliated towers	224
Investments and General Fund balance	£550
Bell Fund balance	£440
Peals rung	109
Quarter peals rung	276

the efforts of resident bands. More Doubles than ever were rung, but the Grandsire Doubles total was the lowest for 50 years, denoting the raising of standards. Notable peals included 16-Spliced Surprise Minor by the Chilcompton band and Spliced Surprise Major in 160 methods and 23 methods (all the work) by Tony Peake's band. The first peal on the bells had been scored at Chiselborough, St. Audries, Tintinhull and Withypool. Quarter peal ringing also maintained a high level, with 276 in 119 towers; according to Alan Buswell's list this puts Somerset second in the "table."

There was little comment on the reports, which were adopted en bloc. The secretary then gave an account of the Central Council meeting at Worcester, stressing the importance of the new Decisions on Doubles variations and the debate on "The Ringing World." Several of those present asked for assurance that a list of the Doubles variations still permitted would be published quickly. The peal secretary promised to make available to interested conductors any information he could obtain on this matter.

Mr. J. Brain expressed the hope that we had seen the end of dissension about "The Ringing World," which was so essential to the continuation of the Exercise. The paper had improved out of all recognition and he thought the work put in by the Editor had been taken too much for granted. Accordingly he proposed that the Association should convey their congratulations to the Editor on his election to life membership of the Central Council and on the improvement in the paper. This was carried unanimously.

Discussion then took place on the subject of a donation to "The Ringing World" since this was no longer tied to peal fees. It was decided that this must be left over until the next meeting, when it would be known what funds were available from the year's working.

MIDSUMMER MEETING AGAIN

The election of officers and Central Council representatives produced no changes and all elections were unanimous. However, fixing the next annual meeting date produced some discussion. It was agreed that the "experiment" of a midsummer meeting should continue for at least another year, although this year's attendance was considerably fewer than on previous Easter Mondays. There were many factors, such as holidays, haymaking and Taunton's traffic conditions which could prevent members from attending a Saturday meeting. Accordingly the date for 1969 was fixed as June 21st at Axbridge or Wedmore. This date would also avoid a clash with the Glastonbury pilgrimage.

Under any other business it was proposed that the Association consider establishing a library. This was supported and referred to the Branches for detailed discussion prior to a committee decision next year. The secretary urged members to book October 19th for the annual dinner at Cheddar, when Canon Felstead would be the guest speaker. The inclusion of additional features in the annual report was received favourably, and the admonitions on safety in the tower were strongly

emphasised. The meeting closed at 4.15 with prayer.

The Master then conducted a service in St. Mary's Church at which the Rev. M. J. Odum, chairman of the Taunton Branch, gave a thoughtful address on the uniqueness of man, having been created by God in "His own image" and the need to respect each other's individuality whilst living in amity. The service was preceded by a course of Stedman Cinques on the 30 cwt. twelve and followed by tea in the Corfield Hall. Further ringing took place until 9 p.m. The thanks of all were conveyed to local secretary Arthur Reed and his many helpers.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S COMMENTS

The ringing arrangements worked well and thanks are accorded to those who did duty as Ringing Masters in sundry towers. It is regretted that North Curry bells could not be rung as advertised, due to a visit by the Bishop, but we were grateful for permission to ring at 23 other towers. The business meeting was held with despatch since all the reports were previously printed. The lack of numbers has been mentioned. I must, however, again draw attention to the deplorable habit of visiting ringers who ring at the towers opened by the Association and then proceed to visit other towers in the Branch whilst the meeting is in progress. This is a growing practice which it is not possible to prohibit, since any ringer can write to a tower secretary for permission to ring, but it is undoubtedly discourteous to the host Association. Those concerned may consider themselves enterprising, but it can only be hoped that good sense will prevail.

Finally, a note of regret that Max Heymann could not attend as planned—he was going to write this report! J. H. G.

BATH RINGERS' DEVON OUTING

In the pouring rain a small group of people could be seen clustered around "the tree" in the village of Corston, Bath, on the morning of May 25th. This was the start of the annual outing, but by the time Taunton was reached the rain had stopped and when we arrived at the first tower, at Milverton, we found the charming village basked in warm, spring sunshine. From these pleasant bells we journeyed to Wiveliscombe (another fine ring) and a passable course of Cambridge Major is remembered.

After crossing the Exe at Stuckeridge Bridge, our convoy, some eight or nine cars in all, plunged off the main road along one of those lanes for which Devon is famous—narrow, picturesque and blessedly free from traffic. We did meet one lady; she pulled in to the side of the road with a smile to let the first car pass; by the time the eighth car had gone by I believe the smile had been replaced by a look of utter bewilderment! A picnic lunch was eaten at the Gidleigh Arms, a convenient hostelry miles from anywhere. "Where's the village?" asked the youngest member of the party, who found it difficult to believe there just wasn't a village! On then through more lanes, twisting and turning. ("Are we practising for the Monte Carlo Rally?" asked one driver.) But at length the convoy arrived at Chawleigh, where we found a really splendid six, rung from the ground floor.

Next came Chulmleigh, where the melodious ring of eight (24 cwt.) seemed to sound best to the music of Stedman. We were privileged to be joined by the local tower master and under his guidance some of us tried our skill at "real Devon call changes"—a somewhat nerve-racking experience for the uninitiated.

(Continued on page 574)

BELLHOUSES AND CHESTER CATHEDRAL

Maintaining an Ancient Tradition

By the Very Rev. G. W. O. ADDLESHAW, Dean of Chester

THE plan to build a bellhouse for the bells at Chester Cathedral revives a very ancient tradition. For when the bells first became usual in churches, they were hung in a tower or campanile, standing on its own, detached from the church to which the bells belonged. Famous early examples are the round bell towers of the churches in Ravenna, dating from about the tenth century, and the round towers of Celtic monasteries in Ireland and Scotland. The ancient English name for a detached bell tower is a bellhouse, a name that first appears in late Anglo-Saxon times. Although after the rise of Romanesque architecture the usual practice was to hang the bells in a tower structurally part of the church, the tradition of the bellhouse did not disappear. The two most famous cathedral bell towers in Italy are bellhouses, the Leaning Tower at Pisa (180 feet high) and Giotto's campanile at Florence (292 feet high). Incidentally, the heaviest of the bells in the Leaning Tower at Pisa is hung away from the side that leans over. The highest tower in Italy, the Torrazzo at Cremona (397 feet high) is the bellhouse of the Cathedral.

BELLHOUSES ON THE WELSH MARCHES

Although in most English mediæval churches the bells are hung in a tower that is part of the church, bellhouses were commoner than is usually realised, particularly in the eastern counties and on the Welsh marches. It is the examples on the Welsh marches that we are concerned with here, as they are nearest to Chester. The church at Henllan, Denbighshire, has its bells in a bellhouse, and the tradition of the bellhouse is particularly strong further south in Herefordshire. Stone bellhouses, for instance, dating from the 13th century can be seen in the churchyards at:—

Bosbury—60 feet from the south side of the church.

Garway—15 feet from the north-west corner of the church and joined to it by a stone passage built in the 17th century.

Ledbury—a few feet away from the north side of the church.

The old church at Richard's Castle in the north of the county has a 14th century bellhouse, standing at an angle some 16 feet from its east end. Over the border from Herefordshire at Bronllys, Breconshire, is a bellhouse, also standing at an angle a few feet away from the east end of the church. It was rebuilt in the last century, but in style it resembles these early Herefordshire bellhouses.

With the exception of that at Ledbury, those bellhouses have four-sided pyramidal roofs. The Ledbury bellhouse has a spire. That and the top stage date from 1732 and are the work of the Worcester architect, Nathaniel Wilkinson. The sturdy looking bellhouse at Bosbury once had a spire, but it was removed in 1812; so also did that at Richard's Castle. The Ledbury bellhouse and spire has a much too spruced up appearance and, architecturally, is disappointing. For the best example in the West Country of a bellhouse with a spire one has to go over into Gloucestershire, to Westbury-on-Severn.

Herefordshire not only has stone bellhouses. At Holmer is a 13th century bellhouse a few feet way from the south side of the church, with a timber framed top stage dating from the 16th century. Two of the most well-known Herefordshire bellhouses, at Pembridge and Yarpole, are timber framed structures, with the lowest stage of stone. The Pembridge bellhouse stands 48 feet from the north side of the church and is octagonal in shape. It rises in three diminishing stages, with hipped and pyramidal roofs. Photogenically it is the most exciting of the Herefordshire bellhouses, particularly from the east side, where it is seen in a frame of yew trees. Yarpole's is much smaller and stands 49 feet away from the south side of the church. It has a pyramidal roof, crowned with a lantern. The village takes great pride in its bellhouse and in 1967 restored it at a cost of £1,000—highly creditable when the population is only about 300.

There is no contemporary evidence as to why a parish in any particular case chose to hang its bells in a bellhouse. But it is usually that it was done on grounds of economy. It was often cheaper to build a separate free standing tower rather than add a tower to an existing church. Aesthetic reasons may also have led to the choice of a bellhouse. There is no doubt that a bellhouse in a churchyard, as the examples at Pembridge and Yarpole show, add greatly to the interest and appearance of the churchyard and the church. They give them both something distinctive. Garway is another instance of how, on architectural grounds, a bellhouse improves the look of a church and its surroundings. The church here was originally a Celtic monastery. By the 12th century the Celtic monastery had disappeared and it had become a parish church belonging to the Templars, who built a circular nave as was usual in their churches. This was replaced by the present rectangular nave soon after the bellhouse was built. The top stage of the bellhouse was rebuilt in the 17th century and has a pyramidal roof. The colour of the stone and the angle at which the bellhouse stands to the church make the complex of buildings at Garway one of the most attractive on the English-Welsh border.

BELLHOUSES BELONGING TO CATHEDRALS AND CHURCHES

But the examples so far given of mediæval bellhouses are those belonging to parish churches. Did cathedrals or abbeys in England in the Middle Ages ever have a bellhouse? The answer is yes. Indeed, if in a great church the only place available for the bells was the central tower, the Middle Ages often preferred to hang the bells in a bellhouse. They were very conscious that hanging bells in a central tower could be a risky thing, as a tower poised on the four piers and arches of the crossing was structurally the weakest part of the church.

The only cathedral still to have a bellhouse is Chichester. The bellhouse, called Raymond's Tower, stands on the north side of the Cathedral and was finished about 1436. The remains of a 12th century bellhouse can still

be seen at Llandaff, a little to the south of the Cathedral.

Four other cathedrals once had bellhouses:

Old St. Paul's. What the Elizabethan antiquary, John Stow, calls "a clochier or bellhouse" stood north-east of the Cathedral, and was taken down in the reign of Henry VIII. On top of its timber spire was a statue of St. Paul.

Norwich. (A monastic cathedral.) A large bellhouse, some 50 feet square, stood west of the Cathedral in the outer court of the monastery. It dated from the 13th century and either collapsed or was demolished about 1573.

Salisbury. A bellhouse in three receding stages with a spire was built at the same time as the Cathedral on the north side. It was taken down about 1790 during Wyatt's rearrangement of the close.

Worcester (A monastic cathedral.) A bellhouse or "clochium," as it was called, was built north of the Cathedral in the 13th century and appears to have had a spire some 200 feet high. It was taken down about 1647.

Four Benedictine abbeys had a bellhouse, Westminster Abbey, Bury St. Edmunds, and, in the West Midlands, Tewkesbury and Evesham. At Westminster Abbey, the bellhouse, some 75 feet square and with a spire, stood on the north side. In it were hung the five bells, one of Henry III's important gifts to the Abbey. It was taken down in 1750 and the site is now occupied by the Middlesex Guild Hall.

The abbeys at Bury St. Edmunds, Tewkesbury and Evesham had a parish; and on one side of the abbey church was the churchyard, where the monks and parishioners were buried. The bellhouse of each of these abbeys was in the churchyard; and also in each of the churchyards at Bury St. Edmunds and Evesham were two churches built by the monks for the parishioners. Incidentally, not all the bells of these abbeys were in the bellhouse. Some were in the tower of the abbey church.

At Bury St. Edmunds the churchyard was on the south and west sides of the abbey church; and here were the two churches built by the monks for the people of Bury, St. Mary's, now the Cathedral, and St. James'. A gatehouse called St. James' Tower was built in the middle of the 12th century in the precinct wall leading into the churchyard. In this gatehouse in the Middle Ages was certainly one of the abbey bells, the fire bell rung as a fire alarm. Since the dissolution of the monasteries, the gatehouse has been the bellhouse of the adjoining St. James' Church.

At Tewkesbury and Evesham the churchyard was on the north side of the abbey church. At Tewkesbury the bellhouse was at the entrance to the churchyard. It was taken down in 1817 and a school, still standing, built on its site. Part of the bellhouse is said to be incorporated in the school. Judging from old illustrations, the bellhouse was an undistinguished building. Yet it attracted the attention of Turner, and in the north choir aisle of the abbey is a painting by him, showing the bellhouse and the abbey church.

The Evesham bellhouse is a most impressive piece of architecture, and the finest bellhouse in England. It was built about 1530-32, of golden coloured stone from Broadway by the

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Bellhouses—continued

Abbot, Clement Litchfield, and is virtually all that is left of the great abbey. The churchyard at Evesham was in two parts, the eastern part, now a public park going down to the Avon, for the monks, and the western part for the parishioners. In this part are two churches built for them by the monks, All Saints' and St. Laurence's. The bellhouse stands between the two parts of the cemetery. Its bottom stage is an archway leading from one part to the other. The bellhouse is 110 feet high. It has double angle buttresses and the eastern and western faces, that looked on to the two parts of the cemetery, are lavishly panelled. The top stage is crowned by an embattled and pierced parapet and eight tall pinnacles. In it is now a ring of 12 bells. The 18th century Worcestershire topographer, Thomas Nash, described the bellhouse as being "a very beautiful, regular and well preserved structure" and having the appearance of great magnificence." He is certainly right.

Chester Cathedral only became a Cathedral in 1941, after the dissolution of the monasteries. Prior to that it was the great Benedictine Abbey of St. Werburgh. The proposal to build a bellhouse for the Cathedral has to be seen against the background of the history of bellhouses on the English-Welsh Border and in abbey churches.

The bellhouse will be no stranger to the Border, for its design recalls in a modern idiom the regional characteristics of the Border's bellhouses, particularly those at Pembridge and Yarpole.

Its site beyond the Cheshire Regiment Memorial Garden, in what was once part of the Abbey Churchyard, is the place where in the Middle Ages an abbey bellhouse would have stood. As often happened in the Middle Ages, the bellhouse is a safer way of dealing with the problems of the Cathedral bells than retaining them in the central tower and, on the whole, more economical.

A bellhouse, as is the case with bellhouses belonging to churches in England and in Italy, will be a most striking feature of the Cathedral and its surroundings. In years to come it may well be seen as one of the most exciting architectural additions made to Chester in the second half of the 20th century.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

For a variety of reasons the Northern District met, not at Benington as planned, but at Norton a week earlier. Ringing commenced at 5.45 p.m., gradually improving until Stedman Triples could be rung before the business meeting.

Mr. A. R. Agg was elected to the chair and the meeting rose in silence in memory of Mr. Michael D. Trigg, whose death made the election of two new officers necessary. Mr. John Leeming was elected as District Ringing Master and Mr. J. S. Dear to the county committee.

Three new members were elected—D. Scales and D. Warren (Aston) as probationary members and Mr. A. Horton (Hitchin) as a full member. Meetings were proposed for Barkway and Barley in August, Ardeley and Sandon in September and Aston and Benington in October.

Under "any other business" Mrs. R. Spicer asked if a District cricket team could be found to challenge another District. Mr. M. R. Worthington asked if a District Surprise practice could be arranged. After some discussion it was decided that such a meeting could be helpful and that to help it get off the ground it should be advertised in "The Ringing World."

Ringling continued under the direction of the new Ringing Master. Amongst methods rung were Yorkshire, Superlative, Stedman, Kent, Oxford and Plain Bob. Ringling continued until 8.30. M.R.W.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION A.G.M.

South-Western Division Divided

THE 89th annual general meeting of the Essex Association was held on Spring Bank Holiday, June 3rd, at Chelmsford. 110 members and friends being in attendance.

The bells of the Cathedral were rung for an hour before the service. The Very Rev. Hilary Connop-Price conducted the service, with the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford preaching a very inspiring and impressive sermon.

The business meeting followed in the Chapter House with the Master, Mr. Frank B. Lufkin, in the chair.

On opening the meeting the Master made two apologies to the members. Firstly, through a misunderstanding with "The Ringing World," it was regrettable that the notice for the annual general meeting appeared for only two weeks, and secondly, due to a delay at the printers, the annual reports were not circulated to the members until immediately before the meeting. However, the members agreed that the meeting should continue with the agenda as presented in the report, despite not having time to digest the contents properly. After Standing Orders had been adopted, visitors from Kent and Hertfordshire were welcomed. Apologies for absence were received from H. Pratt, J. Armstrong, Capt. Denson, J. Clark, A. J. House, J. L. Towler, P. Bedford and Miss H. Snowden.

The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, after which they were adopted as a correct record.

In presenting the accounts, the treasurer, Mr. P. J. Eves, stressed how necessary it had been to raise the members' subscription to 5s., as even now the Association was only just managing to keep its head above water. To save money he suggested that the District secretaries should economise on the wording of Notices in "The Ringing World," as last year this bill had increased quite considerably.

Mr. C. K. Cooper, the report editor, apologised for the lateness of the report, but, unfortunately, once again printers had to be changed, which did not help matters. After drawing attention to a few mistakes which had appeared in the report, he thanked all those who had been of invaluable assistance to him in compiling the report.

LOYALTY, DISCIPLINE AND DUTY

In the annual report the Master expressed how pleased he was to see in his travels around the county plenty of young folk with an enthusiasm for the art and a healthy interest in the affairs of the Association. He also detected a desire for change and more efficiency. He pointed out, however, that in these days of change the main objects of the Exercise should not be forgotten. Firstly, that they continue the calling to worship people of Essex, and secondly to promote fellowship within the Association for the good of and advancement of all bands of ringers. He was disturbed, however, by the number of ringers who flourish for a time and then are seen no more. He respectfully thought that they still had to learn how to instill loyalty, discipline and a sense of duty for the work of the Church so that all efforts were more rewarding. The Master finally added that the success of the Association depended on all members pulling their weight.

A ringing competition had been held at Roydon and for the third year in succession St. Leonard's, Colchester, won. The Dagenham band came second, and Dr. Armstrong and his young band are to be congratulated on such a creditable performance. The Association once more provided ringing during Chelmsford Cathedral Festival. At this function five quarter peals had been successfully rung but, due to an unfortunate delay, the peal attempt never really got off the ground.

During 1967, 98 peals had been rung, six less than in 1966. 141 "firsts in the method" and 31 "first peals" were recorded. This is the highest number of first-peals that has been recorded in any one year. Worthy of special mention is the peal of Plain Bob Major rung at Dagenham, when four members scored their "first" and three members their "first of Major," also, by the same band, a peal of Kent T.B. Major. On January 28th ladies from the South-Eastern Division scored a first ladies peal for the Association. The leading peal ringer was the Master, Mr. F. B. Lufkin, who rang 30 peals, and Miss Y. A. Murray led the ladies by scoring 15 peals.

NEW DISTRICT FORMED

On putting forward the motion on the split of the South-Western District of the Association into two smaller Districts the Master made it clear to the meeting that the purpose was to approve or disapprove the split in principle and leave the actual headache of specifying which towers will go where to a special committee set up for the purpose. Mr. D. Cobb, the proposer, said that the size of a District would not be decided on by the number of towers but by the actual number of members within the District. The South-Western has 300 members, nearly 175 more than any other District. Mr. Hallett thought that both the Southend area and the south-western corner of the county were strong enough to stand on their own and that by doing so would do a great deal of good for the Association. This proposal was voted on and the motion was carried.

It was also decided that the subscriptions for honorary members should be abolished. The proposers said that this position, in their opinion, was of an honorary nature and should be bestowed on people in recognition of their interest in the Association's work, as an honour—therefore, it followed that they should not be asked for a subscription, but rather that, if they should so wish, they could donate as much as they wished.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. F. B. Lufkin was again elected Master and Miss H. Snowden as Deputy Master. Unfortunately Mr. Snowden was unable to be present at the meeting as she has had a serious operation, but all good wishes went to her for a complete recovery.

Other honorary officers elected: Secretary, P. W. Saltmarsh; treasurer, P. J. Eves; auditors, Miss V. Cross, G. H. Isgar; trustees, J. Clarke, P. J. Came and D. A. S. Symonds.

Mr. R. C. Heazel, Past Master of the Association, could not accept the Association's proposal of making him a life vice-president. He felt that it was a working job and at present he was very busy in other activities. The Master said that Mr. Heazel was not in any way being disrespectful and he hoped that the members would respect his wishes until such time as his private life was better suited to accept the office. However, Mr. H. Turner was unanimously elected as a life vice-president. Life members elected were: H. Turner, E. Sitch, S. Holgate and A. Honeywood sen.

Under the heading of any other business the Master informed the members that this year the dinner would be on October 19th, and that they had made a gamble and hired a band for the evening in the hope of attracting more people, especially younger members, to attend the dinner.

The meeting was then closed and lunch was served in the Cathedral Hall by members of the South-Eastern Division. Towers round and about Bocking and Halstead were open during the afternoon and evening, and tea was taken at Bocking, kindly prepared by the Bocking ringers under the leadership of Mrs. Mr. Moore. J.A.Q.

Letters to the Editor

A DOUBLES QUANDARY

Dear Sir,—I cannot understand the logic of the last paragraph in your article "Clarifying Doubles Variations" ("Ringing World," page 482).

April Day, as I have always rung it, consists of Plain Bob with a Grandsire single as a call. This, surely, is in accordance with the third paragraph in the same article, since the call is "not part of the plain course of another method." If, as the last paragraph states, we recognise that spliced extents have been rung, may I ask what the methods spliced together were? If they were Plain Bob and Grandsire, then we have (a) accepted half-lead splicing, (b) allowed a spliced extent in which a plain lead of Grandsire does not occur. If it is argued that we have rung Reverse St. Bartholomew between the half-leads, this makes nonsense since Reverse St. Bartholomew does not occur as a method in the Central Council Doubles Collection.—I remain, sir, confused.—Yours sincerely,

PAUL CATTERMOLE.

Worcester.

Note.—April Day is an extent of Spliced Plain Bob and Reverse St. Bartholomew's Bob Doubles. Under a different name, Reverse St. Bartholomew is a method much older than our modern Grandsire Doubles; a plain lead of Reverse St. Bartholomew is now used as the single in our modern Grandsire Doubles. Reverse St. Bartholomew is a method which conforms to the C.C. Decisions on Regular Doubles Methods. Together with several other methods it was not included in the C.C. Collection published in 1955; this Collection, like the Major and Minor Collections, has never been claimed to be a complete collection of all regular methods.—Editor.

"QUEEN VICTORIA TREBLE BOB"

Dear Sir.—The correct name for the method rung to a peal at Beenham, Berks, on May 29th as Queen Victoria Treble Bob ("Ringing World," June 28th, page 508) is Sprotborough Delight. As such it was included in a peal at Cawthorne, Yorks, on January 30th, 1965. The Beenham peal is, however, the first 5,040 in the methods, as claimed.

It was suggested in a letter to "The Ringing World" in February, 1963, that this notation might be called Queen Victoria but the writer (Mr. Bishop) gave no reason for his suggestion. It would be interesting to know what made him suggest this name, and whether he has any evidence of the method ever having been rung prior to the Cawthorne peal.—Yours sincerely,

CYRIL A. WRATTEN.

Cheltenham, Glos.

6,000 RINGERS TO CATER FOR

Dear Sir,—You cannot run a journal with a committee constantly at variance amongst themselves, and I appeal for a little bit of common-sense and statesmanship on both sides. The committee should be reminded that they are there to cater for 6,000 readers, not to spend all their time trying to score cheap points off one another at our expense.

No one need get worried about the appendix that was published. It was quite the most boring document I have read for years, except to emphasise the small minds of some of those at variance, who ought to remember that Rome was not built in a day.—Yours sincerely,

JOHN BRAIN.

Backwell, Somerset.

PAYMENT FOR WEDDINGS

Dear Sir,—I wonder how many bellringers have analysed their reasons for joining and pursuing this ancient art?

Is it because they enjoy it merely as a hobby, do they regard it as a duty to their church, or is it just another way of obtaining a few extra shillings on the side?

Those who fall into the last category will know that I am referring to the system of payment for ringing the bells at special functions, particularly weddings.

This is usually in the order of around £5, paid, in the case of weddings, by the parties concerned, so if there are six ringers they each receive 16s. 8d., eight ringers each receive 12s. 6d., and so on.

To my mind this is sheer avarice; why is there not an unwritten law (or written one, for that matter!) that all money received should be paid into church funds?

There is no compulsion for anyone to ring at weddings, and therefore there is no valid argument in favour of being paid for sacrificing an hour or so on a Saturday afternoon. Most ringers, I hope, ring for the love of ringing—or do they consider they should be paid for Sunday service ringing?

Certainly those who wish for bells to be rung at their wedding should expect to pay, just as they do so for the choir and organist to be present, but I strongly contend that it should be the church, and not the individual, which benefits.—Yours sincerely,

G. ROBINSON.

Coventry.

Note.—My attention was drawn to a lady in Surrey who recorded her wedding fees on her Income Tax return.—Ed.

A GUILD FOR NORTH AMERICA

Dear Sir.—In recent months there has been much discussion of the desirability of having a Guild of Change Ringers in North America. There is evidence of new enthusiasm among American ringers which should now be unified.

The Guild would serve at least two important purposes. First, it would give each ringer a sense of belonging to a fraternity of ringers throughout the Continent, and, second, it would help to ensure that each visiting ringer has the maximum opportunity to join with local ringers in fostering the art of change ringing in the New World.

Membership of the Central Council would further strengthen existing ties between English and American ringers.

I therefore propose that each N. American tower should elect a person who should send me details of the state of ringing in his own tower and any other information which might be useful in the consideration of the preliminary details involved in setting up the Guild. Other ringers who have any information or suggestions are also urged to contact me so that the North American Guild of Change Ringers may be established as soon as possible.—Yours faithfully,

GEOFFREY DAVIES.

Brandeis University,
Waltham, Mass., U.S.A.

TAKEN A RINGING PAPER FOR 75 YEARS

Dear Sir,—Congratulations on your years as Editor of "The Ringing World"—a fine job well done. Having taken a weekly ringing paper since 1893, now 75 years, I look back with pride to the many improved factors we have in our midst. A lad I taught at Sunbury and Hersham 60 years ago (Albert Diserens) is still active and I notice another pupil of mine (Roy Collins), of Chobham, now of Farnham, still carrying on the good work.

Just lately my doctor has taken a sudden new interest in my health, for he has called here five times in the last five weeks and is coming again next Wednesday. I cannot walk much and in fine weather I am taken out in a four-wheel chair round some of the quiet roads nearby. Since last September I have not ventured as far as our main Post Office as my doctor states my heart, at nearly 85, is tired, and I am bronchial and with Paget's Disease these last 15 years.

In recent years my contributions have been short and to the point, chiefly to get the correct information which people tell me is of interest.

The Editor has a tough job and ringers have no idea of the snags and pitfalls he is liable to suffer. I don't like Surprise ringing or spliced ringing; my limited time gave me little chance to delve into so many methods. Every week seems to produce false changes in peals, etc., and we have too many methods. Plain Bob has many composers in recent years, but all the best compositions were composed prior to 1914.

Still, you are safe in the chair I hope for a few more years yet, so here's wishing you good luck, good health and all good wishes.—Yours very sincerely,

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

Addlestone.

Note.—The Editor thanks Mr. Shepherd and the many others who have sent congratulatory letters.

A NEW ZEALAND REQUEST

Dear Sir,—I wonder if one of your readers could help me. When I was a young lad in Wales I used to belong to a team of handbell ringers. Now I would like to form a team myself but on inquiries it would appear that there are no bells available. Does anyone have a set which they would let me have at a reasonable price? A children's handbell team would be quite a novelty out here as there is only one other in New Zealand, so any help would be very much appreciated.—Yours faithfully,

G. A. JAMES.

113, Shakespeare Road,
Takapuna,
Auckland 9, N.Z.

ALSO AGAINST

Dear Sir,—I also voted against the Doubles motion at Worcester, and as we are assured that no restriction is being placed on the scope of Doubles ringing would welcome some explanation on just how future performances are to be submitted to "The Ringing World" for publication.—Yours faithfully,

ANTHONY J. DAVIDSON.

Truro, Cornwall

BELL ROPES
JOHN NICOLL
SEE BACK PAGE

TINTED COVERS AND THE SHILLING "RINGING WORLD"

Dear Sir, — In all the years I have taken "The Ringing World" I have never had cause to criticise the committee appointed by the Central Council, but I feel that over the last two or three years the attitude has changed considerably.

In my opinion, I am very much afraid that the decision taken by "The Ringing World" Committee is going to spell "Dunkirk" for this journal. Agreed, it does make the paper attractive to have a tinted cover, but to my knowledge all ringers buy "The Ringing World" for the news it contains of bells and bellringing in general. I feel that the continued use of "Tinted Covers" plus the increase in price to one shilling will reduce the sales of "The Ringing World," and this should not be allowed to happen under any consideration.

May I refer to the time of the late Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, who in 1911 started printing "The Ringing World," which paper (in those days and until his death) satisfied the requirements of the ringers up and down the country who purchased it at (whisper it very quietly) 2d. per copy.

As far as I am aware there have never been any complaints, or suggestions for alterations to the paper, until approximately the last three or four years, and this includes the names of well-known ringers of the past, such as the Rev. Canon Coleridge, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Alderman Padon-Smith and last, but not least, Albert Walker and many others.

Now this fancy cover is helping very much to put the finances of the paper in the red (like the little red star often seen on bank statements).

By cutting out the fancy cover there would be an immediate saving of £40 per week. I would like to point out to the committee that it would be best to cut your suit according to your cloth.

A pleasing profit was made in 1966, but in 1967 experimenting took place with a coloured

issue when there was a deficit of £500. Now, in only four months—January 1st to April 30th, 1968—there is another tremendous loss of £438. Where is the continued loss going to end—in bankruptcy?

Mr. J. Frank Smallwood, one of the pioneers of the paper, after much hard work (with others) built up a considerable balance for "The Ringing World." Is this balance to dwindle away because of the "fancy dress"? I agree with Mr. Bayliss when he calculated the loss which would occur during 1968 as over £1,000. No wonder he had a shock—and so did I! Is this the way to prosperity?

Sales drives have been tried out in the past with little success. My view: cut out the fancy stuff for a start—go back to the original cover—and keep the price as low as possible. It is appreciated that printing costs have gone up, but 50 per cent. in the last two years seems rather high. Unfortunately we have no control over this, or postal increases.

Another item which has surprised me is the amount received for publishing quarter peals. In May this year—£37 for quarter peals (quite good) and £5 for peals (disgraceful, don't you agree?). This, I think, calls for a "peals levy," and I am sure someone could be found in each Association (such as a retired ringer) to be responsible for the collection of this "levy" from conductors of peals. This would bring in welcomed extra money to the accounts, especially as it has already been pointed out that approximately four and a half pages of the paper are given over each week to the publication of peals (no income at the moment from these). **One shilling per rope** is a small amount to pay for the pleasure of approximately three hours of ringing enjoyment (the price of half a pint).

"The Ringing World" has been coming into my home since the first copy that "J. S. G." produced in 1911. In 1920 I was demobbed from the first world war, and after my father passed away in that year I continued taking "The Ringing World" each week. This is

48 years, and I have enjoyed reading the journal each week over these years (almost a lifetime). I have not been an active peal ringer for the past 30 years due to circumstances beyond my control, but I have always endeavoured to be loyal to "The Ringing World." I hope to continue taking "The Ringing World" until December (paid up), after which date I shall think very seriously of cancelling my copy, and I'm afraid I shall not be alone. This I shall regret, but I am sorry I have no confidence in the present policy of "The Ringing World" Committee, who, in my opinion, are trying to produce a paper which will prove to be uneconomical.—Yours faithfully,

HECTOR G. BIRD.

East Brent, North Somerset.

Editor's Note.—We are always glad to hear from readers of long standing. If he had been at Worcester Mr. Bird would have seen that the Council was certainly not willing to go back to the old style "Ringing World," though we are glad to note that he at least found it satisfactory. But the selling price would have had to go up, because we should not have had the increased circulation which has come with the modernisation.

There was no need for anyone to have a shock about the deficit. Until income was increased, by price rise or circulation, or both, an extra £40 a week was bound to turn the profit into £1,000 deficit. If all that has been called for lately had been adopted, the deficit would be five or six times greater.

We would be only too glad for any Association to help by collecting a peal levy for us. We cannot afford the administrative cost of collection, neither can we insist on a levy unless the Council so decides and accepts the risk of incomplete records.

In our experience there have always been critics of "The Ringing World" and its committee. It is much easier to criticise than to devote time and effort, week after week, to produce a paper with due regard to the budget.

DORSET HONOURS BILL SHUTE'S 60 YRS. OF RINGING

Saturday, June 29th, was a very special day, when friends from far and near gathered at Hampreston, near Wimborne, to do honour to the well-known Dorset ringer, Mr. W. C. Shute. About 100 people were present, including, of course, many members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, but also some who had travelled much further—from Somerset, Hampshire, Sussex, Essex and Worcestershire. More would have come but for other engagements (it was a favourite day for church fetes), and among the apologies were those from the president (Mr. W. C. West) and the Master (Rev. R. N. Longridge) and the chairman of the North Dorset Branch (Rev. R. G. Chaffey Moore).

A service in the church was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. E. H. Monds, with Mr. J. Morrison as organist, and an address was given by the Rev. T. F. Brewster, R.D. Then everyone went over to the schoolroom, where Mrs. Vacher and Mr. and Mrs. King and helpers had prepared a wonderful spread. Later the local schoolchildren gave an entertainment of tunes on handbells and recorders, and their efforts were a great credit to their teacher, Mrs. Howard, and the headmaster, Mr. Pressley.

In the schoolroom later Mr. R. King, in welcoming the company to Hampreston, spoke appreciatively of the vast number of Mr. Shute's pupils. Mr. L. Lockyer, chairman of the Wimborne Branch, presided over the gathering and mentioned the affection and esteem in which Mr. Shute is held. He praised his achievements and his services to ringing, including over 40 years as Ringing Master of the North Dorset Branch.

Mr. Shute will have something to remind him of the occasion. Many of his friends had clubbed together and bought him a transistor radio, which was appropriately handed to him by Mr. Jim Ralph, who had known him as long as anyone else in the room—for just about 60 years. Mr. Shute thanked all concerned with the occasion and was loudly applauded.

So now, when ringers from all over Dorset, and in other counties as well, listen to the bells before the news on Sunday mornings they will think of their friend, Bill Shute, doing likewise, and will wish him "good listening" as well as good ringing for many years to come.

M. M. C.

A WILTSHIRE GOLDEN WEDDING

The quarterly meeting of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild at Urchfont on July 6th was made memorable by the presence of Mr. and Mrs. W. Smith, of Chilton, who were celebrating their golden wedding.

Following the tea provided by Mr. G. Heath, the local captain, and his helpers, Mr. and Mrs. Smith cut the cake, which had been generously provided, and their health was proposed in felicitous terms by Mr. Heath, who recalled that Mr. Smith had also been a ringer for 50 years. Later in the meeting it was proposed that Mr. Smith's name be submitted to the Guild Committee for life membership.

Forthcoming events announced at the meeting were: August meeting, Heytesbury, on August 3rd; Striking Competition, first Saturday in September (draw 2.30); October quarterly meeting, Warminster, October 5th.

Votes of thanks were proposed to the Vicar (the Rev. T. Salisbury) for conducting the service, the organist (Mr. Lester Eves), the choir and the caterers. Ringing continued until 7.30 and included Cambridge Surprise Major.

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Bells of a 13th Century Church

A School Project

TRAVELLERS along the Worcester to Stratford-on-Avon road hardly notice Spetchley, a village of about 100 souls, lying in attractive parkland just outside the Worcester City boundary.

Opposite the half-timbered forge and standing high above the road is the Parish Church, almost invisible among the yew trees which surround it. Built in the 13th century, the church is very small and simple in design but is famous for the tombs of the Berkeley family, which fill the chantry to the south of the choir with a blaze of heraldic colour. As in several of the churches in the hundred of Oswaldeslow, the church was built without a tower and probably had, originally, a timber belfry similar to those still in existence at Kington or Whiteladies, Aston. In the seventeenth century the present tower was built within the western end of the nave and the four mediæval bells were hung in a massive frame.

The bells remained untouched until 1904, when it had become unsafe for them to be rung, and in that year James Barwell and Company strengthened the old bell-cage and rehung the bells with new fittings, which remain in good order. It is unlikely that the bells were much rung after 1914 and certainly there has been no regular team for many years.

In 1960 a few young ringers patched up the fittings and rang the bells on a few occasions, and what is thought to be the only quarter peal on the bells was rung in that year by a band of schoolboys, whose average age was 14 years—

On Friday, May 6th, 1960, in 35 minutes.

1,272 COURT BOB MINIMUS

Tenor 5 cwt. in B minor.

James E. Pullon	1
Michael J. Fellows	2
Martin D. Fellows	3
Paul Cattermole	4

Rung to commemorate the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Margaret and Mr. Anthony Armstrong-Jones.

It is recorded that such was the quantity of dust and twigs which descended during the ringing that the treble ringer was forced to wear a sou'wester as protection! The ringing room was then immediately below the bells and very noisy, and the ropes fell awkwardly, the tenor rope being only four inches from the wall.

In 1967 the Rev. R. Kingston, Vicar of Spetchley-with-Whiteladies, Aston, and Churchill-in-Oswaldeslow, inaugurated a scheme for a complete restoration of Spetchley Church and asked the headmaster of the King's School whether it would be possible for boys from the school to help put the bells in order. Accordingly, work began in September, 1967, with the removal of about 15 cwt. of dust, dead pigeons, twigs and droppings from the bell chamber. When the floor boards were eventually uncovered they were discovered to be completely rotten and unsafe and were removed and burned, and a platform was erected from which work could proceed on the bells and fittings.

After a general cleaning, the fittings were found to be in excellent order with the exception of one stay and one slider. Much-needed tightening of loose bolts was done, and faulty ropes were spliced and replaced. The ringing conditions in the belfry would have been even worse than before, as the layer of dust and twigs which had insulated the sound of the bells had now gone, together with the ceiling of the ringing room.

Eventually it was decided to lower the ropes to the ground floor. This made it possible to draw the ropes into a reasonable circle and, by using 24 feet of polythene drainpipe, the tenor rope was placed in a more manageable position. As the western door is the only entrance to the church, the congregation has to pass through the rope circle on its way



into church, but with careful rope-handling this presents few problems.

The bells are, in the opinion of the antiquary, H. B. Walters, all of pre-Reformation date, but only the third is inscribed. This bears in crowned capitals the inscription "Sancte Petre, ora pro nobis" and has the famous "Royal Head" foundry marks. The tenor weighs about 5 cwt., and the notes of the bells are E flat, D, C, B, an odd and rather plaintive combination. If they can find a suitable smaller bell the boys would like to hang this as a treble to make a ring of five.

On Sunday, June 23rd, the church was used for the first time after restoration and the bells were rung by the King's School Society of Change Ringers before and after the service. Call changes were rung by three boys, Paul Hassan, Christopher Pickford and Simon Webb, and one master, Mr. P. Cattermole. Also present were Michael Fardon and Charles McDewitt, who, although not ringers, had spent most of their Friday afternoons for the last nine months in the dust of Spetchley tower doing the necessary repairs. At the service the lesson was read by Mr. P. Cattermole, and the Vicar thanked the boys for their efforts in the tower. After the service all were entertained by the Vicar and Mrs. Kingston to a splendid lunch at Whiteladies, Aston, Vicarage.

On Sunday, October 13th, there will be a service of thanksgiving for the restoration, attended by the Very Rev. R. L. P. Milburn, Dean of Worcester, and the bells will again be rung.

THE LADIES' GUILD

It was a glorious afternoon when the members of the Central District of the Ladies' Guild held their meeting at Northaw on June 29th. Ringing was a little delayed owing to a wedding but first-comers gathered round the ancient font to ring out the bride and bridegroom. Even though the attendance was not very large some good ringing was enjoyed.

A picnic tea was taken on the village green opposite the church, the unique method of brewing tea causing much interest.

During the business meeting, also held on the green, members learned with regret that Miss Valerie Ware, the vice-president, will shortly be leaving to take up a teaching appointment in Germany. Our best wishes go with her and we hope to see her during school holidays.

E. S.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

Marlborough Branch Meeting

The June meeting of the Marlborough Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, held at Chisledon on the 15th, attracted a good attendance, including a high proportion of young people. This latter feature, which is usual now at these meetings, is a tribute to the towers of Marlborough, Aldbourne and Chisledon, where the patience and understanding of the older ringers is reaping such rich reward.

Under the direction of Mr. F. Read (Ringing Master) the tuneful six of the Church of the Holy Cross were put to good use until the Guild service, which was conducted by Mr. Bowman (lay reader), with Mr. A. Keen as organist.

Tea was provided in the Youth Club with typical Chisledon lavishness and was thoroughly enjoyed. This being the half-yearly meeting, the minutes were read by Miss H. Jones (hon. secretary) and adopted without comment.

A discussion on the venue for the annual outing in September centred around the Wincanton or Clevedon areas. On being put to the vote Clevedon was chosen.

The Rev. R. Keeley gave a short résumé of the meeting of the Central Council, with particular reference to the new titled cover of "The Ringing World". It was agreed that when it comes to the Marlborough Branch's turn to provide a photograph, that of St. Michael's, Aldbourne, should be chosen. This church, with its magnificent tower, dominating as it does the whole of Aldbourne, was acclaimed as an excellent choice.

Mr. G. Newman (chairman) thanked all who had helped in the day's arrangements and extended a warm welcome to the visitors. He also announced that Miss Heather Jones, the talented secretary, had recently become engaged to Mr. M. Rouse, of Chilvers Colton, Nuncaton, and on behalf of the Branch, offered heartiest congratulations. Both Mr. Rouse and Miss Jones are keen ringers and it was through this mutual interest that they met while Mr. Rouse was on a visit to Aldbourne. Best wishes, Heather, for a long and happy future.

W. A. E.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

St. Albans District

The weather might have been a little less hot and sticky on June 15th, as old Welwyn Church has a small ringing room and this was the tower for the St. Albans District meeting that day. However, ringing took place until the service at 4.30 p.m. A buffet tea was served in the Scout Hall and turned out to be far more enjoyable than the conventional sitting at tables.

Mr. Vic Frost was in the chair for the business meeting. All present stood in silence in memory of Father Clare, of South Mimms, who died of a heart attack on Sunday night. There was a request for no flowers or letters, so a donation was sent to the British Heart Fund.

The secretary spoke about the District dinner arranged for December 7th. Tickets will probably be limited to 65, so it will be first come, first served; the price will be 30s. each. For the younger members who cannot afford this, the barbecue is going ahead on September 7th; tickets will cost 5s. each, so everyone should be able to make that!

Two further District practices have been arranged—Kimpton on July 5th and North Mimms on August 7th. The next District meeting will be held on July 20th in St. Albans—St. Michael's in the afternoon and the Abbey in the evening.

After the votes of thanks, evening ringing continued until 8 p.m., with a short interval when the 7th rope decided to break! A new rope was fitted and methods up to Spliced Surprise were rung.

J. A. F.

HALF PEALS

BENHALL, SUFFOLK.—On June 15th, 2,640 Pl. Bob Minor Margaret Adams 1, Katherine Thorley 2, J. Pilgrim 3, J. Gibson 4, M. Thorley 5, V. Bedford (cond.) 6. A peal attempt called round.

CARDIS BAY, CORNWALL.—On June 29th, 2,520 Plain Bob Royal: A. J. Davidson 1, Rev. A. S. Roberts 2, A. Locke 3, V. Mary Matthews 4, F. M. Bowers 5, J. P. Coad 6, A. F. Burley 7, G. W. Taysom 8, C. O. Bryant 9, A. Carveth (cond.) 10. A peal attempt called round.

KEWSTONE, SOM.—On June 29th, 2,520 Plain Bob Minor Miss J. House (first touch longer than 200) 1, Miss J. J. Murrell 2, Mrs. E. A. G. Bowden 3, D. Powney 4, R. J. Purnell 5, G. W. Land (cond.) 6. A peal attempt brought round because of a failing tenor rope.

PETERSFIELD, HANTS.—On June 27th, 2,898 Grandfire Triples: Sally Stacey 1, Mrs. C. Chennell-White 2, K. Sansom 3, K. Tipper 4, D. Hatherly 5, C. Chennell-White 6, B. Walton (cond.) 7, R. Cross 8. Rung to mark the opening of the St. Peter's Church Festival of Flowers, Art and Music.

BARKING, SUFFOLK.—On June 17th, 1,320 Minor (Kent and Plain Bob): R. E. Lester (cond.) 1, St. J. Perry 2, Mrs. E. J. Lockwood 3, R. F. Taylor 4, J. J. Prentice 5, E. J. Lockwood 6. A farewell to Mr. W. M. Bennett, former churchwarden and clerk to Gipping R.D.C., who is taking up a post in Zambia.

BASLOW, DERBYS.—On May 23rd, 1,260 Grandfire Doubles: L. Udall 1, S. E. Davis 2, T. Wylie (cond.) 3, M. E. Hearnshaw 4, G. W. Hawksworth 5, P. Altwood 6. Also on June 20th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: S. E. Davis (cond.) 1, C. Davis 2, G. W. Hawksworth 3, D. Davis 4, B. Bateman 5, T. Wylie 6.

BENGOE, HERTS.—On June 27th, 1,260 Grandfire Triples: R. Hornby 1, E. J. Philips 2, B. J. W. Foley 3, A. M. S. Stracey 4, A. Stracey 5, J. H. Philips 6, J. A. D. Woodford 7, S. D. Butcher 8. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to Mr. Sidney Cadie, ringer at this church, who died on June 21st, aged 80.

BOLSOVER, DERBYS.—On April 25th, 1,258 Little Bob Major: Linda Shaw 1, Bessie Holmes 2, Marjorie Yarnold 3, R. Chambers 4, H. Wagstaff 5, M. Phipps 6, D. Whetton 7, H. Rooke (cond.) 8. A farewell tribute to J. Frank Smallwood on his departure for London.

BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS.—At St. Peter's Church, on June 16th, 1,260 Grandfire Triples: R. Peckham 1, Kathleen Fletcher 2, R. Philpott 3, R. Hutchings 4, R. Price 5, E. Booth 6, D. Grimwood (cond.) 7, J. Price 8. For Evensong.

BRAMFORD, SUFFOLK.—On June 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss J. Ford (first quarter) 1, Miss M. Christian 2, Miss C. Lay 3, R. L. K. Whittell 4, R. J. Southgate (cond.) 5, I. Whitear 6. For Evensong.

BRIDGERULE, DEVON.—On June 30th, 1,260 Grandfire Triples: C. Sangwin 1, J. H. Bowden 2, W. Cholwill 3, R. G. Pearce 4, R. W. Hill 5, C. Bishop 6, H. Stacey (cond.) 7, W. Bond 8. Rung for the engagement of Margaret E. Chilton and Stanley Snyder, both of Newark, Nottingham.

BRIGSTOCK, NORTANTS.—On June 18th, 1,320 St. Simon's Doubles: T. Caska (first quarter) 1, J. Beasley 2, K. Clippson 3, S. Bell (cond.) 4, M. Hawkins 5. Also on June 25th, 1,320 Bob Doubles: Miss D. Smith 1, J. Beasley 2, T. Caska 3, K. Clippson 4, M. Hawkins (first as cond.) 5.

BURWOOD, N.S.W.—On June 16th, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: D. Simmonds 1, C. Roper 2, R. Bampton 3, L. Bruce 4, P. Davis 5, P. Brown 6, C. Herbert (cond.) 7, A. Hicks 8. Rung as a wedding compliment for Judy Barr, a ringer at St. Paul's, Burwood, and Frank Dearne.

CHIDDINGLY, SUSSEX.—On June 28th, 1,260 Grandfire Doubles: C. Vine 1, J. B. Baker 2, R. Kennard 3, A. Turner (cond.) 4, W. Cull 5, D. H. Thorpe 6. In memoriam T. Wickens, ringer of this parish.

CHIGWELL, ESSEX.—On June 15th, 1,272 Plain Bob Minor: P. Dickinson 1, G. H. Walker 2, M. Wareing 3, A. Ottaway 4, A. R. Clowson 5, K. A. Hughes (cond.) 6. Rung for Chigwell School speech day service.

DORNEY, BUCKS.—On June 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Linda Jackman 1, S. Hare 2, R. Hare 3, C. Finch 4, F. R. Scott 5, W. Birmingham (cond.) 6. Rung for the church's flower festival.

QUARTER PEALS

EAST BRENT, SOM.—On June 25th, 1,440 Double Court Minor: B. Wylie (first in method as cond.) 1, S. Brown 2, G. Marchant 3, J. Brain 4, C. Clarke 5, M. Stone 6. First in method 2, 3, 6.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—On June 26th, 1,260 Grandfire Triples: Miss H. J. Pike 1, G. W. Bisnop 2, Miss M. Thomas 3, Mrs. P. Aplin 4, C. J. Garlick 5, J. H. Napper 6, M. Bishop (cond.) 7, L. F. Cox 8. For the Wallingford Deanery Mission Service.

EAST HARLING, NORFOLK.—On June 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: F. Arnold 1, T. Roberts 2, C. Banham 3, C. Goodman 4, O. Claxton 5, H. Fuller (cond.) 6. For the festival of flowers.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On June 30th, 1,260 Grandfire Triples: A. D. Elmore (cond.) 1, Miss R. A. Collins 2, Mrs. E. M. Turner 3, Miss J. M. Collins 4, S. Meadows 5, J. A. Collier 6, P. R. Collins 7, E. Oliver 8. For Confirmation service.

GROTON, MASS., U.S.A.—On May 21st, 1,302 Plain Bob Triples: W. C. Loring, jun. (first quarter) 1, P. L. Chandler 2, A. G. K. Solbert 3, S. B. Prudden 4, H. J. S. Cheever 5, F. C. Price 6, T. Goodyer 7, R. S. Young 8. First quarter Plain Bob Triples 2, 3, 4 and 5.

GWINEAR, CORNWALL.—On June 26th, 1,260 Minor (720 Kent and Oxford, 540 Plain Bob): E. H. Langley 1, Violet N. Castle 2, T. J. Bell 3, B. C. Castle 4, A. J. Davidson 5, A. Carveth (cond.) 6.

HIGHCLERE, HANTS.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Grandfire Triples: W. Furness 1, D. Goss (first on eight) 2, M. Goss 3, R. Crocker 4, P. Furness 5, P. Taylor 6, G. K. Dodd (cond.) 7, B. Doe 8. First of Grandfire Triples by all except the conductor. Rung to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Women's Institute.

HOOTHFIELD, KENT.—On June 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: M. Webster 1, O. Webster 2, H. Deacon 3, J. Hensley 4, Margaret S. Jenner (first as cond.) 5, R. Webster 6. Rung for Evensong and also as a 6th birthday compliment to Miss E. Jenner, sister of the conductor.

ITCHINGFIELD, SUSSEX.—On June 30th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandfire): Mrs. C. Godfrey 1, Miss A. Godfrey 2, B. B. Dibben 3, G. Francis (cond.) 4, W. L. Weller 5. In memoriam Emily Phillips, S.R.N., friend of ringers and a true Christian.

KIMPTON, HERTS.—On June 9th, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): Mrs. M. Howells (first quarter) 1, T. J. Southam 2, I. Desborough 3, Mrs. H. Y. Price 4, J. G. Cull (cond.) 5, Mrs. M. Harding 6. Rung half-muffled prior to Evensong in memoriam Senator Robert Kennedy.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The Society of Rambling Ringers will be commencing their 18th annual tour in Norfolk and Suffolk on July 27th.

Brian Reed, of Ealing, has gained a first-class honours degree in mathematics at Sussex University. Congratulations!

The evening meeting of the Central District of the Suffolk Guild at Colton on June 15th attracted 50 ringers.

The peal at Netherton, Worcestershire (page 550) was not the 100th peal on the bells but the 100th peal for A. B. Ellmore.

Miss Valerie Ware, of Neasden, the vice-president of the Ladies' Guild, is leaving shortly to take up a teaching appointment in Germany.

The last three bells to complete the new ring of eight at St. Helen's, Pinxton, Derbyshire, will be dedicated on September 15th. The Association has purchased the treble and the effort has been largely one of "do it yourself".

Derby Cathedral bellringers opened their tower to the general public on July 13th to help forward the £1,000 promised by Derbyshire ringers towards the Cathedral Restoration Appeal. They are following it up with a "Bellringers' Party" at Risley on August 10th.

KINGSDON, SOM.—On June 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: 1. Bowron 1, Mrs. C. Gratton 2, Mrs. L. Crocker 3, Miss L. Leggat (first Bob Minor) 4, C. Gratton 5, R. Parker (cond.) 6.

LANE END, BUCKS.—On June 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Sarah D. Taylor 1, G. C. Reynolds 2, P. G. Badcock 3, P. J. Reynolds 4, J. Woolley (cond.) 5, E. C. Hoar 6. First quarter 1, 4. Rung by Chesham, Bucks, Sunday service band as a 21st birthday compliment to Gillian M. Hour.

LANGDON HILLS, ESSEX.—On June 30th, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): W. White 1, K. Lucas 2, P. M. Fleckney 3, D. Stott 4, G. Lucas (cond.) 5, L. Foster 6. For morning service. Most methods by a local band. Also on July 2nd, 1,280 Doubles (four methods): W. White 1, K. Lucas (most methods) 2, G. Lucas 3, D. Stott 4, P. M. Fleckney (cond.) 5, L. Foster 6. Most methods by a local band.

LEIGHTON BROMSWOLD, HUNTS.—On June 24th, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): W. Whitmore 1, R. Russell 2, M. Hawkins 3, P. Abbott 4, S. Bell (cond.) 5. A birthday compliment to Graham Bell.

LEWISHAM, LONDON.—On June 30th, 1,260 Cambridge Surprise Major: J. Machell 1, Jennie Brown 2, R. A. Grant 3, P. Royds-Jones 4, J. Ellams 5, D. G. Hollis 6, M. J. Young 7, C. P. Starbuck (cond.) 8. First Surprise Major 1, 3. For Evensong.

LINSLADE, BEDS.—On June 18th, 1,260 Doubles (Grandfire, Plain Bob, St. Martin's, St. Simon's): B. Peddar 1, J. Dass 2, C. Radcliffe 3, A. Jeffs (cond.) 4, K. E. Jackson 5, J. Greidel 6.

LLANDAFF, GLAM.—On June 2nd, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandfire Triples: Anne Cooke 1, Felicity Cooke 2, Ann Pilgrim 3, Ruth E. Havard 4, F. W. Corney 5, M. Pilgrim 6, N. W. H. Simon (cond.) 7, P. A. Williams 8. For Evensong. Also on June 20th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Anne Cooke 1, Felicity Cooke 2, Judith Ashcroft 3, N. A. Jamca 4, P. S. Reading 5, N. W. H. Simon 6, D. S. Bishop (cond.) 7, C. P. Quartley 8. Rung after the induction of the Very Rev. G. Phillips as Vicar of the Parish of Llandaff.

LONDON, W.C.—At St. Clement Danes' Church, on June 18th, 1,295 Grandfire Caters: C. Bassett (first on ten) 1, J. W. Smith 2, Miss J. Quaffle (first in method) 3, P. J. Simmonds 4, P. J. Splice 5, E. I. Ladd 6, M. H. O'Callaghan 7, F. Lewis 8, K. J. Rider (cond.) 9, Miss D. H. Colbair 10. For Evensong.

MADELEY, STAFFS.—On Jan. 20th, 1,320 Doubles (20 methods): C. Morey 1, P. W. Day (cond.) 2, Felicity Ashford 3, D. J. Midgley 4, R. J. Ballard 5, Susan Day 6.

MELLING, LANCs.—On June 18th, 1,680 Doubles (seven methods): J. Glen 1, Miss K. R. Lloyd 2, K. Lewin 3, P. Coddington (cond.) 4, A. White 5, R. Stokes 6.

The band who rang the peal at Sevenoaks on June 29th would like to thank Mr. W. H. Dobbie for standing in at very short notice.

"I hope the paper will pay its way at 1s.; it's worth every penny!"—Robin Brown, Wakefield.

Would all holders of the Ringers' Diary please note the following change of date of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild's annual dinner from October 19th to October 26th.

For the first time the Oxford Guild has a member with 70 years' membership. He is Mr. Harry Miles, who joined the Guild in 1898 and is now living at Lelant, Cornwall.

Twenty-four churches were represented at the joint meeting of the Melton District of the Leicester Diocesan Guild and the Society of Sherwood Youths at Bottesford on June 29th. They came from as far apart as the west coast of Scotland and Hailsham in Sussex.

The Rev. and Mrs. Peter Newing have had an enjoyable three weeks in Eire and wish to express their thanks for the excellent hospitality during their visits to eight towers and on other occasions. Peter acted as locum for the Vicar of Killarney and he has already been offered a locum for next year by the Rector of Doneraile.

Bellfounders' Gift Page to 'The Ringing World'

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BELFRY GOSSIP

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BISHOP BREAKS HIS RULE

On the afternoon of Sunday, June 30th, a most important occasion took place for the "handful of people" who live in that beautiful little village of Grosmont, high up in the north of Monmouthshire.

For on that hot, sunny afternoon came their Lord Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Stephen Erryl-Thomas, to rededicate the rehung ring of six bells.

Many visitors, too, journeyed to Grosmont to join in that service of thanksgiving. And what a lovely journey it was—through fields bright green with growing corn, woodlands carpeted with the pink of foxglove and wild rose, and hedges graced with "plate-like" creamy elderflower. So we gathered together for the service, packing the church, local people and ringers from far and wide.

After the rededication the local band rang two lots of rounds, and then the Bishop, in friendly manner, chatted to us from the pulpit. He said that he had made a rule **not** to attend dedications of any kind for at least the first two years of his ministry, but he just had to break that rule when he had heard of the noble efforts of the Vicar, the bellringers and the parishioners of Grosmont. He had been amazed to hear of their hard labour in lowering the bells themselves, transporting them to London themselves and making the new frame themselves, also installing new girder foundations, a new ceiling and new staircase! In all, saving some £700 out of the £2,000 to be found. He thought their efforts deserved every possible praise and he was so very glad to break his rule to reward such toil and hard labour and to join in that joyful service.

After this service the local ringers, together with the visitors, all ascended the tower and enjoyed the "go" of the rehung bells.

The Vicar, the Rev. A. W. M'Adam, and the Lord Bishop together made their way up to the ringing room to talk to the ringers and encourage them in their efforts.

Judging by the keenness of the Grosmont ringers, yet another tower is sure of its bells calling out. Sunday by Sunday, across the beautiful fields and woodlands for many, many years to come. J. S. K.

TEN-YEAR SILENCE ENDED

Among those who have rung at all the Hampshire towers four bells and upwards, is Mr. G. K. Dodd, of Highclere, this coming about with the reopening of the belfry at Chawton, near Alton, after a ten-year silence due to a ruling by the P.C.C.

Wednesday, June 26th, enabled many ringers to enjoy these bells when two parties visited the tower from 7 until 9 p.m. To those instrumental in the reopening of this tower our heartiest congratulations. Why cannot more ringers, either as individuals or through their Associations, follow this lead given by members of the Alton and Petersfield District and defeat the closed shop policy?

Thank you, Chawton.

G. D.

OUTING TO BROTHER'S PARISH

The Rev. L. Standley, Vicar of Ulceby, Lincs, arranged for his ringers to visit his brother's parish, Harmston, on June 28th. The outing proved most enjoyable and ringing was generally of a good standard on this light, easy-going ring of eight. Later at the Thorald Arms there was a typical end to a typical ringers' outing.

NEW GUILD SECRETARIES—No. 2



THE REV. LAWRENCE R. PIZZEY

Succeeding Mr. Andrew Beckwith as hon. secretary and treasurer of the Suffolk Guild this year is the Rev. Lawrence R. Pizze, who is now serving his title as assistant curate at St. Mary's, Bramford, Suffolk. He was ordained last Michaelmas, having received his theological training at Westcott House, Cambridge.

Mr. Pizze's home tower was St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, and he started ringing in September, 1960. The following year saw him at St. John's College, Durham, and for three years he was with Durham University Society, filling the post of Deputy Master in 1963-64. He rang regularly with Durham Cathedral band, and during this period was able to visit most of the ringable towers in Co. Durham and Northumberland. His first peal was rung with Durham University Society at Houghton-le-Spring on March 19th, 1962.

For a year after leaving Durham he was teaching in Ipswich, and this provided him with opportunities for peal ringing. Of his 58 peals to date, 46 have been rung for the Suffolk Guild.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION GARDEN PARTY

Whilst the sun did not exactly "shine on the righteous," the weather on the last Saturday in June was much better than could have been expected from the previous week. The garden at Goosnargh Vicarage is beautifully situated and, in spite of the fact that his wife was in hospital, the president made us feel very welcome.

Over 100 ringers, wives, children and friends gathered and all appeared to thoroughly enjoy the party. Refreshments, served as usual by the hardworking ladies, were appreciated, but certain ringers were known to be disappointed at being judged slightly over-size for the pony ride!

From the numbers who later descended on the local hostelry it seems that six-a-side cricket is a splendid means of creating a thirst.

BEDDINGTON LOOK FOR THE UNUSUAL

Beddington (Surrey) ringers' outing this year was to Essex and Suffolk on June 29th, and unusual things seen were the 44 gallon ringers' jar at Halstead, reputed to be 300 years old, and the Angelus bell at Hadleigh, which is on the outside of the steeple over the clock-face. Said to be over 600 years old, it must rank amongst the oldest bells in the county. The Hadleigh bells made very hard work, and the ringing room was noisy, but Stewart Kimber managed the 28 cwt. tenor to Plain Bob.

A coincidence at Grundisburgh was to learn that Jim Pipe had gone on an outing to Croydon that day! Tea was taken at Woodbridge, where there are pleasant, slow-ringing bells.

The 70ft. draught to the ground-floor ring at Great Dunmow was surprisingly easy to handle and it was here that the highlight of the day—Beddington Surprise Major—was successfully rung. Coach handbells included a plain course of Plain Bob Maximus, even though the seats were somewhat awkward for ropesight!

Our thanks to Jim Cook for organising the towers and to Nigel Thomson for arranging the coach. P. D. D. T.

PETERSFIELD FESTIVAL

The St. Mary's, Bursiton, and St. Peter's, Petersfield, handbell ringers were asked to perform at the opening service of the Festival of Flowers at St. Peter's Church on June 28th. They rang three hymns and two plain courses of Grandsire Doubles before a congregation of about 500, and it was their first performance.

The tower had been decorated by the ringers and was open to the public. The total number of visitors for the Saturday and Sunday came to 238, nearly all of whom went up a further two flights of steps to see the bells.

Musically the Festival was a great success and moneys collected for new churches and a new church hall amounted to about £200 each.

The flowers were arranged by the Liphook Floral Decoration Society and were exceptional as the colour scheme matched the stained glass in each window. K. S.

DAVENTRY BRANCH OUTING

"A fine day, interesting country, good bells and good humour were the ingredients for this memorable outing," writes W. F. S. concerning the Daventry Branch outing to the Swindon and Cirencester Districts on June 29th.

Ringing started on the musical six at Lechlade, followed by Highworth. After the lunch break at Swindon the party reassembled at Christ Church for Grandsire and Stedman Caters and call changes. A wedding brightened proceedings at Purton, where there is a fine heavy six, and Oaksey (6) provided a light relief. High tea was taken at Cirencester and the last tower of the day was North Cerney. The journey home was the excuse for the usual handbell efforts and after a thirst-quencher break at Chipping Norton Daventry was reached at 10.45 p.m.

A TOWER GRAB IN SYDNEY

About 20 ringers took part in a "tower grab" organised by the N.S.W. Branch on June 2nd, when all the "ringable" towers in Sydney were visited. The start was service ringing at St. Paul's, Burwood, concluding with evening service ringing at All Saints', Parramatta. Nine towers were on the programme and dinner was served at St. Mary's Cathedral.

TOWER BELL PEALS

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
LONDON.—At the Church of St. Michael, Cornhill, E.C.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 3 Hours and 36 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 42 cwt. in B.

Andrew N. Stubbs Treble	Raymond G. Cousins 7
Michael V. Chilcott 2	Michael P. Moreton 8
James Phillips 3	Alan R. Patterson 9
John Chilcott 4	Trevor N. J. Bailey 10
James G. A. Prior 5	Philip A. F. Chalk 11
William T. Cook 6	John H. Crampion Tenor

Composed and Conducted by John Chilcott.

Rung in remembrance of Jack A. Waugh.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
BATHEASTON, Somerset.—At the Church of St. John the Baptist.

On Sun., June 23, 1968, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. in F.

Jane M. Dennis Treble	David C. Hawkins 5
Peter J. Devrell 2	Julian E. Newman 6
Roger I. Kendrick 3	Alan F. Lee 7
Horace D. Taylor 4	Brian Sarll Tenor

Composed by H. Hubbard. Conducted by Julian E. Newman.
First peal on the bells. First of Triples as conductor.

Rung for the Patronal Festival and on the sixth birthday of Hugh J. G. Taylor, grandson of the ringer of the 4th, who has been a ringer in this tower for 59 years.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

TRUMPINGTON, Cambs.—At the Church of SS. Mary and Michael.

On Sat., June 1, 1968, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in G.

D. G. Andrews (Trinity) .. Treble	R. H. Youdale (Emmanuel) 5
R. S. Bradley (Clare) .. 2	D. S. Bishop (Caius) .. 6
A. T. Winter (Christ's) .. 3	F. E. Haynes (St Cath's) 7
R. L. Underwood (P'house) 4	A. F. Scholfield (Clare) .. Tenor

Composed by Roger Baldwin.

Conducted by Alan Scholfield.

STRETHAM, Cambs.—At the Church of St. James the Great.

On Tues., June 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of London, Wells, York, Durham, Beverley, Surfleet and Cambridge.

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb. in G.

A. F. Scholfield (Clare) .. Treble	R. S. Bradley (Clare) .. 4
Merryn Hutchings (Newnham) 2	R. L. Underwood (P'house) 5
A. T. Winter (Christ's) .. 3	R. H. Youdale (Emmanuel) Tenor

Conducted by Richard Underwood.

First peal of Surprise Minor by all the band except the ringer of the treble. The ringers of the treble and tenor have now rung 25 peals together.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MACCLESFIELD, Cheshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., June 22, 1968, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5376 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

Roy Worrall Treble	*John Hall 5
*Mandi McCallion 2	David J. Midgley 6
Gerald Parsons 3	†David J. Danby 7
T. Felicity Ashford .. 4	†Raymond J. Ballard .. Tenor

Composed by Simon Humphrey. Conducted by Raymond J. Ballard.
* First peal in the method. † 25th peal together.

MARKET DRAYTON, Shropshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.
On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb. in F.

Wilfred Williams Treble	Robert E. Dennis 5
G. William Critchley .. 2	Kenneth J. Hesketh 6
Claudia A. Critchley .. 3	George E. Thoday 7
David E. Rothera 4	Ralph G. Edwards Tenor

Composed by Charles W. Roberts. Conducted by Wilfred Williams.

WAVERTON, Cheshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents, all singles. Tenor 8 cwt. 10 lb. in G.

*Gordon K. Green Treble	David Allman 4
A. Doreen Edwards .. 2	Geoffrey A. Edwards .. 5
Stephen P. Newton .. 3	Frank R. Morton Tenor

Conducted by Frank R. Morton.

* First peal of Minor.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

THE DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
SHEPshed, Leicestershire.—At the Church of St. Botolph.

On Thurs., June 27, 1968, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

Michael J. Fellows Treble	Harold Taylor 5
*Geoffrey Bridges 2	Gordon A. Halls 6
Brian A. Tomlinson .. 3	Denis R. Carlisle 7
*Melvyn A. Rose 4	A. Colin Banton Tenor

Composed by Rev. H. Law James. Conducted by A. Colin Banton.

* First peal in the method.

Rung to welcome Victoria Cathryn Smart, granddaughter of Denis and Nora Carlisle.

FAIRFIELD (Buxton), Derbyshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Thurs., July 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's 12-part. Tenor 12 cwt.

*Joyce Gardner Treble	Alex Richardson 5
†Ann M. Smith 2	Burley P. Morris 6
*Susan E. Davis 3	Rev. R. D. St. John Smith 7
*Geoffrey R. Gardner .. 4	Timothy Wylie Tenor

Conducted by Rev. R. D. St. John Smith.

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

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ASHTHEAD, Surrey.—At the Church of St. Giles.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. in F.

*J. Vernon A. Stedman .. Treble	§John A. Laver 5
†Gillian M. Laver 2	§Peter J. Munday 6
‡Felicity S. Hamilton .. 3	§Tony Skilton 7
Alan D. Elsmore 4	§T. Brian Porter Tenor

Composed by H. Hubbard.

Conducted by Tony Skilton.

* First peal attempt. † First peal. ‡ First of Triples. § First of Triples in the method.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5000 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 21 cwt.

Kenneth J. Darvill Treble	Harold V. Frost 6
Donald G. Clift 2	Anthony R. Carter 7
*Frances Dods 3	John E. Ewer 8
†Thelma Lynn Willis .. 4	Frederick D. Ellis 9
Christopher E. Forster .. 5	Bertram C. Johnson Tenor

Composed by C. W. Roberts. Conducted by Bertram C. Johnson.

* First peal of Royal † First peal. First of Royal as conductor.
Rung for the Patronal Festival.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SEVENOAKS, Kent.—At the Church of St. Nicholas.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb. in F.

Judith M. Corby Treble	Andrew W. R. Wilby .. 5
Walter H. Dobbie 2	Roy D. Mills 6
A. Stephen Taylor 3	Andrew J. Corby 7
Richard Hayes 4	*A. Patrick Cannon Tenor

Composed by Dennis Knox.

Conducted by Andrew J. Corby.

* 150th tower in Kent for a peal.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. H. Hayes, mother of the ringer of the 4th.

BOBBING, Kent.—At the Church of St. Bartholomew.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two different extents each of Kent T.B., St. Clement's, Single Oxford Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A flat.

George A. Naylor Treble	*Frank J. Dadson 4
Wendy R. Austin 2	Richard J. Bushell 5
Pamela A. Tomsett 3	Brian E. Jemmett Tenor

Conducted by George A. Naylor.

* First peal.

Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, Rev. D. Rashid, after his induction by the Bishop of Dover.

WEST WICKHAM, Kent.—At the Church of St. John the Baptist.
On Thurs., July 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in six methods, viz.: (1) Norwich S., (2 and 3) London Surprise, (4) Surfleet Surprise, (5) Surfleet, Beverley and Cambridge Surprise, (6 and 7) Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt. in F sharp.

Jennifer L. Quaife Treble	Derek Slater 4
Judith M. Corby 2	John A. Howard 5
Richard Hayes 3	Tony Lewis Tenor

Conducted by Tony Lewis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALKHAM, Kent.—At the Church of St. Anthony the Martyr.

On Wed., July 3, 1968, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 8184 PLAIN BOB MINIMUS

216 plain courses. Tenor 7 cwt.
 Rachel J. Sinden .. Treble .. †Dawn V. A. Potts .. 3
 *†James Hedgecock .. 2 .. †Pamela E. Powell .. Tenor

Conducted by Pamela E. Powell.

* Has now rung peals of Plain Bob from Minimus to Royal.
 † First of Minimus. First of Minimus in the method by all the band
 on the bells and for the Association.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BLACKBURN, Lancs.—At the Cathedral Church of St. Mary the Virgin.

On Sun., June 30, 1968, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 25½ cwt. in D.

William A. Theobald .. Treble	Derck Butterworth .. 6
John H. Fielden .. 2	George E. Thoday .. 7
Maryl R. Fielden .. 3	Ralph G. Edwards .. 8
Robert E. Dennis .. 4	Kenneth J. Hesketh .. 9
David E. Rothera .. 5	Wilfred Williams .. Tenor

Conducted by Wilfred Williams.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

LEICESTER.—At the Cathedral Church of St. Martin.

On Thurs., June 27, 1968, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5065 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

J. Edward Cawser .. Treble	Alfred Ballard .. 7
Peter J. Staniforth .. 2	Shirley Burton .. 8
Thomas J. Lock .. 3	*Thomas W. Goodyer .. 9
David F. Moore .. 4	Richard A. G. Ingalls .. 10
Jack P. Kesterton .. 5	E. Alan Jacques .. 11
Murray A. Coleman .. 6	Herrick B. Bowley .. Tenor

Composed by Shirley Burton. (No. 14.)

Conducted by Peter J. Staniforth.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques.

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire.—At the Bell Foundry Campanile.

On Wed., June 26, 1968, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

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

Thomas J. Lock .. Treble	Shirley Burton .. 6
David F. Moore .. 2	Herrick B. Bowley .. 7
W. Ernest Rawson .. 3	*Thomas W. Goodyer .. 8
Alfred Ballard .. 4	E. Alan Jacques .. 9
Rev. M. C. C. Melville .. 5	Peter J. Staniforth .. Tenor

Composed by William Pye. Conducted by Peter J. Staniforth.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal.

MELTON MOWBRAY, Leics.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PUDSEY SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in D.

J. Edward Cawser .. Treble	A. James Poyner .. 6
Beryl E. Cawser .. 2	*B. Stedman Payne .. 7
Alan Evans .. 3	Geoffrey W. Randall .. 8
Murray A. Coleman .. 4	Ian V. J. Smith .. 9
James R. White .. 5	E. Alan Jacques .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by J. Edward Cawser.

* 100th peal of Surprise.

ALTON, Staffordshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 8086 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in E flat.

John M. Jelley .. Treble	Raymond J. Ballard .. 5
W. Ernest Rawson .. 2	Philip A. Mason .. 6
* Monica M. Jelley .. 3	Roland H. Cook .. 7
Richard S. Bradley .. 4	R. Kingsley Mason .. Tenor

Composed by Michael S. Bruce.

* 50th peal.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire.—At the Bell Foundry Campanile.

On Tues., June 25, 1968, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5016 LITTLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR

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

William John V. Conduct Treble	Dan S. Pont .. 5
Richard J. Clifton .. 2	Frank Chambers .. 6
John K. Smith .. 3	G. Ronald Edwards .. 7
Joseph W. Cotton .. 4	Roland Beniston .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Roland Beniston.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. and LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

WILLESDEN, Middlesex.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Thurs., June 20, 1968, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

H. George Hart .. Treble	Ruth M. Foreman .. 5
Elsie K. Hart .. 2	*Thomas W. Goodyer .. 6
Claudia A. Critchley .. 3	G. William Critchley .. 7
Alick Cutler .. 4	†Thomas J. Lock .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. Washbrook.

* First peal in the method. † 1,000th peal.

BUSHEY, Hertfordshire.—At the Church of St. James.

On Thurs., July 4, 1968, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 TURRAMURRA SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt.

Christopher W. Woolley .. Treble	David E. Rothera .. 5
Julia A. Fellows .. 2	Anthony K. Fortin .. 6
Dorothea M. Robotham .. 3	Thomas W. Goodyer .. 7
John R. Southey .. 4	Thomas J. Lock .. Tenor

Composed by R. F. B. Speed. Conducted by Christopher W. Woolley.

First peal in the method by all the band.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GREAT YARMOUTH, Norfolk.—At the Church of St. Nicholas.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 3 Hours and 35 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 30 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. in D.

*Heather A. Walters .. Treble	Richard J. Bowden .. 7
Shelagh R. Collina .. 2	†Peter G. W. Newstead .. 8
Elizabeth Timmins .. 3	Richard G. Stevens .. 9
Philip N. Tubbs .. 4	Robert C. Kippin .. 10
John Hartless .. 5	Frederick E. Collins .. 11
Frank L. Harris .. 6	James A. D. Woolford .. Tenor

Composed by Andrew S. Hudson. Conducted by Frank L. Harris.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. † First of Stedman.

EAST DEREHAM, Norfolk.—At the Church of St. Nicholas.

On Fri., June 28, 1968, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, being 1,312 of Bristol and 1,280 each of London, Cambridge and Superlative, with 112 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell.

Tenor 22 cwt. 105 lb.

George P. Adams .. Treble	Geoffrey H. Pullin .. 5
Janet House .. 2	Martin Cubitt .. 6
David G. Adams .. 3	Peter Adecock .. 7
Kevin S. Hohl .. 4	David E. House .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. Pitman. Conducted by David E. House.

First peal in the four standard Surprise methods for the Association and by all the band except the conductor.

Rung with the best wishes of the band to Peter Adecock, Association Ringing Master, who was married in this church the following day to Hilary Webb, a member of the local band.

KESSINGLAND, Suffolk.—At the Church of St. Edmund.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in eight methods, viz.: (1) London Surprise, (2) Cambridge and Beverley Surprise, (3) Oxford T.B., (4) Double Court, (5) St. Clement's, (6) Kent T.B., (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. 9 lb. in F.

Stephen F. High .. Treble	Thomas J. Brock .. 4
Frederick C. Gunton .. 2	Michael J. Parker .. 5
Norman P. J. Cossey .. 3	J. Barry Pickup .. Tenor

Composed by J. Barry Pickup.

Rung for Kessingland Festival Week.

THE NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

WEST BRIDGFORD, Notts.—At the Church of St. Giles.

On Wed., June 26, 1968, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. in G sharp.

Rosamund M. Rawlings .. Treble	*Roger M. Day .. 5
Peter N. Mackley .. 2	Simon Humphrey .. 6
*J. Martin Rice .. 3	Ian V. J. Smith .. 7
B. Stedman Payne .. 4	David R. McLean .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. Worsley. Conducted by David R. McLean.

* First peal of Major. First of Major as conductor.

BARTON-IN-FABIS, Notts.—At the Church of St. George.

On Wed., June 19, 1968, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being one extent each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt. 21 lb. in G.

*J. Martin Rice .. Treble	Paul J. Bagshaw .. 4
Rosamund M. Rawlings .. 2	David R. McLean .. 5
Peter N. Mackley .. 3	Ian V. J. Smith .. Tenor

Conducted by Ian V. J. Smith.

* First peal of Minor. Most methods to a peal of Minor by all except the ringer of the 2nd.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—At the Church of St. Ebbé.

On Wed., June 19, 1968, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb. in B flat.

Alan R. Pink	Treble	Ronald K. Russ	5
Christopher C. Clarke ..	2	Bertam J. Coggins	6
Charles Coles	3	Thomas W. Goodyer	7
Peter H. Mackie	4	Thomas J. Lock	Tenor

Composed by C. H. Martin.

Conducted by Thomas J. Lock.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

DAVENTRY, Northants.—At the Church of the Holy Cross.

On Sun., June 30, 1968, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

Wakefield version.			
Patrick I. Chapman	Treble	Roger W. Smith	6
Richard F. B. Speed	2	David J. Marshall	7
Graham C. Paul	3	Alan A. Paul	8
Barry E. Saunders	4	Barrie Hendry	9
Malcolm J. V. Chown	5	Peter Border	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Richard F. B. Speed.

First peal in the method by all and for the Guild.

Rung to welcome the arrival of Charlotte Jayne Hendry on Thursday, June 27th, 1968.

DAVENTRY, Northants.—At the Church of the Holy Cross.

On Fri., June 14, 1968, in 3 Hours.

A PEAL OF 5056 PUDESEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

*Kilby R. Holtom	Treble	Roger W. Smith	5
Patrick I. Chapman	2	John K. Foot	6
Shirley E. Ruddlesden ..	3	David J. Marshall	7
Stanley M. Ruddlesden ..	4	Richard F. B. Speed	Tenor

Composed by Stephen Ivin. Conducted by Richard F. B. Speed.

* 75th peal.

STAVERTON, Northants.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., June 22, 1968, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent T.B., Double Court, Single Oxford, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb.

Patrick I. Chapman	Treble	Barry E. Saunders	4
Kilby R. Holtom	2	Stanley M. Ruddlesden ..	5
Roger W. Smith	3	Richard F. B. Speed	Tenor

Conducted by Richard F. B. Speed.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HODNET, Shropshire.—At the Church of St. Luke.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 2 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 24 lb. in F.

Frederick G. Beddow	Treble	Edward V. Rodenhurst ..	5
*M. Cecilia Evans	2	Richard E. Morris	6
Jennifer M. Beech	3	Frank Beech	7
Reginald H. Newton	4	Philip J. Evans	Tenor

Composed by J. R. Pritchard.

Conducted by Philip J. Evans.

* First peal "Inside."

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

BARTON-IN-FABIS, Notts.—At the Church of St. George.

On Mon., June 17, 1968, in 2 Hours and 26 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 14 extents of St. Simon, 13 of St. Martin and 15 of Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt. 21 lb. in G.

*John Housden	Treble	David Oliver	4
Arthur Newell	2	Nell Handley	5
Trevor Kirkman	3	Graham Fisher	Tenor

Conducted by Nell Handley.

* First peal at first attempt. First as conductor.

SWINDERBY, Lincolnshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Wed., June 19, 1968, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In six methods: All Saints', Rev. St. Bartholomew, Rev. Canterbury Pleasure, Southrepps, Plain Bob and Grandsire, and eight variations: Marchington, Rushall, Northrepps, Little Aston, Clifford's Pleasure, Seighford, April Day and Kennington. Three extents each.

Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr.

Mrs. Joyce M. Marsh	Treble	Ruth Blackshaw	3
F. William Midwinter	2	Maurice W. Harrison	4
W. Gordon Marsh			Tenor

Conducted by Ruth Blackshaw.

Rung as a 90th birthday compliment to Mr. Albert Proctor, a local ringer.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

GRUNDISBURGH, Suffolk.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Mon., June 24, 1968, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 WEMBLEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 23 lb. in G.

Jane H. Peacock	Treble	Sylvia R. E. Pipe	5
Muriel R. Page	2	Philip G. Erith	6
Cecil W. Pipe	3	Michael J. Howes	7
Alan J. Munnings	4	Leslie G. Brett	Tenor

Conducted by Leslie G. Brett.

First peal in the method by all the band.

WINGFIELD, Suffolk.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Thurs., June 27, 1968, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising two extents Oxford T.B. and Plain and three extents Kent T.B. Tenor 13 cwt. 20 lb. in F sharp.

Charles Brown	Treble	William H. Cracknell ..	4
Robert E. Lester	2	George W. Pipe	5
Leonard E. Last	3	George C. Filby	Tenor

Conducted by George W. Pipe.

Specially arranged to mark 50 years' ringing by Charles Brown.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON, Sussex.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. in D.

R. Ian Vaughan	Treble	Albert W. Bond	6
Janet E. Blake	2	James H. Lilley	7
Robert H. Newton	3	Anthony K. Fortin	8
Reginald V. Johnson	4	*James M. Hills	9
*Alan R. Baldock	5	Arthur Newton	Tenor

Composed by C. H. Kippin.

Conducted by Robert H. Newton.

* First peal of Caters. † 25th peal. First on ten bell and in the method as conductor.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

CALSTOCK, Cornwall.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., June 22, 1968, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In two methods, being 21 extents each of Plain Bob and Grandsire.

Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

Peter A. Rawles	Treble	Anthony Locke	4
Rev. Gordon W. Ruming ..	2	Anthony J. Davidson ..	5
Wilfred C. Boucher	3	Arthur J. H. Sandy	Tenor

Conducted by Anthony J. Davidson.

LELANT, Cornwall.—At the Church of St. Uny.

On Sat., June 22, 1968, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. in G sharp.

Fifteen callings.			
F. Malcolm Bowers	Treble	H. Miles	4
Marion L. Lidgley	2	M. Peters	5
*T. Roy Hart	3	*Timothy J. Bell	Tenor

Conducted by F. Malcolm Bowers.

* First peal of Doubles and of Stedman.

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THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

BOURNEMOUTH, Hampshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's 12-part.	Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in E.
Mrs. F. J. Marshallsay .. Treble	† John H. Stanning 5
Kathleen E. Fletcher .. 2	Eric J. Booth 6
* Robert C. A. Philpott .. 3	David W. Grimwood .. 7
Daniel T. Matkin 4	Colin C. Conway Tenor

Conducted by David W. Grimwood.

* First peal of Grandsire. † First "inside." First of Triples as conductor.

Rung as part of the Patronal Festival celebrations.

HAWKLEY, Hampshire.—At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in A.

S. Kathleen M. Baldwin Treble	Roger Baldwin 5
Patrick Page 2	Philip Stevens 6
* Betty J. Daysh 3	E. Winifred Keys 7
Edgar R. Rapley 4	Frank H. Hicks Tenor

Composed by N. J. Pitstow.

Conducted by E. Winifred Keys.

* First peal in the method. First of Surprise as conductor.
Rung for the Patronal Festival.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BRIERLEY HILL, Staffs.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb. in F.

Morley P. Tobin Treble	Stephen W. Barton 5
Robert Edwards 2	Michael J. Fellows 6
Arthur V. Pearson 3	Gerald C. Hemming 7
Clifford Skidmore 4	Martin D. Fellows Tenor

Composed by Joseph Pigott.

Conducted by Michael J. Fellows.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LEEDS, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Mon., June 24, 1968, in 3 Hours and 41 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5016 PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS

Tenor 42 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb. in C.

* Catherine R. Slater .. Treble	* John J. Durham 7
* Josephine M. Haskins .. 2	* Robert A. Beresford .. 8
* Richard J. Chantler .. 3	Ronald H. Dove 9
* William P. Haskins .. 4	† Ronald J. Snack 10
Arnold Cole 5	* Ronald R. Warford .. 11
* Suzanne J. Withers .. 6	C. Barrie Dove Tenor

Composed and Conducted by C. Barrie Dove.

* First peal on 12 bells. † First of Maximus.

DRIGHLINGTON, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Paul.

On Fri., June 28, 1968, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 PUTNEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 16 lb. in E.

* John P. Ottaway .. Treble	† Michael G. Dodson .. 5
† Robert A. Beresford .. 2	† Richard J. Chantler .. 6
* Roger G. Green .. 3	† Laurence F. Palmer .. 7
* John J. Durham .. 4	C. Barrie Dove Tenor

Composed by J. Reeves.

Conducted by C. Barrie Dove.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major. † First of Surprise Major.

THORNER, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 8½ cwt.

Anne P. Leigh Treble	W. Eric Critchley 5
Alan E. Hartley 2	A. W. Alan Leggett .. 6
Frederick A. Munday .. 3	David S. Johnson 7
Michael Staniforth .. 4	C. Barrie Dove Tenor

Composed by P. G. K. Davies.

Conducted by W. Eric Critchley.

KIRK DEIGHTON, Yorkshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Sat., June 15, 1968, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In 17 methods, viz.: (1) Double Oxford, Thelwall, Pinchurst, St. Clement's, Childwall, Buxton, (2) Double Court, (3) Cambridge, Revorley, Surfleet, (4) Plain Bob, Single Oxford, (5) Double Bob, Fulbeck, (6) Kent and Oxford T.B., (7) Reverse Canterbury Pleasure.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in A.

* Gillian R. Cleaver .. Treble	C. Barrie Dove 4
† Robert A. Beresford .. 2	† Suzanne Withers 5
† Roger G. Green .. 3	Ronald J. Snack Tenor

Conducted by C. Barrie Dove.

* First tower bell peal at first attempt. † First in 17 methods.

HANDBELL PEALS

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD,

CAMBRIDGE—In O8, Queens' College.

On Wed., June 5, 1968, in 2 Hours and 26 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 17 in A.

R. H. Youdale (Emmanuel) 1-2	C. M. Tuckett (Queens') .. 5-6
* A. T. Winter (Christ's) .. 3-4	A. F. Scholfield (Clare) .. 7-8

Arranged and Conducted by Alan Scholfield.

* First peal "in hand."

CAMBRIDGE.—In G1, Selwyn College.

On Fri., June 7, 1968, in 2 Hours and 9 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 17 in A.

R. L. Underwood (P'house) 1-2	R. S. Bradley (Clare) .. 5-6
A. F. Scholfield (Clare) .. 3-4	V. Nutton (Selwyn) .. 7-8

Arranged and Conducted by Alan Scholfield.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WILLASTON, Cheshire.—At 4, Coppice Road.

On Tues., June 25, 1968, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

Geoffrey A. Edwards .. 1-2	Brian Harris 5-6
John R. Scott 3-4	Frank R. Morton 7-8

Composed by C. K. Lewis.

Conducted by Brian Harris.

First peal of Major "in hand" by all except the conductor.

AUDLEM, Cheshire.—At Churchfields.

On Sun., June 23, 1968, in 1 Hour and 39 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor size 18 in G.

Being seven extents.	Tenor size 18 in G.
Geoffrey A. Edwards .. 1-2	John R. Scott 3-4

Frank R. Morton (cond.) .. 5-6

25th peal "in hand" by all the band.

THE DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DERBY, Derbyshire.—At 5, Peet Street, Friarsfield.

On Wed., June 26, 1968, in 1 Hour and 51 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in eight methods: (1) Double Oxford, (2) Oxford Treble Bob, (3) Single Oxford, (4) Kent Treble Bob, (5) St. Clement's and Childwall, (6) Cambridge Surprise and (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor size 14 in D.

Geoffrey Bridges 1-2	Michael J. Fellows .. 3-4
A. Colin Banton (cond.) ..	5-6

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HALLING, Kent.—At 12, Formby Terrace.

On Wed., June 26, 1968, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor size 15 in C.

Trevor A. Cross 1-2	Christopher T. Osenton .. 5-6
Edward J. Beer 3-4	Stuart Sandford 7-8

Composed by J. Vicars.

Conducted by Christopher T. Osenton.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAWKSHEAD, Lancashire.—At Bettyfold.

On Thurs., June 27, 1968, in 1 Hour and 47 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 ST. CLEMENT'S COLLEGE BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 11 in G.

Joseph Whalley 1-2	Mary W. Whalley 3-4
Kevin M. Price (cond.) ..	5-6

First peal in the method by all the band.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

LEICESTER.—At The Wayside, 150, Narborough Road South.

On Sat., June 29, 1968, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor size 15 in C.

* Alan McFall 1-2	Robert B. Smith 5-6
Peter J. Staniforth .. 3-4	* Bernard F. L. Groves .. 7-8
Alfred Ballard 9-10	

Composed by William Pye.

Conducted by Robert B. Smith.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal "in hand."

THE NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

BEESTON, Notts.—At the Church of St. John the Baptist.

On Mon., June 17, 1968, in 2 Hours and 12 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 8 in C.

* Rosamund M. Rawlings .. 1-2	* Ian V. J. Smith 5-6
† Peter N. Mackley 3-4	Simon Humphrey 7-8

Arranged and Conducted by Simon Humphrey.

* First peal "in hand." † First of Major "in hand." First handbell peal for the Society.

QUARTER PEALS

MERTON, LONDON.—1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss M. Newton (first quarter) 1, Miss M. Seabright (first quarter) 2, Mrs. E. Arnold (first quarter) 3, G. Hawkes 4, F. Seabright (first quarter as cond.) 5. A 21st birthday compliment to the conductor.

MUCH MARCLE, HEREFORDS.—On June 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Ann Butcher 1, R. Poaton 2, J. J. Webb (cond.) 3, F. Oakley 4, R. A. Brewer 5, K. Tyler 6. A wedding compliment to Wendy Cox and Leslie Meadows (ringers at this church), married this day at Kempley, Glos.

NASSINGTON, NORTHANTS.—On June 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Susan Fitton 1, A. Waller 2, R. Newby 3, A. H. Hinton 4, R. A. Webster (cond.) 5. Rung half-muffled in memory of Harry Strangward.

NAZEING, ESSEX.—On June 16th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: K. Wood 1, B. Burton 2, R. G. Seymour 3, C. Sams (cond.) 4, R. Holness 5, A. Peacock 6. For Confirmation service.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.—At St. George's Church, on June 23rd, 1,320 London 3, Minor: May Graham (first of T.B.) 1, Joy Askew 2, G. White 3, J. Pardoe (first London) 4, A. Craddock (cond.) 5, S. Pardoe 6. For Evensong.

OLD WHITTINGTON, DERBYS.—On May 12th, 1,320 Killamarsh T.B. Minor: G. J. Newman 1, Mrs. S. C. Lawrence 2, A. Else 3, L. Gascoyne 4, D. Culling 5, S. C. Lawrence (cond.) 6. A birthday compliment to ringer of fifth.

ORSETT, ESSEX.—On July 3rd, 1,440 Cambridge S. Minor: D. Sloman 1, Miss J. Hills 2, G. Lucas 3, Miss P. Halliwell 4, P. M. Fleckney (cond.) 5, D. Balcham 6. First Surprise 2, 4. First Surprise on bells.

OSPRINGE, KENT.—On June 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Pack 1, Miss M. Judge 2, Miss P. Winch (first Triples) 3, Mrs. E. S. Palin 4, F. C. Farnsworth 5, A. Swaiton 6, E. T. Eades (cond.) 7, B. E. Jemmett 8. Rung for Patronal Festival.

PETERSFIELD, HANTS.—On June 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Wendy Roberts 1, K. Tipper 2, K. Sansom 3, A. Betsworth 4, A. Reeves 5, B. Walton 6, D. Hatherly (first Triples as cond.) 7, R. Cross 8. For Confirmation service. Also on June 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Sally Stacey 1, Carol Stacey 2, D. Hatherly (50th quarter) 3, R. Tipper 4, K. Tipper 5, D. Hughes 6, B. Walton (cond.) 7, J. Read 8. Rung for the Festival of Flowers whilst the tower was open to the public.

ROTHWELL, W. YORKS.—On June 16th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: G. Hudson 1, D. Hudson 2, M. Nunns 3, R. Brown (cond.) 4, E. G. Cox 5. First quarter 1, 2, 3. Rung for the annual civic service. Also on July 2nd, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: P. Massam 1, S. Emmet (first quarter) 2, M. Nunns (first Major) 3, I. North 4, Patricia Lockwood 5, E. G. Cox 6, A. Newbould 7, R. Brown (cond.) 8. An engagement compliment to Alan Newbould and Patricia M. Gardiner.

ST. HILARY, CORNWALL.—On May 19th, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): T. R. Hart 1, Mrs. B. C. Castle 2, J. J. George 3, W. R. Curtis 4, B. C. Castle (cond.) 5, E. H. Langley 6.

SANDY, BEDS.—On June 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. N. Smith 1, Karen Baker (first quarter) 2, A. S. Smith 3, D. Carr 4, C. Blaine 5, C. R. Hardy (cond.) 6.

SCOTHERN, Lincs.—On June 28th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: J. M. Minns 1, Gillian Radley 2, D. W. Bee 3, Julie Radley 4, A. C. A. Hopkins (cond.) 5, C. J. Sharp 6. Rung in honour of SS. Peter and Paul.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Minor (Cambridge, Plain Bob): F. R. Scott 1, G. R. Shedden 2, W. R. Hare 3, C. Finch 4, D. C. Brown 5, W. Birmingham (cond.) 6. For Patronal Festival Solemn Eucharist service.

STOKE DAMEREL, DEVON.—On June 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. G. M. Pearce 1, J. F. Steere 2, S. G. Peirce 3, A. Frost 4, G. E. Mudge (cond.) 5, J. C. Mitchelmore 6. For Whit Sunday Evensong. Also on June 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. G. M. Pearce (first as cond.) 1, A. Frost 2, J. F. Steere 3, G. E. Mudge 4, S. G. Peirce 5, E. J. Cann 6. A birthday compliment to A. Frost.

STRANTON, DURHAM.—On June 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. Wetherston (first quarter) 1, J. Payne 2, D. Blows 3, H. Timlin (first quarter) 4, E. Trundle 5, W. Maughan (cond.) 6.

TEWIN, HERTS.—On June 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: P. Owen 1, N. S. Blamire-Brown 2, Jean Digby 3, D. Digby 4, R. J. Wilsher (cond.) 5, Margaret Evans 6. For the Patronal Festival.

THORNBURY, GLOS.—On June 30th, 1,260 Pl. Bob Triples: P. C. Coward (first on eight) 1, Pamela Sturdy 2, Jennifer Bell (first "inside") 3, C. J. Bell 4, S. Poole 5, D. A. Chapman 6, E. G. Mould (cond.) 7, W. G. Excell 8. For Matins.

THORPE-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.—On June 23rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. V. Hales 1, Mrs. M. H. Wood 2, P. W. Mills 3, E. E. Davey 4, P. L. Wood (cond.) 5, W. F. Downs 6. For Matins.

TU INGMILL, CORNWALL.—On June 24th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. J. Davidson 1, Violet N. Castle 2, T. R. Hart (first Stedman Triples) 3, Rev. A. S. Roberts 4, B. C. Castle 5, F. M. Bowers 6, C. G. Bryant (cond.) 7, E. H. Langley 8. Rung on the Feast of St. John the Baptist.

WANSTEAD, ESSEX.—On June 23rd, 1,272 Pl. Bob Minor: A. Moore 1, J. Chalk 2, E. Wright 3, M. Wareing 4, J. Eyre 5, K. A. Hughes (cond.) 6. First with complete local band. Rung for 25th anniversary of the ordination of Rev. J. Adams.

WARMINSTER, WILTS.—On June 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Rosalind Payne 1, E. C. Shepherd 2, Ruth Jones 3, L. Hawkins 4, V. Bull 5, A. Payne 6, N. G. Knee (cond.) 7, A. Bull 8. A compliment to the Rev. and Mrs. A. T. Johnson on the birth of their second daughter, Caroline Trevor.

WARFORD, HANTS.—On June 28th, 1,260 Doubles (five methods): D. Pearce 1, Sandra Pearce 2, Mary White 3, K. G. Waller 4, C. E. Bassett (cond.) 5, T. White 6. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to Reginald Percy Chester, late churchwarden.

WESTON-BY-WELLAND, NORTHANTS.—On June 29th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: S. Bell 1, Miss E. Hall 2, F. Crosier 3, R. Russell 4, D. Attley (cond.) 5.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On June 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: Sally Holland 1, R. D. Bell 2, M. Eastman 3, S. Laud 4, W. Arnold 5, W. G. Paul 6, R. G. Smith 7, D. Laud 8, R. G. Bell 9, G. W. Seaman (cond.) 10. Rung at the conclusion of the flower festival, a compliment to Lucy and Ray Smith on the birth of a son (Jonathan Mark).

WESTON FAVELL, NORTHANTS.—On St. Peter's Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. W. West 1, A. F. Leleux 2, J. P. Sale 3, H. Bryan 4, D. J. Edmonds (cond.) 5.

WHITCHURCH, DEVON.—On May 24th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): P. Perkin 1, S. G. Peirce 2, J. C. Mitchelmore 3, D. R. Bould 4, G. E. Mudge (cond.) 5, D. G. M. Pearce 6.

WIGGENTON, NORFOLK.—On June 23rd, 1,260 Minor (London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise and Oxford T.B.): P. J. Gagen 1, W. W. Cousins 2, D. P. Gagen 3, R. Newson 4, J. E. Fox (cond.) 5, C. Cousins 6. For Evensong.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On June 30th, 1,320 Minor (two methods): M. Burn 1, Deborah Bishop 2, W. J. Cooper-Bailey 3, Caroline Madge 4, A. E. Bagworth 5, A. S. Bishop (cond.) 6.

WITTERSHAM, KENT.—On June 29th, 1,260 Pl. Bob Minor: R. Lebon 1, J. Hemsley 2, O. Webster 3, Margaret S. Jenner 4, B. Butler 5, A. Leeves 6.

WOODSTON, HUNTS.—On June 30th, 1,260 Pl. Bob Minor: P. D. Gray (first quarter) 1, Mrs. G. M. Roffe 2, R. Brighton 3, D. F. E. Hall 4, L. Brighton 5, J. M. Roffe (cond.) 6. For morning service.

POMPEY REVISITED ON ALEC ROSE'S DAY

The sun shines on the righteous, said some, with smugness. Others muttered darkly, and with more aptitude perhaps, about the devil looking after his own. But, for whatever reason, the sun did its very best for St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on June 29th, after ten days of almost continuous wind and rain.

After a shaky start at St. Nicholas', Brighton, where several of the party were introduced to the ten-bell beat, the coach proceeded to Portsmouth. The television cameramen were out in force, but we switched off our smiles on realising that they were ready for the return of Alec Rose. One had almost forgotten how excellent are the ringing conditions at Portsmouth and, revelling in the glorious sound and "go" of the Cathedral ten, some creditable Grandsire Caters were rung. The nearby Dolphin Hotel is recommended to any visiting bands for its service and cooking—the lunch and tea here undoubtedly set the seal of success on the whole day.

After the youngsters had visited the fun-fair we moved on to Portsea's magnificent tower, arriving as the last bride of the day was leaving. The lovely octave was much enjoyed, and there was time to glimpse the masts of H.M.S. "Victory" between the battle-masts, reached by a dizzy climb over the bells.

The evening included ringing at Shoreham and Hurstpierpoint. Thanks go to local secretaries and incumbents and to Paul Fox, who made the arrangements. H.R.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

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BIRTHS

ARNOLD. — To Christine (née Mason), S.R.N. (late Nuncaton Nursing Cadet Service and Southampton Royal South Hants Hospital staff, formerly of Chilvers Coton and Southampton bellfries), wife of Peter, the beautiful blessing of a son, Andrew Brian (7 lb. 9 oz.) at Fenwick Hospital, Lyndhurst (New Forest), on July 5th (birthday anniversary of his maternal great-grandfather). First grandchild and nephew respectively for Evelyn and Stanley Mason (Nuncaton, Warks) and Muriel (Southampton), great-great-nephew for Miss Charlotte Curth (aged 94), of Southbourne, paternal cousin of Sarah Louise McLaren (Dibden Purlieu, Hampshire), born June 10th, 1968. 4350

HENDRY. — On June 27th, 1968, to Pat and Barrie, at Harpole, Northampton, a daughter, Charlotte Jayne. 4341

LING. — On July 4th, 1968, to Olga and Michael, a daughter, Miriam Charlotte, sister for Andrew. 4372

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE

YOUNG—SIMS. — The wedding of Bob and Sylvia will take place at Emmanuel Church, Plymouth, on July 27th at 12 noon. All friends welcome at the service. 4347

MARRIAGE

MACKENZIE—ARROWSMITH. — On July 6th, 1968, at St. Peter's Church, Wootton Wawen, John and Hazel. Future address: 18, Main Street, Whittington, near Lichfield. 4346

GOLDEN WEDDING

ELKINS—EDWARDS. — On July 18th, 1918, Alfred Richard Elkins to Mabel Emily Edwards, both formerly of Farnham, Surrey. Present address: 44, Beeston Avenue, Altrincham, Cheshire. 5365

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

JAMES. — The address of David and Margaret James is now 39, Overdale, Ashted, Surrey. Tel. Ashted 5881. 4360

SHUTTLEWORTH. — The address of Ted and Beryl Shuttleworth is now 35, Holly Avenue, Breaston, Derby. Postal Code DE7 3BG. 4375

PERSONAL

"But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden."—Galatians vi, 4 and 5.

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HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

FOUR-BERTH CARAVAN to let. Secluded private site, near village, 4 miles coast. Beautiful surroundings. Ideal touring centre for Exmoor and N. Devon.—Phillips, Churchill House, West Down, Ilfracombe, Devon. 4339

MISCELLANEOUS

ST. MICHAEL'S FOBHING, ESSEX

Flower Festival

Fri., Sat., Sun., July 26th, 27th and 28th. Visiting bands welcome. Ringing at any time except during organ recital, Saturday afternoon. 4334

READING UNIVERSITY SOCIETY C.R.

Please note that the Annual Dinner has been arranged for Saturday, October 19th. All ringing and dining arrangements, including cost of tickets, will be published later. 4340

SAXMUNDHAM, SUFFOLK

Flower Festival

Fri., Sat. and Sun., Sept. 13, 14 and 15. Bells available, Sat., Sept. 14th 2.15–5 p.m., 6.30–8.45 p.m. Short service Fri., Sat., 5 p.m. Refreshments, Market Hall. Ringers are especially welcome. 4344

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Annual Reports.—Copies of the 1966 and 1967 Reports, containing 39 and 35 compositions respectively, are obtainable (price 2s. 6d., including postage) from: E. Billings, 61, Melville Street, Northampton. 4366

RINGER wishes to join touring group, August, to improve D. Norwich Court, etc. Morris traveller. 8 handbells. — Box 4301, "The Ringing World," Onslow Street, Guildford. 4301

RINGING TRIP of Gloucestershire, last week in October, Sunday—Friday. Apply to S. R. Munday, 6, Rockwood Crescent, Woodhall Park, Pudsey, Yorkshire, not later than August 15th. Enclose stamped addressed envelope. 4364

WYMONDHAM ABBEY RINGING DAY. —Saturday, July 27th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Teas provided after short service at 4.15. All welcome. Names, please, to T. E. Spight, 34, Damgate Street, Wymondham. 4261

YOUNG LADY, Sandwich Course Student, seeks accommodation within reach of Keston area of Kent for one year from September. Please ring 01-894 7261. 4381

MEETINGS

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Farnham District. —Advanced practice at Grayshot (8), Friday, July 19th, 7.30–9 p.m. 4383

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Crewkerne Branch. — Practice meeting, Hinton St. George (6) on Saturday, July 20th, 7–9 p.m.—R. J. Dean, Hon. Sec. 4338

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wirral Branch.—Heswall, July 20th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea free for those notifying by Thursday previous.—Alexander J. Martin, 28, Glenmore Road, Oxtun, Birkenhead. 4336

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Quarterly meeting at Atherstone on Saturday, July 20th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m., by kind invitation of Miss Crawley-Boevey, at The Gatehouse, Merevale; help given with transport. Other towers available: Grandon 10 a.m., Polesworth 11, Witherley 1.30 p.m., Mancetter 2.15: each for ½ hour. Bring own lunch. Names for tea, important, to J. L. Garner-Hayward, Lowfold, Ashorne, Warwick. 4333

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Huntingdon District.—Meeting at Somersham on Saturday, July 20th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Special methods: Double Court Bob Minor and York Surprise Minor.—M. J. Dyer, Dis. Sec. 4328

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—Meeting, St. Michael's, St. Albans, July 20th, 3 p.m. and service. Tea 5.15 in Abbey Institute. Abbey bells 6.30–8.30. Special methods, respectively, Pudsey Major and Cambridge Max. Names for tea to me at 23, Culver Road, St. Albans.—R. E. Hardy, Dis. Sec. 4216

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District. — Quarterly meeting at Bredgar, Saturday, July 20th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Rev. S. M. Evans, Bredgar Vicarage, Sittingbourne. — T. Barton. 4267

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — West Lindsey Branch.—Meeting at Haxey, Saturday, July 20th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Special methods: Stedman Slow Course Minor and Bob Doubles.—George L. C. Lunn, Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. Tel. 2623. 4331

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Kettering Branch.—Meeting at East Carlton (6) on July 20th. Service 4.15 p.m. Ashley (5) available 7.30 p.m. All welcome. Names for tea to Mr. J. Wallace, 4, Almshouses, 4356

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wellborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting at Castle Ashby (5) on Saturday, July 20th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. D. Dunn, The Menagerie, Castle Ashby. 4385

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Marlborough Branch.—Meeting, Freshute, Saturday, July 20th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Own tea arrangements, please 4337

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Rural Branch.—Practice meeting at Doynton and Abson, Monday, July 22nd, 7 to 9 p.m.—R. H. D. 4343

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Practice meeting at Wanborough on Monday, July 22nd, 7.30–9 p.m. 4368

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District. — Surprise practice at Stevenage on Tuesday, July 23rd, 7.30–9 p.m. —Mrs. C. A. Agg, Dis. Sec.

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Surprise practice at St. Martin's, Epsom (10) on Wednesday, July 24th, 7.30–9 p.m.—J. P. O. 4341

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — S. and W. District.—Ten-bell practice at Isleworth on Wednesday, July 24th, at 7.45 p.m. M. J. Palmer. 4378

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Syston District.—Learners' practice meeting, Cossington (5), Friday, July 26th. Ringing 7.30 p.m. 4345

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Cary Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Hornington (6), July 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—L. McCreadie, Level Lane, Charlton Horethorne, Sherborne, Dorset. 4348

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Axbridge Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Axbridge (6), Saturday, July 27th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting.—M. Legg. 4369

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Branch.—Practice at St. Decumen's (6) on Saturday, July 27th, at 6 p.m.—E. R. T. B. 4376

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Luton District.—Quarterly meeting, Woburn, Saturday, July 27th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business in Crypt at 5. Names, please, to K. G. Spavins, 44, George Street, Woburn. 4355

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—Meeting at Aldford, Saturday, July 27th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. G. R. Weaver, School Lane, Aldford, near Chester, by Wednesday, July 24th. 4333

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Prestbury (rehung 8), Saturday, July 27th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea (at nominal charge) to G. Moorhouse, The Hillock, Dale Brow, Prestbury, by Wednesday, July 24th. 4329

DEVON GUILD.—N. and N.W. Branch.—Summer meeting, Holsworthy, July 27th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea. Visitors welcomed. Names to Mr. R. Pearce, Buttsbeer Cross, Bridgerule, Holsworthy, by July 22nd. 4377

ESSEX ASSOCIATION (N.W. District) and HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Bishop's Stortford District).—Joint meeting at Harlow Common (8), Saturday, July 27th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea, please, to G. Blake, Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow.—G. Blake, K. Westwood, Hon. Secs. 4335

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Combined practice, Albury, July 27th, 6-9 p.m. No notification necessary, but it is hoped ringers will turn up in good numbers.—Y. L. Eloie, Dis. Sec. 4377

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Church Stretton District.—Practice meeting, Churchstoke, July 27th. Bells (5) 3 p.m. to 4.30. Teas Chirbury. After tea, Forden bells (6). Names for tea to L. Colley, Wilmington, Marton, Welshpool. 4387

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Lewis-ham District) and LADIES' GUILD (Kent Branch).—Joint meeting, Saturday, July 27th, at Cudham. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Evening ringing at Biggin Hill. Names for tea to Miss M. R. Andrews, 43, Wansunt Road, Bexley, by Wednesday, 24th. 4334

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at Newchurch Kenyon (8) on Saturday, July 27th. Ringing 2.30-5 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Evening ringing till 8.30. Names for tea to Mr. S. Osborne, 19, Wellfield Road, Culcheth, near Warrington. Strictly no name no tea.—A. J. I., Sec. 4386

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting at Guiseley on Saturday, July 27th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. A. C. Walsh, Dunster, Oxford Avenue, Guiseley, Leeds, by previous Thursday, please. 4374

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Meeting, Congerstone, Saturday, July 27th, 3 p.m. Five bells. No service. Tea at 5, followed by business meeting and ringing in the evening at Market Bosworth (8) Names, to Mr. F. K. Measures, 58, Lyngate Lane, Burbage (Tel. 516). Must be in by Wednesday previous.—C. M. Wells, Dis. Sec. 4370

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Meeting, Edenham, Saturday, July 27th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. W. Holmes, The Garage, Edenham, near Bourne, Lincs, by July 22nd. Special method: Superlative.—F. G. Vickers, Hon. Sec. 4371

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, July 27th. Fittleton bells 3 p.m.; Netheravon from 6 p.m. Please make own arrangements for tea. 4367

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Mansfield District.—Meeting, Edwinstowe (6), Saturday, July 27th. Bells 2.30-9 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Towers and members interested in the District outing to be held on September 28th should forward definite numbers by this meeting. Names for tea to Mrs. R. Woodhead, 12, Church Street, Edwinstowe, by Wednesday previous.—D. J. Beach, Dis. Sec. 4361

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Central District.—Quarterly meeting at Worlingworth (8) on Saturday, July 27th. Bells from 2.30 to 9 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify for tea to Mrs. M. Page, Canpanella, Pettaugh, Stowmarket, Suffolk, by Wednesday previous. 4359

A Record of Peals Rung by Peter Laflin

PETER LAFLIN rang his first peal at Debenham, Suffolk, on May 26th, 1906; it was a peal of Plain Bob Major, to which he rang the 2nd bell. There was a strong Sunday service band at Debenham at the time, and in the following year, 1907, they rang a local band peal of Superlative Surprise. Peter on this occasion ringing the 4th. In 1909 he moved from Debenham to work in Birmingham for a year, where he rang in the first peals of Aston Major and Royal, both being composed and conducted by John Carter. He returned to Suffolk after the period in Birmingham and continued to ring peals in the area until the enforced break of five years due to the 1914-18 war. It is interesting to note that in the two peals immediately before and after this war he rang next to Edward Jenkins, with whom he rang almost 250 peals.

In 1919 Peter emigrated to Canada, where he lived for almost five years before returning to England and settling in the Manchester area, where he lived for the rest of his life. His first peal in the North of England was in July, 1926, Superlative Major at Pendleton, conducted by his friend Edward Jenkins, who had also moved to the area. In April, 1927, Peter rang the 3rd to the record peal of 17,824 Oxford T.B. Major at Heptonstall, with Ted again conducting (from a non-observation bell D). The following year both were in the unsuccessful attempt for 22,096, which was lost after 10½ hours, when the tenor bearings dried up.

Allen F. Bailey, one of the famous brothers from Suffolk, was also living in Stockport at the time and introduced Peter to handbell peal ringing in 1928. The handbell band formed at Stockport about this time is probably one of the best that the country has ever known. Many peals of Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques were rung, including the first on handbells both in Lancashire and Cheshire of Stedman Cinques. The band also rang many peals in even-bell methods, notably Plain Bob, Kent T.B., Oxford T.B. and Double Norwich Court Bob. In this sphere, too, they set up new records by ringing the first peals of Plain Bob and Kent T.B. Maximus on handbells in Cheshire. (Oxford T.B. Maximus was lost in the last course shortly before the band broke up in 1940.)

After the second world war Peter continued his ringing with the "Cheshire Band" under the leadership of John Worth. The band at this time was building up for the record peal of Bristol Surprise Major, ringing a 10,080 in 1948, and finally 21,600 in 1950, when Peter was 61 years old.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Practice meeting, July 27th, at Ripe (5), 3-4.30 p.m. Chiddingly (6) 6-8 p.m. Names for tea to me at Cartref, Arundel Close, Hawkwood, Hailsham, as soon as possible.—G. M. FitzHugh. 4373

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Quarterly meeting at St. Peter's, Soberton, July 27th. Bells 3 till 9. Tea 4.40 in the White Lion. Service 5.30, followed by the business meeting in the church. Names for tea to Mr. L. Duguid, 106, Stride Avenue, Portsmouth, by Thursday, July 25th, please. 4382

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—Meeting at Burton-in-Kendal on Saturday, August 3rd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. until 7.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. Harry S. Barnes, Hutton House, Burton-in-Kendal, via Carnforth, not later than Wednesday, July 31st. 4358

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Practice meeting, Old Coulsdon, Saturday, August 3rd. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea to W. J. Savell, 13, Hartley Old Road, Purley, by July 31st.—K. G. Gane, Dis. Sec. 4353

The E.G.M. of the Liverpool University Society will now be held on Saturday, November 9th.—Pat Jenkins 4349

In later years Peter often rang "second tenor," and at the age of 68 rang the 7th to Pitman's 30-Spliced Surprise Major, which was then rung for the first time. The following year he rang the 9th at Ashton-under-Lyne to the first peal of Londinium ever to be rung. In 1963 Peter decided to retire from peal ringing, although he continued to ring regularly on Sundays and practice nights until the end of 1967, when it became very difficult for him to climb the many steps to St. George's belfry, where he had rung for over 30 years. His list of peals is appended:—

TOWER BELLS

Minor.—Plain Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise 1, three methods 1, seven methods 1, 25 methods 1. Total 5.

Triples.—Grandsire 5, Stedman 14, Total 19. Major.—Plain Bob 20, Double Norwich C.B. 32, Kent T.B. 18, Oxford T.B. 10, *Aston 1, *Handsworth 1, Surprise: Aldenham 2, Belgrave 1, Bristol 57, Cambridge 32, Claybrooke 1, *Deva 1, Ealing 1, Glasgow 1, Lincolnshire 6, London 47, Londonderry 1, *Macclesfield 3, New Cambridge 2, Norfolk 1, Pudsey 4, *Ramsey 1, Rochester 2, Rotherham 1, Rutland 3, *Stockport 3, Superlative 26, Watford 1, Wye 1, Yorkshire 19, three methods 1, four methods 7, six methods 2, seven methods 1, eight methods 4, nine methods 2, 11 methods 1, 12 methods 13, 13 methods 1, 14 methods 1, 16 methods 4, 25 methods 1, 30 methods 1. Total 339.

Caters.—Grandsire 6, Stedman 7, Total 13. Royal.—Plain Bob 5, Kent T.B. 5, Oxford T.B. 3, *Aston 1, Surprise: Belgrave 5, Bristol 2, Cambridge 34, Lincolnshire 1, Lindsey 1, London (No 3) 28, *Ludgate 1, Metropolitan 1, New Cambridge 1, Pudsey 2, Rochester 4, Rutland 3, Superlative (No. 2) 1, Yorkshire 13, two methods 1. Total 112.

Cinques.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 7, Total 8. Maximus.—Kent T.B. 4, Oxford T.B. 1, Surprise: Belgrave 2, Cambridge 24, Lincolnshire 1, *Londinium 1, New Cambridge 2, Pudsey 1, Rochester 1, *Southwell 1, Superlative 1, Yorkshire 16, two methods 1. Total 56.

Tower total 552.

* Indicates first peal in the method.
Long peals: 10,080 Bristol S. Major
17,824 Oxford T.B. Major
21,600 Bristol S. Major.

HANDBELLS

Triples.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 4, Total 5. Major.—Plain Bob 4, Kent T.B. 6, Oxford T.B. 5, Double Norwich C.B. 3. Total 18. Caters.—Grandsire 6, Stedman 18, Total 24. Royal.—Plain Bob 9, Kent T.B. 8, Oxford T.B. 12, two methods 1. Total 30. Cinques.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 7, Total 8. Maximus.—Plain Bob 1, Kent T.B. 1, Total 2. Handbell total 639.

Rung with 526 ringers in 123 towers for 18 Guilds, Associations or Societies. R. B. S.

NEWINGTON-NEXT-SITTINGBOURNE

Forty-five ringers from North Kent took part in Newington-next-Sittingbourne's traditional Spring Bank Holiday outing, and were ringing promptly at 9 a.m. on the easy-going eight at Marden. Then came Kilndown (the six have been restored in recent years), and only two of the party "chickened-out" of climbing the vertical iron ladder to the ringing room. Springy ropes and a long draught made Ticehurst (6) bells rather a handful.

Probably it was due to the effects of the lunch at Wannock Gardens, but justice was not done to the fine-sounding six at Alfriston. Ringing improved at Laughton (6) and tea was enjoyed just outside Uckfield, followed by good ringing on the very pleasant eight here. Finally came the eight at Buxted, where the hum of the bells was very noticeable. The journey home was broken in the heart of the Kentish hopfields at Beltring for liquid refreshments.

Our thanks are due to Mrs. Hazel Mitchell for her able organisation and to incumbents and ringers who met the party. L. M.

OUR MOST NORTHERLY RING

THOSE ringers who like to explore the remote corners mentioned in Dove's "Guide" will have seen that there is a ring of eight in Inverness. Possibly a few have wondered what they are like and imagined that they would be slowly deteriorating in a neglected tower, even although most people in the South (i.e. south of the border) will fail to realise that Inverness is more than 100 miles from the next ringing tower (Dundee) and more than 200 miles from England.

I first made contact with the bells of Inverness in the summer of 1958 when I was staying in Edinburgh before taking up work in South Wales. The ringers at St. Cuthbert's Parish Church, where I was ringing, decided to have a summer outing to Inverness if it could be arranged, and as I was to have a few weeks' holiday fairly near there I was asked to go as an advance party to check that the bells were ringable.

The bells are a Warner eight with a tenor of about 20 cwt., hung old-style in plain bearings on a part-wood, part-metal frame. I found them in pretty fair condition apart from one or two broken stays and a fair amount of pigeon trouble. After the usual greasing, tightening, repairing and tidying, the bells went fairly well and the Provost of the Cathedral (the Very Rev. J. Pennell) kindly gave me the use of his bathroom to tidy myself up before feeding me and despatching me home, saying he was looking forward to our visit. The only local use that was being made of the bells then was that the Ellacombe apparatus was regularly used for chiming. Unfortunately I missed the summer outing but I gather that it was a success.

ANONYMOUS SMASH

When I returned to Edinburgh in 1961 a second outing was arranged and took place in the summer of 1962. The only real change in the tower was that a visiting peal band from South of the Border had neglected to swing back the excellent hinged ladder giving access to the roof before they raised the tenor and had thus smashed a perfectly good piece of equipment. Let them blush in anonymity but also provide an object lesson. Before starting to ring in a strange tower unless given clearance by a local ringer, one must always check that there is nothing fouling the bells.

Shortly after this a much more interesting development occurred. A new local man, Mr. David McLean, took over the care of the tower and bells and became interested in the idea of forming a local band. He had begun to teach himself to handle the bells but had naturally not made any great progress as he had never had any experience of a raised bell. In the ensuing years mixed parties from the Edinburgh and Glasgow towers went to Inverness on several occasions, usually only groups of three or four, and a few times visitors from Inverness visited Edinburgh. In between times the Inverness band, whose numbers rose rapidly to an enthusiastic six or seven, endeavoured to ring by themselves. Inevitably, we began to hear a mournful tale of broken stays when we saw them, but the amazing fact is that in spite of what most ringers would regard as impossible conditions for learning, the new recruits stuck at it and before too long were able to ring recognisable rounds. They then became eager to learn the rudiments of change ringing.

CHANGED APPEARANCE

During this period what was most encouraging for us was to see the change that took place in the tower. When I first saw it, the ringing room was dingy and dirty. There were gaps between the ringing room ceiling and the tops of the windows, which made the bells uncomfortably loud for the ringers. The stairs were badly worn and everywhere was the usual mess left by the pigeons.

Gradually everything was changed. The ringing room was decorated and carpeted. The ceiling was made more soundproof. The stairs and the hinged ladder have now been repaired and heating has been installed. In fact the place is now a credit to the band. Equally good has been the care of the bells, which are now regularly maintained and lubricated.

Recently the ringers have had some luck in that a few change ringers from England have been working in Inverness. As a result they have been able to start learning Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, which is surely an achievement as great as learning any of the more advanced methods under easier conditions. Unfortunately a recent attempt for a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles by a band of ringers from Inverness and Edinburgh came to grief, but we hope that we may have something to show soon.

Ringers touring in Scotland in summer should keep in mind that the Inverness practice night is a Friday and that they can always be sure of a warm welcome then or on a Sunday. For other ringing arrangements they should get in touch with Duncan Wheeler, 81, Bruce Gardens, Inverness. Telephone: Inverness 32091 (daytime) or Inverness 35331 (at night). M.P.

SALISBURY GUILD

Melbury Ormond was the venue of the West Dorset Branch meeting on June 22nd. This small village on the north border of the Branch is rich in history and is known to have had four bells in 1552. A treble was added in 1966 and now there is a ring of six bells, which were kept busy until the service conducted by the Rev. A. G. Watling.

Tea was prepared by local ringers in the Village Hall, and Mr. C. W. Powell presided at the business meeting. The next quarterly meeting is to be held at Lyme Regis on September 21st, but there are practice meetings at Evershot on August 14th and Bradpole on September 10th. Some 30 members, including visitors from North Dorset and Wimborne Branches and the Bath and Wells Association, were present in the evening. J.D.

A STORY FOR RINGERS

THE RETURN

YOUNG JOE paused for a moment from his decorating and stood back to admire his handiwork. In the far distance could be heard the local Parish Church bellringers at practice and, over the last half-hour, Joe's awareness of the sound had increased. Had it really been three years since his own interest had declined? His hands, once calloused and hardened were now soft—and paint-stained. He resumed his self-appointed task—a little more reluctantly now, it seemed.

Joe had learned to ring ten years earlier and, seven years, 398 towers and 97 peals later, for some unaccountable reason his interest in the art had waned. Things got so bad in fact that he even cancelled his "Ringing World" and apart from a couple of "Evercrech" each Sunday, bellringing played no part in his life.

His ringing friends in the tower paid little attention to his loss of interest. "He'll be back sometime," they said, no doubt classifying Joe as one of the "nomads" who drift in and out of the Exercise at irregular intervals. Very occasionally someone would half-heartedly inquire across the smoky atmosphere of the local "Whatever happened to old what's his name?" This normally brought the non-committal answer "Don't know, think he got spliced, y'know." at which point everyone nodded knowingly and continued supping.

Bath Ringers in Devon—continued

especially those of us who did not appreciate the subtle difference between "upward" and "stand"! However, we felt that even if our efforts would not have been worthy of one of the handsome certificates with which the towers of so many of these Devonshire churches are decorated, at least we did not disgrace ourselves too badly!

Then followed Chittlehampton—the Church of St. Hieritha—surely a new dedication for most of our records? But before this a picnic tea was taken in a conveniently large lay-by—quite a professional affair, with paraffin stoves, kettles, fresh-cut sandwiches—everything in fact but the kitchen sink! Chittlehampton is only a small village but it possesses a spacious village square worthy of a market town, and the magnificent tower is surely the finest in Devon, if not in the West Country. Unfortunately our ringers did not do justice to the bells.

Our last tower was at South Molton (a fine ring of eight, 24 cwt., in an equally fine church), where the non-ringers could admire the floral decorations for a christening the next day while the ringers enjoyed themselves aloft.

And so ended yet another outing—one which this year was tinged with sadness; it was the first since the death of our much-loved tower master, Harold Parfrey, and I think he was in most people's minds during the day. But who can say that he was not with us in spirit? And under the quite splendid guidance of his widow, who was only the previous evening formally elected tower master at Corston, the members of the tower—nearly all of whom Harold had taught to ring—showed that they were determined to do their best to maintain the standards he had always insisted upon. M. J. de J.

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD

Officers elected at the annual meeting of the Manchester University Guild were: President, A. B. Tomlinson; Ringing Master, C. L. D. Munday; secretary, Miss E. A. Johnston (permanent address 2, Redcliffe Drive, North Ferriby, Yorks); treasurer, R. N. Jones.

Suddenly Joe flung down his painting brush—something, we shall never know what, had stirred within him the urge to ring once again. Minutes later he was strolling towards the church. "Wonder what they'll ring," he mused. "Don't think I can still remember even Cambridge."

At the church he mounted the stairs with trepidation, and once the evening's greetings had been exchanged, the Ringing Master inquired hopefully, "Can you do Grandsire?" "I think so," Joe said meekly, and caught hold of the fourth. With some difficulty numerous courses of Grandsire Doubles were "done," Joe feeling somewhat exhilarated by the rather poor but none the less enthusiastic ringing. Some time later he left the practice to cries of "Thank you" and "Come again."

"I've done it," thought Joe as he wound his way back through the now darkened lanes. "I've made a come-back . . . I wonder if there's a meeting anywhere local on Saturday . . . really must order 'The Ringing World' again . . . join the local Association . . . find the local practice nights . . ." He rambled on until he reached home.

"Now," said his wife icily, "you can just finish painting the bedroom." "Sorry, luv," said Joe, "I don't think I'll have time—now."

ANON.

CENTRAL COUNCIL

APPENDIX TO DOUBLES COLLECTION

The following regular methods to be added:—

III (a). One hunt, four-lead plain course

43P Rev. St. Bart. Bob	3, 1, 5, 1, 5, 1, 5, 1, 3, 123
44Q Chase Bob	3, 1, 5, 1, 5, 1, 5, 1, 3, 145.
45P Rev. St. Sebastian Bob	3, 145, 5, 1, 5, 1, 5, 145, 3, 123.
46P All Saints' Bob	345, 1, 5, 1, 5, 1, 5, 1, 345, 123.
47R Rev. Union Bob	5, 1, 5, 3, 5, 3, 5, 1, 5, 123.
48R Rev. St. Julian Bob	5, 1, 125, 3, 5, 3, 125, 1, 5, 123.
49R Rev. St. Faith Bob	5, 1, 5, 123, 5, 123, 5, 1, 5, 123.

III (b). One hunt, three-lead plain course.

37S Poyle Slow Course	3, 1, 5, 1, 345, 1, 5, 1, 3, 123.
38U — Bob	3, 1, 5, 1, 145, 1, 5, 1, 3, 123.
39V — Bob	3, 1, 5, 1, 125, 1, 5, 1, 3, 123.
40U — Bob	3, 1, 5, 123, 145, 123, 5, 1, 3, 123.
41S Yeoveney S.C.	3, 1, 5, 3, 145, 3, 5, 1, 3, 123.
42U — Bob	3, 1, 125, 3, 145, 3, 125, 1, 3, 123.
43T Colne S.C.	3, 145, 5, 1, 345, 1, 5, 145, 3, 123.
44V — Bob	3, 145, 5, 1, 145, 1, 5, 145, 3, 123.
45V — Bob	3, 145, 5, 1, 125, 1, 5, 145, 3, 123.
46V — Bob	3, 145, 5, 123, 145, 123, 5, 145, 3, 123.
47T Crane S.C.	3, 14, 125, 3, 145, 3, 125, 145, 3, 123.
48V — Bob	3, 145, 125, 3, 145, 3, 125, 145, 3, 123.
49T Runemede S.C.	345, 1, 5, 1, 345, 1, 5, 1, 345, 123.
50V — Bob	345, 1, 5, 1, 145, 1, 5, 1, 345, 123.
51U — Place	345, 1, 5, 1, 125, 1, 5, 1, 345, 123.
52V — Place	345, 1, 5, 123, 145, 123, 5, 1, 345, 123.
53T Harmondsworth S.C.	345, 1, 5, 3, 145, 3, 5, 1, 345, 123.
54V — Place	345, 1, 125, 3, 145, 3, 125, 1, 345, 123.
55V — Bob	5, 1, 5, 1, 145, 1, 5, 1, 5, 123.
56T Boveney S.C.	5, 1, 5, 123, 125, 123, 5, 1, 5, 123.

57V Freethorpe Bob	5, 1, 5, 123, 145, 123, 5, 1, 5, 123.
58U Casthorpe Bob	5, 1, 5, 123, 345, 123, 5, 1, 5, 123.
59U Londonthorpe Bob	5, 1, 5, 3, 345, 3, 5, 1, 5, 123.
60T Bedford S.C.	5, 1, 5, 3, 125, 3, 5, 1, 5, 123.
61T Eton S.C.	5, 1, 125, 3, 125, 3, 125, 1, 5, 123.
62V Kelleythorpe Bob	5, 1, 125, 3, 145, 3, 125, 1, 5, 123.
63V Manthorpe Bob	5, 1, 125, 3, 345, 3, 125, 1, 5, 123.

The following named irregular methods to be added:—

III (a). One hunt, four-lead plain course.

50P Quirister Bob	3, 1, 125, 1, 5, 1, 125, 1, 3, 123.
51B Camelion Bob	3, 1, 125, 1, 5, 1, 125, 1, 3, 125.
53A Blaisdon Bob	3, 1, 125, 123, 5, 123, 125, 1, 3, 125.
54P Morning Star Bob	3, 145, 125, 1, 5, 1, 125, 145, 3, 123.
56A Dragon Bob	3, 145, 125, 123, 5, 123, 125, 145, 3, 125.
59A Huntley Bob	345, 1, 125, 123, 5, 123, 125, 1, 345, 125.
60P Minster Bob	345, 145, 5, 1, 5, 1, 5, 145, 345, 123.
71R St. Owen Place	5, 1, 125, 123, 5, 123, 125, 1, 5, 123.
72B Eynesbury Bob	5, 1, 125, 123, 5, 123, 125, 1, 5, 125.
74O Wainfleet Place	5, 145, 5, 1, 5, 1, 5, 145, 5, 123.
77O Chevasse Place	5, 145, 5, 123, 5, 123, 5, 145, 5, 123.
80O Maltby Bob	5, 145, 5, 3, 5, 3, 5, 145, 5, 123.
84O Callender Bob	5, 145, 125, 3, 5, 3, 125, 145, 5, 123.

III (c). One hunt, three-lead plain course.

78V Cowthorpe Bob	5, 1, 125, 1, 345, 1, 125, 1, 5, 123.
79U Gunthorpe Bob	5, 1, 125, 123, 345, 123, 125, 1, 5, 123.

Bobs for the above method are:—

A to J as in the Collection.

O is an Old Doubles single, observation bells 3, 4, 5.

P is a plain lead of Plain Bob above the treble, observation bells 3, 4, 5.

Q is a Grandsire Extreme, observation bells 2, 3, 4, 5.

R is a Grandsire Single above the treble, observation bells 3, 4, 5.

S to V are 145 instead of 123 at the lead-end. Call BBPP or BPPB or PPBB or PBBP each three times.

VARIATIONS ON PLAIN DOUBLES METHODS

APPENDIX TO C.C. DOUBLES COLLECTION

Variations on Plain Doubles Methods.

- (a) Using a Grandsire single instead of the standard call for the method. Observation bell 3, 4 or 5, when making seconds over treble.

Plain Course	Variation
1 New Bob	Hendred
2 St. Vedast	S. Brewood
3 Huntspill	Radlett
4 Blaisdon	
5 Westminster II	Burton Joyce
6 St. Hilary	Brightwell
7 Blackburn	Lillingstone
8 Dragon	
9 St. Nicholas	Lapley
10 St. Remigius	Horsley
11 Winchendon	St. John
12 Huntley	Obediah
13 St. Simon	Eynsham
14 St. Osmund	St. Ninian
15 St. Martin	St. Leonard
16 Eynesbury	St. John Baptist.

- (b) Using an Old single. Observation bell 3, 4 or 5 making seconds.

Plain Course	Variation
21 Plain Bob	Old
22 Shipway Place	St. Boniface
23 R. Canterbury	St. Columb
24 R. St. Bartholomew	Fortune
25 R. St. Sebastian	St. Guthlac
26 All Saints'	Marchington
27 Minster Bob	Wolsey

- (c) Using a Plain Bob bob. Observation bell 2, 3 or 4 when four blows behind.

Plain Course	Variation
31 R. Canterbury	Southrepps
32 St. Nicholas	St. Giles
33 St. Remigius	Church Greasley
34 Winchendon	St. Miles
35 Huntley	Ezneih

- (d) Using a R. Canterbury Bob. Observation bell 2, 3 or 4 when four blows behind.

Plain Course	Variation
41 Plain Bob	Kennington
42 St. Simon	St. Albans
43 St. Osmund	St. Ambrose
44 St. Martin	St. Paul
45 Eynesbury	St. John Evangelist

- (e) Using a Grandsire Extreme. Observation bell 3, 4 or 5 making seconds.

Plain Course	Variation
51 Plain Bob	Hudibras
52 Shipway	St. Barnabas
53 R. Canterbury	Campion
54 R. St. Bartholomew	S. Augustine
55 All Saints'	St. Hilda
56 R. St. Sebastian	St. Polycarp
57 Minster Bob	Bodicote

- (f) Using a wallflower single. Observation bell 3, 4 or 5 making seconds.

Plain Course	Variation
61 New Bob	St. Merryn
62 St. Vedast	Chippingham
63 Huntspill	Hadham
64 Blaisdon	
65 Westminster II	Stoke Bardolph
66 St. Hilary	Sandford
67 Blackburn	Arnold
68 Dragon Bob	Sulgrave
69 St. Nicholas	Shareshill
70 St. Remigius	St. Cleer
71 Winchendon	Ryton
72 Huntley	Omega
73 R. Union	St. Laud
74 R. St. Julian	Wroughton
75 R. St. Faith	Susanmead
76 St. Owen	
77 St. Simon	Elford
78 St. Osmund	St. Felix
79 St. Martin	Austrey
80 Eynesbury	St. Wenceslas

- (g) Using an Antelope single. Observation bell 3, 4 or 5 making seconds.

Plain Course	Variation
91 New Bob	St. Samson
92 St. Vedast	Stowey
93 Huntspill	Oake
94 Blaisdon	
95 Westminster II	Epperstone
96 St. Hilary	Standlake
97 Blackburn	Sevalcliffe
98 Dragon Bob	Rousham
99 St. Nicholas	St. Mary
100 St. Remigius	St. Cecelia
101 Winchendon	St. Crispin
102 Huntley	Laverstoke
103 R. Union	St. Kenelm
104 R. St. Julian	Simpson
105 R. St. Faith	Spindlebury

106 St. Owen	St. Jude
107 St. Simon	St. Austell
108 St. Osmund	St. Laurence
109 St. Martin	St. Stephen
110 Eynesbury	

- (h) Using a Pink single. Observation bell 3, 4 or 5 making seconds.

Plain Course	Variation
121 New Bob	Cwmdu
122 St. Vedast	Tal-y-llyn
123 Huntspill	Catnedine
124 Blaisdon	
125 Westminster II	Ilfley
126 St. Hilary	West Hanney
127 Blackburn	Ardingly
128 Dragon Bob	Darwin
129 St. Nicholas	Heyford
130 St. Remigius	Sarratt
131 Winchendon	Chilton
132 Huntley	Dummer
133 R. Union	St. Firmin
134 R. St. Julian	Aspley
135 R. St. Faith	St. Eadburga
136 St. Owen	
137 St. Simon	St. Ignatius
138 St. Osmund	Amersham
139 St. Martin	Churchill
140 Eynesbury	St. John Divine

(To be continued)

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Chiltern, the youngest of the 15 Branches of the Oxford Guild, held its annual meeting at Edlesborough on April 20th, when the following officers were elected: Chairman, Mr. J. K. Shadrack (Edlesborough); hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. J. White (Aston Clinton); Joint Ringing Masters, Messrs. L. Floyd (Wendover) and L. R. Woodruff (Aston Clinton); Guild General Committee, Mr. D. G. Wheeler (Aston Clinton).

The Master (Canon C. E. Wigg) conducted the service and presided at the meeting. It was reported that rehanging was contemplated at Great Missenden and Marsworth.

Next A.G.M., Cheddington, April 19th.

COMPOSITIONS

5,280 SPLICED SURPRISE MAXIMUS
(10 methods)

By JOHN H. FIELDEN

234567890ET	Belvoir
— 64238507T9E	Bedford
— 26438507T9E	Yorkshire
— 3567294E8T0	Pudsey
795E3T60284	Lambeth
57396E2T408	Lincolnshire
9E7T5038642	Superlative
T0E89472563	Stoodley
08T4E296735	York
8402T6E3957	Cambridge
— 42638507T9E	

Repeat 10 times

Contains 528 changes of each method, with 109 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell. The greatest number of methods possible in an "all-the-work" peal of normal length on 12 bells. Rung at Ashton-under-Lyne on September 3rd. 1967.

5,079 STEDMAN CATERS

By R. A. G. INGLIS

231456789	5	16	
214356978	1.3S.8s.14		
413256	—	2	
312456	—	2	
314256	S	2	A
412356	—	2	
213456	—	2	
213495876	2.7S.		
314295	—	2	
312495	S	2	B
214395	—	2	

214365789	1S.9S.
213465	A

214365978 B with bob at 1
[in first course.]

214563879	2.5S.9S.16
213465	—
214365	A

First rung at St. Peter's, Nottingham, on Tuesday, June 25th, 1968, by the Southwell Diocesan Guild.

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