

July 31, 1970

THE RINGING WORLD

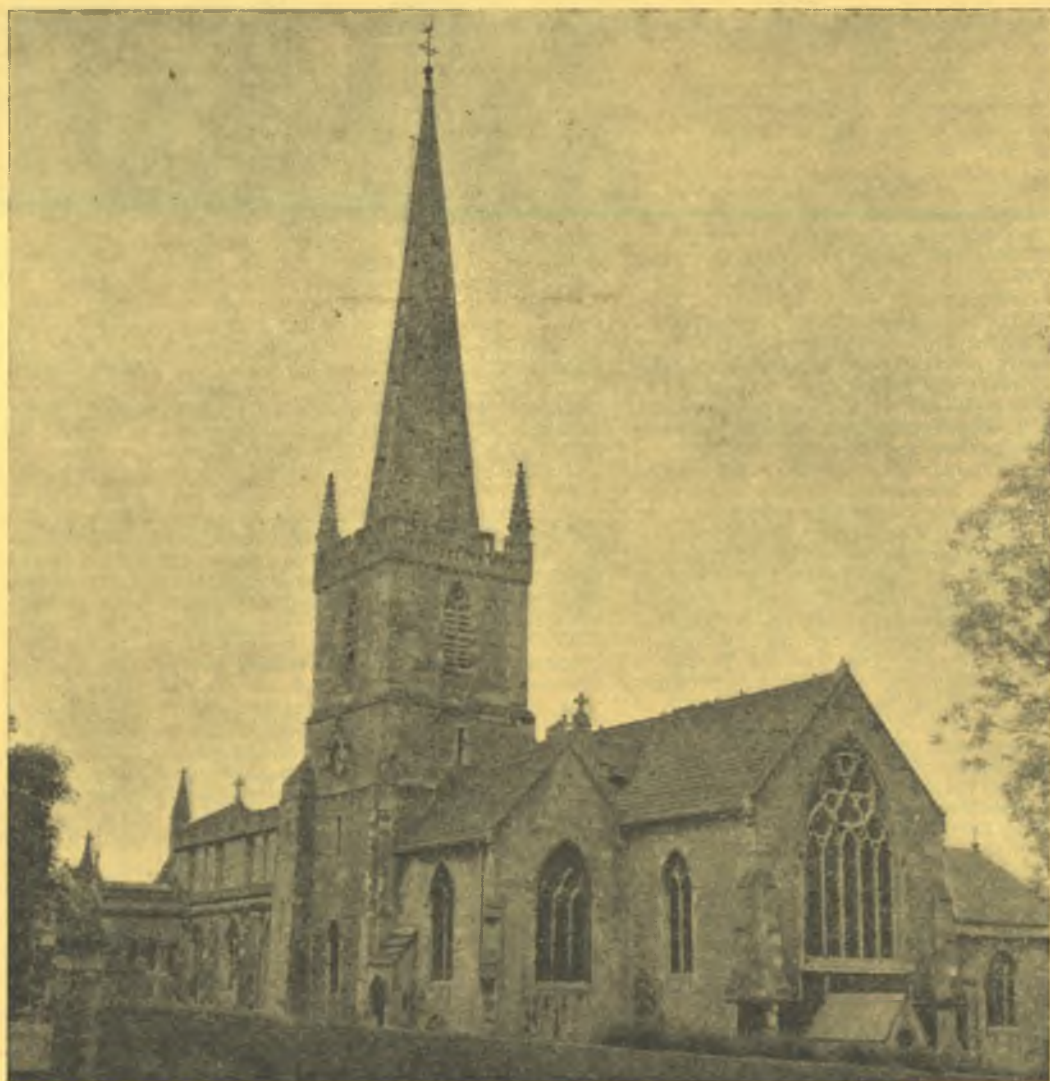
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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL
OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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One Shilling (weekly)

**St. John-the-
Baptist,
Frome,
Somerset.**



Cover Picture

St. John-the-Baptist, Frome, Som.

THERE ARE four churches in Frome and St. John's is the one with the steeple, half-way up the hill which takes holiday traffic out southward. The town itself has grown around the church which was founded as a mission station (in Selwood Forest) by St. Aldhelm, abbot of Malmesbury, sometime between 675 and 695. The monks chose the site because of the abundant supply of pure water which breaks out as springs from the hillside and one of these (now piped) runs west of the church and then (openly) down the centre of Cheap Street towards the Market Place.

Of this church, which lasted for 500 years, only a single stone can be identified, by a pair of entwined dragons carved on its side. This was built into an earlier squint in the base of the tower in the 19th century, when an arch was cut through the northern, inward-facing, wall.

A doorway and the curve of a window remain from the 12th century rebuilding, leading now from the Baptistry to the Lady Chapel, but then from the churchyard. The lower-part of the tower and the east end of the nave date from the 13th century. An abrupt change of style shows where the western half of the nave was added a century later. Similarly, the upper part of the spiral staircase is anti-clockwise while the lower part is clockwise and shows where the tower was made higher, with a spire, in the 15th century.

By the 18th century the springs under the church were causing trouble, and the building seemed in danger of slipping down the hill. Nothing was done till the second half of the 19th century when, under Vicar Bennett, nearly the whole church (but not the tower) was pulled down and rebuilt in similar style but on a stronger foundation.

The churchwardens' accounts, beginning in 1567, show there were five bells but none of these remain, although the metal may be the same. The 4th and 5th are dated 1624, the earliest known remaining bells made by John Lott, of Warminster. The 5th was recast once, but the 4th (the old fore-bell) was recast no fewer than four times in those 57 years. Three unsuccessful attempts were by the Purdue family (plain "Purdye" in 1586), William Purdye the Younger in 1597, at Frome, and Richard Purdie in 1616, at Edington, when he was probably doing work for the Priory. The sum of 20s. 6d. was paid for "4 days expenses for ourselves and our catel when the Treble was carried to casting". The distance travelled by the ox-team over the hilly, muddy road was five miles per day.

John Lott used very much the same decoration as the Purdue family—flat sheet-metal lettering, a bell between his initials as trade-mark and the running vine, and even a copy of the big Prince-of-Wales feathers device with CP on it (Carolus Princeps, not G P for George Purdue, as is suggested in "Church Bells of Wiltshire"). It is possible he learned his craft from the Purdues.

The fourth proclaims proudly "I am hee for John Lott made mee", and the tenor is his bell, too, dated 1662. He had two attempts at recasting it, the second one lasting ten times longer than the first. Its weight, by tradition, was 36 cwt., and there was great consternation amongst the local ringers when Gillett and Johnston, rehanging the bells in 1937, estimated it to weigh only 31 cwt. Some weight must have been lost with the removal of the canons. Nowadays it is considered by size and note (C

sharp) to be nearer 30 cwt. The 7th, recast by John Lott with the other two in 1632, was cast again by Robert Wells, of Aldebourne, in 1792.

A bell given to augment the five in 1684 does not record the founder, but it could have been made by Lewis Cockey, the father (or uncle) of William Cockey, living in Frome at that time. The "Church Bells of Wiltshire" gives Lewis Cockey as a Bristol founder on the strength of an entry in the Yatton churchwardens' accounts, but he could be another with the same name. The L C bell at Farleigh Hungerford, in 1681, is quite different in style from the others and was made by the old waist-bell method. Lewis Cockey's L (bell) C trade-mark and style of lettering suggest he may have learned from John Lott. The 1684 bell had to be recast by William Bilbie, of Chewstoke, in 1788 (after William Cockey's death).

The two trebles, made by William Cockey, were added in 1724, the gift of an unknown donor. It is thought that a new wooden frame was installed in the mid-19th century, and it is this frame which is causing the trouble now. Though the timbers are sound the joints have worked loose and the nuts on the metal ties which were added later in an attempt to steady it have rusted solid. Wedges driven in between the upper part of the frame and the tower fortunately seem to have done no damage and are ineffective. This movement of the frame makes the bells unpredictable when ringing, particularly in dry weather, and in wet weather the stiffening ropes do not fall as expected after a complicated journey through guides and chutes.

There was a clock in 1567, when records begin, and some of its wheels are probably incorporated in the present clock (restored by Singer of Frome in 1868). In 1637 there was some sort of a chime and in 1760 the 113th Psalm from Ripon's selection was played. After two additions to the tunes, the present carillon was installed by Gillett and Johnston in 1922. Both clock and carillon are in working order but they do not operate as the wiring to the hammers has become unsafe. During a practice in 1963 a wire holding the clock-hammer broke as the clock struck. The bell hit the hammer through the wheel of the 5th, ripping half of it away. Inspection showed other wires ready to break and springs so weak that the hammers were resting on the bells. The unsafe parts were dismantled and the clock and chimes silenced till money could be raised for an overhaul. As the frame also needed attention it seemed best to leave matters until new hammers could be fixed to the new frame. Frome ringers have launched an appeal for £4,000 for the rehanging of the bells in a steel frame and for the restoration of the clock and chimes.

Although the bells are not the easiest to ring, there have been 27 peals on them. The first was Stedman Triples in 1890 with the Rev. F. E. Robinson as conductor. There were seven peals of triples before 1937 when the bells were rehanging on ball-bearings and for all but two, two men always rang the tenor. The stalwarts were J. H. Shepherd (in 1907), after rehanging by Lewellins and James, and S. J. Hector of Trowbridge (in 1919). The tenor was first turned in by A. P. Cannon (to Double Norwich) on New Year's Eve, 1938, Nolan Golden conducting, and 15 years later J. T. Dyke conducted a peal of Cambridge with

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E. J. Chivers on the tenor. Since then there have been 19 other peals, 11 with the tenor turned in, but no-one has attempted it twice. Of the 15 conductors George Massey has nine to his credit and has rung in 12 peals.

In the total of 27 peals, 11 have been of major, 16 of triples and 136 ringers have taken part. The fastest peal (triples) was rung on Boxing Day, 1956 (3 hours 2 mins.), the slowest (also triples) six months later (3 hours 27 mins.), the bells being half-muffled in memory of W. Flower, ringer at St. John's for 53 years.

The last peal with two on the tenor (1930) included W. H. Mills, who rang for the relief of Ladysmith and Mafeking, and now at 88 still rings regularly for service.

The bells were kept ringing during the First World War and were fired when peace was declared. They were kept ringing for the Second World War (until stopped) and the ringers practised jangling them as air-raid alarm. Until the Second World War the Curfew was rung each night at 8 p.m. and the bells used to be rung only on the first Sunday of each month and for festivals. Later this was increased to first and third Sundays and then to every Sunday, and always for evensong. Now service ringing is at 8.15 a.m. for family Eucharist (at 9 a.m.) and for evensong only on festival occasions.

To raise £4,000 is the formidable task that the ringers have accepted, for the Church has many other problems. In addition to skittles at the fete and an open day and exhibition in the tower, Orchardleigh Park and Gardens will be open to the public on Bank Holiday Monday (August 31st) and it is hoped to have Frank Mack's very light ring of six available. There will be a handbell concert and community singing evening on September 19th and Christmas cards (depicting a very fine pen-and-ink drawing of the Church) will shortly be on sale, price 9d. Please watch the "Ringing World" for all details.

Donations to the Bell Fund should be sent to the secretary, R. Baker, 5, Cranmore View, Frome, or direct to the Westminster Bank, Market Place, Frome.

(Bell inscriptions on page 607.)

900 YEARS OF WORSHIP

ALTON (HAMPSHIRE) RINGERS JOIN IN CELEBRATIONS

Four years after the Norman Conquest a church was built in Alton (Hampshire) and dedicated to St. Lawrence. Nine-hundred years later—in 1970—celebrations are taking place in this delightful country town with its melodious ring of eight (tenor 18 cwt.) and socials, concerts, recitals, musical festivals with visiting societies, and son et lumière have been or are taking place. A great deal of organisation and hard work has had to be done, and the local ringers, under their captain (Mr. Rex Corke) and hon. secretary/treasurer (Mr. Clive Chennell-White), have played a part—a very large part—in all the activities.

The Rev. D. L. Couper (Vicar of Alton), Mr. Rex Corke (captain), Mr. Clive Chennell-White (secretary), Mrs. Gladys Munsey (Peterborough), Rev. P. W. Gallup (Buriton) and Mr. John Euston (St. Margaret's, Westminster).

[R.W. photo.]



Special ringing, quarter-peals, interchange of bands with towers in the area, have been organised and successes reported in the R.W. The culmination of these ringing festivities was on July 18 with a programme (well advertised and circulated) arranged to suit the many visitors expected from a wide area. Lunch was booked at a local hotel near the church and tea laid on. Tickets were printed to enable numbers to be estimated, and the organist and choirmaster volunteered to play and for his full choir to attend to lead the singing. The preacher at the service (Rev. P. W. Gallup) travelled up from Buriton (Petersfield), the Vicar (Rev. D. L. Couper) conducting the service, which was bright and interesting.

WHAT WENT WRONG?

The fact that ringers generally are unpredictable, particularly in supporting meetings, practices and festivals, has often been stated, and this was emphasised in no small degree on this occasion. Whilst it is believed that ringing did take place at many of the churches whose incumbents had loaned their bells for given periods, only five sat down to lunch (including three local ringers), 15 attended the service (two being in the choir and four locals) whilst 12 sat down to tea (four locals, the Vicar, the preacher and six visitors).

To say that the Alton ringers were disappointed is an understatement. Any church celebrating an anniversary expects to be supported locally, for it is a special event for parishioners. Alton has no cause to complain on this count, but it was rather a "let-down" for bellringing.

However, at tea, a delightful meal with a great variety of edibles. Mr. Corke welcomed the visitors, particularly Mrs. Gladys Munsey who had travelled down especially for the occasion from Peterborough, and Mr. Jack Euston, of St. Margaret's, Westminster. He also thanked all who had helped in any way to organise and take part in the arrangements, and commiserated with Mr. Chennell-White on the disappointing support after so much hard work.

The Vicar spoke of the excellent work of his own ringers and invited those present to attend son et lumière during September 7-19.

The Rev. P. W. Gallup, who is the district chairman for Alton and Petersfield area, in his address emphasised the part bellringers play in the worship of God, quoting from the Book of the Revelations "And they rest not day nor night, singing Holy, holy, holy". The worship of God goes on all over the world at all times, he said, and bellringers take a part—an important part—in that worship. It was not the 18 cwt. of bell metal that gave praise but the spirit of the ringer, each holding a rope, which in a unique way added a little to the worship of the world's Creator.

1971 CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING: LEAMINGTON SPA

The general secretary of the Coventry Diocesan Guild has sent us the following information:—

"At last I can let you know that the Central Council meeting will be held at Leamington Spa in 1971. We have arranged for the headquarters to be the Regent Hotel, and to have the Civic Reception in the Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington, with the meeting in the Town Hall.

"We made three attempts to secure a headquarters for the Council. The first was all arranged some 12 months ago, but when we arrived at Ilkley Mr. Perrens produced a telegram, received the day before, saying that the arrangements could not be carried out by the hotel concerned. We set out on a hotel hunt on the day we returned to Coventry, and tried again with another hotel in a different town, only to be told, when we wrote to confirm our verbal arrangements, that they "could not cope." The third try, in Leamington, produced very satisfactory results, and we look forward to the best-ever Central Council meeting in 1971."

[Thank you, Coventry.—Ed.]

AN ABBEY OCCASION

To many who visit Westminster Abbey, the memories taken away are marred by the jostling masses of tourists straining to catch snatches of history from their guides above the sounds of shuffling feet and the murmur of many tongues.

To the privileged few who were invited there on the evening of Tuesday, July 7, the scene was very different. The Dean and Chapter had graciously decided to commemorate the 400th year of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry and their own association with the foundry since 1583. To this end the foundry staff and members of the Abbey ringers, with their wives, assembled in the cloisters and were led into Henry VII's Chapel, where at 6.30 p.m. a service of thanksgiving and Holy Communion was conducted by the Dean, assisted by two Minor Canons.

After this moving service in a most historic setting, the Dean and Dr. Carpenter acted as guides and took the company on a tour of the Abbey. Seeing the building in the stillness of a summer evening, bereft of the multitudes, and with the westering sun streaming through the great windows was an experience none will forget.

After listening with rapt attention to the fascinating narratives given by the Dean and Dr. Carpenter, the party retired to St. Katharine's Chapel garden, where cool and nourishing refreshments were laid before them.

A set of ten handbells was presented to the Dean by the brothers Hughes, and after thanking the foundry for the gift the Dean called on Mr. Pitstow, who arranged bands for a touch of Grandsire Caters and three leads of Kent Major. The ringers also entertained the company with some tune-ringing and as the echo of the bells and the lengthening shadows of the setting sun drifted across the lawn, there was borne in on the minds of all present the realisation that they had been participants in a rare occasion, delightfully English and exclusively "Abbey."

FIFTY PEALS AT BARNES

Some interesting facts concerning peals at Barnes have emerged. The bells were augmented to eight in 1887 by the addition of five new bells. The three old bells were dated 1575, 1616 and 1667, and the 1575 one was cast by Mott of the Whitechapel Foundry and is the fifth of the present ring. The first peal Plain Bob Major (conducted by W. T. Elsom) was not rung until December 12, 1903, and the 25th 63 years later, on March 5, 1967. However, the next 25 took only three years, the 50th peal being rung on May 23 this year! The increase is mainly due to the enthusiasm and support of the present rector (Rev. Basil Whitnorth).

The first peal of Surprise was Bristol on December 27, 1910, conducted by William Pye, and it took 56 years for the next, Cambridge, conducted by Robin Leale. Altogether 26 methods have been rung on the bells to peals, Plain Bob Major being the most popular (with nine), closely followed by Yorkshire (with eight). Included in the total are 14 different Surprise, two of Delight methods, and the record length of Lincolnshire

The leading association is Surrey (with 18), followed by London County (with 11) and Middlesex (with 10). Other associations which have rung peals at Barnes are the Ancient Order of College Youths, Royal Cumberland Youths, University of London, Kent, All Saints', Fulham, and St. Mary Abbots Societies.

A SHORT TRIP TO SCOTLAND

There are really only three requirements for a ringing trip to Scotland—reliable cars, reliable ropes (minimum 10) and at least 13 willing ringers. The result was that in early summer these three ingredients were found proceeding from various parts of Somerset en route for Edinburgh and a week's tour of Scotland.

Our first stop was at Leyland to ring for a wedding, but they had forgotten us, and we reflected rather sadly on local memories before making tracks for the heavy eight at Lancaster Priory, where springy ropes made handling tricky. We stayed overnight at Penrith, after first visiting Great Salkeld, our only six of the week.

An invitation to ring at Penrith's early service on Sunday was eagerly accepted before we reverted to the programme and rang at Harraby, near Carlisle, for Matins. With motorway-type roads, the journey to Edinburgh was accomplished without incident, and we signed in at our H.Q. for the week. The party was cordially welcomed at Fettes College by Mr. Cole Hamilton, the second master. The lightest five in the U.K. proved quite a test to aspiring treble ringers and seasoned tenor ringers alike, but creditable 120's were rung before a sensitive lower in peal. Evensong ringing was at Leith, and those who stayed to the service were treated to a ringers' sermon (not to mention coffee at the Rectory afterwards).

DUNDEE'S TWO TOWERS

Dundee was our goal on Monday, and after journeying through Fife via the Forth and Tay bridges we arrived at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul and spent a pleasant hour on the bells. A complaint from a nearby office was received in the record time of five minutes, but the messenger departed somewhat reassured when told we were staying only for a short time. Despite all efforts and copious correspondence, permission to ring at the Old Steeple was not forthcoming, but Ron Short's persistence finally achieved success, and at 2 o'clock the municipal guardians arrived with the key and we were able to enjoy a good hour's ringing on what must undoubtedly be one of the best maintained eight in Scotland. We left the city and visited Perth on the way home.

Tuesday saw the cars heading westward to Argyll and we arrived at Cairndow to a very warm welcome by Mrs. Noble (wife of the M.P. for the county), who showed us round the gardens and woods of the estate. As the chairman of the recently-formed Friends of Inveraray Bells, her enthusiasm is unbounded, and the attractive brochure with its coloured frontispiece that has been produced is ringing publicity at its best. We drove to the town for lunch, and afterwards fitted ropes, paying tribute to the hard work which Norman Chaddock and his team had done. Ringing included Caters and Royal, Double Norwich on the back eight, and finished with a memorable fall on the eight. Amongst the visitors who watched was the present heir to the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Lorne, and we were delighted to hear of his strong support for the bells and for the work being done at the tower.

DUNBLANE PRAISED

Wednesday was a "towergrab," with no fewer than four towers on the programme! At Alloa Harry Glover and two of his lady ringers joined us, and we were grateful to the locals for giving up their weekly practice to allow us to ring. There are inevitable complaints if the normal quota is exceeded. Dunblane Cathedral was next,

and inquiries about the weatherbeaten qualities of the nave pillars revealed that the building was roofless for 300 years, but was restored in the 19th century. Despite the dark belfry (and a degree of odd-struckness) the 24 cwt. eight have a fine tone. The Cathedral contains some of the best wood carving in the British Isles, which visitors should not miss.

In Edinburgh we were welcomed at the Cathedral by Miss Benson, and if the catwalk did not appeal to everyone, the belfry interior must be unique for its collection of old prints and plaster casts of bells, not to mention the telephone. Sad to relate, the fall was marred by a clapper breaking on the 5th. Good ringing was enjoyed at St. Cuthberts, where Mr. R. S. Wilson, the Scottish general secretary met us, and joined us for a course of Cambridge. We enjoyed the best of both worlds here for those not ringing were able to sit out on the roof in the warm sunshine and admire the views of the castle and the city around.

Thursday took us to Inverness, the most northerly eight in the British Isles. Earlier talk of driving up had been abandoned in favour of the railway, and it was pleasant to enjoy the relaxation of a ride through the mountains, with views of the snow-capped Cairngorms and Grampians and marvel at the tenacity of the engineers who drove the line through to Inverness in those far off days. St. Andrew's Cathedral is situated alongside the River Ness, and we found this Warner eight a little difficult to strike well but it was good to hear that these bells are kept ringing by a local band, considering their isolated position.

Friday saw the party at Glasgow Cathedral, where we met Magnus Peterson, who was a great help in planning the tour. The bells are an extremely good Taylor ten, of early 20th century vintage, and those waiting on the stairs were well placed to hear a good touch of Grandsire Caters. Our other tower was at Paisley but the acoustics made hearing difficult; the tape recording told a very different story and proved them a fine mellow eight.

We left Edinburgh on Saturday morning, enjoying splendid motoring and a feast of scenery over Cheviot and Pennine. The 200 miles to York slid away and although the Minster is again in splints, the bells are happily still ringable. Harold Walker guided us through the scaffolding to the ringing chamber, to enable some of us to ring on our heaviest 12 (apart from Exeter).

East Grinstead and District Guild.

A VARIED PROGRAMME

The meeting on July 11 was advertised as being at Newdigate, and as members raised the bells the incumbent arrived and asked us to stop as he was holding an old people's party, which included a display of country dancing and they were unable to hear the music because of the bells! He also explained that he had been in the parish for only one week, and his predecessor had not informed him of the meeting. With the use of his phone the vice-chairman arranged that we might have the use of Ruser bells, and a note having been left for latecomers we moved over there. We were met by a local ringer, who told us that he was going to start teaching local girls at 7 p.m.

However, after some ringing, members had tea at a fete on the Rectory lawn, and the business meeting was held in the recreation ground. One new member was elected. A collection was made for the rope fund, and the chairman announced that the meeting in August would be held at Speldhurst, and at the September meeting we would join the Croydon festival. Provisional arrangements have been made to hold the November meeting at East Grinstead.

A game of cricket followed, using an old branch as a bat, and, later, members adjourned to the Star nearby, where dominoes, shove-ha'penny, darts and bar billiards were played.

R. J. E.

The ten at Pontefract followed, and here Brig. Young made a presentation to Ron Short on behalf of the party, thanking him for his hard work in arranging the trip, which Ron acknowledged with his customary modesty. Doncaster was our last tower of the day, and after an overnight stop at Chesterfield the tour ended with service ringing at Ruddington (a recently rehung Taylor eight) just outside Nottingham.

It remains only to say thank you, Scotland, for your warm welcome and hospitality and your excellent bells.

The party: Ron Short, Eddie Dibble and Cecil Clarke (Bridgwater), John Brain, Stuart Brown, Len Derrick and Geoff and Eleanor Marchant (Chew Branch), R. Perry (Farmborough), Brig Young (Wiveliscombe), Mike Bartlett, Chris and Sheila Jenkins (Wells) and Geoff Pullin (on loan to Kent).



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Obituary

ALEC HOWELL

On June 25 the Stroud Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association was robbed of one of its best-loved brother ringers by the death, at the early age of 58, of Alec Howell.

Alec was born in Woodchester and learned to ring at St. Mary's Church at a very early age, which is remarkable, for he lost his sight when he was seven.

He was a fine ringer and a good conductor, and in 1958 conducted a touch for the B.B.C. programme "Christmas Bells." He also conducted peals and quarters.

A welcome attraction to the annual Randwick handbell festival, he played a small carillon which he built himself.

Alec moved to Stonehouse and became tower captain at St. Cyr's. It was here that he was laid to rest when the funeral took place on June 30, and four of his brother ringers acted as bearers.

The service was conducted by the vicar (Rev. Lionel Ford), who paid tribute to and gave thanks for the life of Alec Howell, making special mention of the large congregation, which showed how greatly he was esteemed.

The vicar spoke of how Alec made light of his affliction of blindness and what an inspiration he was to all who knew him.

Alec Howell was laid gently and reverently to rest in the shadow of the church to which he was devoted and within the sound of the bells that he loved. Of the many beautiful wreaths, one is worthy of mention. Bell-shaped, it was from the young ringers of St. Cyr's, whom he taught so well and who thought so highly of him.

Half-muffled quarter peals were rung at St. Cyr's, Stonehouse, and St. Lawrence's, Stroud, and the bells of St. John the Baptist, Randwick, and St. Mary's, Woodchester, were also rung.

"May God grant him peace eternal, and may Light perpetual shine upon him."

MRS. ROSE E. MAY

The funeral of Mrs. Rose E. May, for many years secretary and treasurer of the Liss, Hampshire, ringers, took place on July 6 at St. Mary's, Liss. The service was conducted by the rector (Rev. N. Barnett). During the interment of the ashes Liss handbell team rang hymn tunes, and open ringing on the tower bells followed, Liss ringers and representatives of other local towers taking part in a quarter of Doubles.

Although never reaching great heights in the art, Mrs. May was an example in her devotion to her church and to her duties as a member of the Sunday service band. Her popularity in the village life was shown in the number of people attending the funeral service. May she rest in peace. D.M.H.

MR. R. W. WORRALL

Members of the Northwich Branch and other members of the Chester Diocesan Guild were greatly saddened by the untimely death of Mr. R. W. Worrall, tower captain at Hartford. He died suddenly at his home on June 20, and the funeral service took place at Hartford on June 24. The six bells were rung half-muffled by his friends from surrounding towers.

Reg Worrall was born in the shadow of Great Budworth Church and it was natural that he should take up ringing. He

Swansea and Brecon Guild.

A LADY MASTER

Between 40 and 50 attended the 42nd annual festival at Brecon on July 4, and the majority of members were from the Southern District. Ringing arrangements included Llanfeigan, St. David's, Llanfaes, and St. Mary's, Brecon, and the service, which was fully choral, was held in the Cathedral. Attending the service at the same time were members of the West Wales Organists' Association, who were holding their meeting in Brecon the same day. The preacher was the Rev. David P. Davies, of Lampeter, who based his sermon on "One Part of a Whole" (a combination of parts). The Bishop, Dr. J. J. A. Thomas, pronounced the Blessing.

Tea was kindly provided by the Dean (Dr. D. W. W. Jacob) in the schoolroom.

The business meeting followed, and the Bishop, who presided, thanked the Dean for providing the tea. The hon. secretary, in his report, said it was not a happy one, and then gave a list of towers that were still silent. Something must be done in this matter, he said, and monthly practices should be organised in each of these towers, for missionary work is certainly the answer. The annual ringing competition was cancelled because of lack of interest, and this was a blow to the guild's progress, as in the past the competition proved beneficial. Mr. C. N. Wedgwood, the newly-elected hon. secretary (Northern District) was doing his best to organise and create more interest. On a more cheerful note, the Southern District was improving both in membership and ringing.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Miss Susan Jackson, a very capable ringer and instructor, was elected master, and the other officers were all re-elected. The annual report was discussed, but the printing was left until it was known how many copies would be required. The 1971 annual festival will be held in Swansea, the date to be given later. Miss Jackson proposed the affiliation of the Swansea University Guild to the Swansea and Brecon Guild, and this was agreed unanimously.

The hon. secretary was instructed to send a letter to Mr. W. J. Thomas expressing the members' best wishes for a speedy recovery from his recent illness. The meeting closed with prayer. J. A. H.

started to ring in 1923 at the age of 17 and was taught by the late John Holden; from then on ringing became his only serious hobby.

Before the last war Reg was a member of a group of enthusiasts, which included among others Albert Booth, Harry Howard and Harry Parker. They were anxious to increase their ringing skill and cycled to as many meetings as they could. In 1951 Reg became tower captain at Hartford and was chairman of the branch from 1952 to 1954. He spent most of his working life in Local Government and brought his professional skills to the service of the branch as secretary and treasurer from 1958 to 1963, leaving immaculate accounts and minutes as a memorial to his period in that office. He had rung well over 100 peals but only 99 for the Chester Guild. It was his ambition to ring a peal of London Surprise Major as his 100th peal for the guild.

Reg was a skilful ringer, and for this he will be sorely missed in a small branch, but he will also be remembered as a very kindly man who would suddenly produce gifts of sweets for children, or flowers for a sick friend, and for his devotion to his invalid wife. To her and their son, Raymond, we offer our sympathy in their grief.

Leicester Guild.

SUMMER QUARTERLY MEETING

The summer quarterly meeting of the Leicester Guild was held at Bottesford on June 20. Towers open were at Long Clawson, Hose, Harby, Granby, Orston and Bottesford, a programme which took ringers through the beautiful Vale of Belvoir in excellent summer weather.

After the service at Bottesford tea was provided in the village hall by the Melton District ladies.

Mr. John Bramley (president) welcomed the company, which included visitors from London, Dublin, Kettering, Nottingham and Peterborough.

The meeting stood in silence in memory of two members, Mr. Horace Over (Huglescote) and Mrs. Joyce Wright (Groby).

The election of 18 ringing members and 13 non-resident life members was confirmed and ten certificates of membership were presented.

Arrangements for the dinner in September were announced, as was the festival on May 15 next year to mark the breaking up of the old Midland Counties Association.

A letter had been sent to the Bishop of Leicester, expressing the concern of the guild for the future of the bells of St. John the Divine, Leicester, and requesting that the guild be kept informed of any developments.

The date of the guild striking competition was given out and will be held at Countesthorpe. The next quarterly meeting will be held in the Loughborough district in October.

Mr. Brian Warwick (C.C. representative) gave a brief report on the meeting at Ilkley.

Mr. Paul Taylor spoke of his visit to Australia and told of the excellent hospitality he had enjoyed there. He then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to all who had worked so hard to make the meeting such a success.

Mr. Warwick informed the meeting that a suggestion had been made that Bottesford be transferred to the Southwell Guild because more support came from "over the border." The matter had been fully discussed and it had been decided that this tower should remain in the Leicester Guild, although co-operation between bordering towers of neighbouring guilds was a very good thing.

Further ringing took place under Mr. Roland Cook until 8.30 p.m. R. D. H.

Salisbury Guild

DAY'S RINGING PLANNED

On July 4, a fine and pleasant afternoon, the quarterly meeting of the West Dorset Branch was held at Evershot, home tower of the ringing master (Mr. H. D. W. Bishop), who took charge of the ringing. The guild service was conducted by the vicar (Rev. P. J. Helyer) and the organist was Mr. D. Ellery.

A most welcome tea was prepared and given by the local ringers and their wives in the village hall. The chairman (Mr. C. W. Powell) presided at the business meeting, and the members expressed appreciation to the hon. secretary and his wife (Mr. and Mrs. J. Davis) for all the arrangements and catering for the guild festival and also to the ladies who helped.

The next meeting is at Lyme Regis in September, and plans for a day's ringing were put in hand for October.

Two new members from Lyme Regis were elected, and 14 methods were rung during the afternoon and evening. J. D.

A "HAPPENING" AT KINGSWOOD

Sunday, July 5, was Belfry "Open Day" at Kingswood, Surrey, and the tower was open to interested parishioners so that they had the opportunity to meet the ringers, to see the "works" and to find out what bell-ringing is all about! Ringing started at 8.45 a.m. for Sung Eucharist, followed by normal ringing at 10.30 a.m., a ringers-family service taking the place of Matins. It was attended by the Guides and their captain, Miss Janet Jesson (who is also a ringer), read the lesson.

A large number of Sunday School members were present and provided a band of six to illustrate on handbells some of the noises emanating Sunday by Sunday from the belfry. Demonstrated were rounds, Queens, Whittingtons and Tittums, and (at very short notice) plain hunting! The captain of the tower (Mr. Bernard Hawkins) gave a short accompanying explanation. The vicar (Rev. E. G. Ashford) concentrated his address on the message of the bells and said that the message depended solely (or souilly) on the person on the end of the rope.

Displayed in church were posters on aspects of ringing (including the Surrey Association), bellcasting, The Ringing World, Dove, and Kingswood Outing, 1970. An excellent one on being a beginner was by the latest recruit, Alan Veness. Throughout the day parties of parishioners and their families were escorted up the tower, given a short explanation of the mechanics of bell-handling, and use was made of the tower bells and a delightful model (loaned by Peter Ford, of Leatherhead), which it was possible to ring. Further showings were of call changes and change ringing, followed by ascent to the bell chamber and to the top of the tower.

Over 100 signed the visitors' book and we were pleased to welcome four ringers from the Southampton area and one from Toddington (Beds). A quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor was brought round for Even-song and a final tour took place afterwards. I can only conclude that the day was an enormous success and goes to prove how interested the "natives" are when given the opportunity. The most common comment was to remark how very much more was involved than had been imagined.

Out of the day we gained a large amount of interest and goodwill (and a learner or two?) and we say: "Go to it everybody! The public are itching to be educated and you might even gain some ringers!" B.H.

Bath and Wells Association.

HEARTY CO-OPERATION

On July 4 the Ilchester Branch held their monthly practice meeting at St. Catherine's, Drayton.

Despite holidays, local fetes and outings, there was a good attendance, and especially was it pleasing to have such an excellent turn-out of Drayton ringers, led by their tower master (Mr. John Stone). Ringing at this tower has revived enormously, and the Sunday service band ring at least once every Sunday.

The branch ringing master (Mr. Gordon Rendell) was in charge, and the pleasant ground-floor 8 (22 cwt.) was put to good use during the evening in a variety of methods, call changes and rounds.

The members are grateful to the Sequestrators for permission to use the bells, also to the tower master and the Drayton ringers for their hearty co-operation in making such a pleasant evening possible. M.M.L.

Letters

UNFORTUNATE OCCURRENCE,
IF TRUE

Dear Sir,—As people's warden for the parish of Preston, Brighton, I feel it my duty to write concerning a disgraceful episode at St. Peter's Church, Preston, on a recent Saturday.

I am informed by the Vicar that three young men swung St. Peter's bells "full circle", expressly against his wishes. They had been told that the tower and bells were unsuitable for this, but proceeded to endanger themselves and the church fabric after a parishioner had allowed them entry.

Some years ago the Diocesan Architect had advised against ringing "full circle" owing to the dangerous state of the stonework.

I am informed that such insolent and dangerous behaviour is not uncommon in this part of the country and therefore would like to use your columns to bring this matter to a wider attention.—Yours faithfully,

L. S. GRENFELL.

Brighton, Sussex.

AN ALLEGATION

Dear Sir,—I refer to a letter by Mr. R. H. Dove on page 170 (March 6) of The Ringing World.

He suggests that the appointment of honorary members of the Central Council is a question of patronage rather than merit—that they are not democratically elected.

This is strong language, and I am surprised that no-one has written to deny—or confirm—this allegation. Can I assume that this allegation is correct?

Incidentally, I should be very interested to learn why Mr. Dove has not been made a member of the Council. After all, every serious ringer must use his Guide at some time or other. Isn't it time that Mr. Dove's labour of love was recognised by the Exercise through honorary membership of the Council?—Yours faithfully,

G. D. ARMITAGE.

Harrogate, Yorks.

GOSPEL OAK

Dear Sir,—May I thank your correspondents, Messrs. Newman and Harwin, for their continued interest in the bells of Gospel Oak, and for their kinds words of encouragement.

But it would be wrong of me to accept this praise personally, as I live near the church and generally attend morning service there anyway. No, the real thanks for keeping these bells ringing should go to those people who travel several miles, usually by public transport (not the easiest way of getting about London on a Sunday morning), often after ringing at their home towers—people like Keith and Diana Trip-low, David and Dianne Gazeley, Roger Tompsett and Susan Shaw.

As the almost total redevelopment of the Gospel Oak area proceeds, it is to be hoped that one of the few "constants" during this period of radical social change will continue to be the sound of Gospel Oak bells. And let us hope that when the community settles down again a local band may be formed to continue the tradition so ably started by the people mentioned by your correspondents.—Yours faithfully,

WALTER KNIGHT.

London, N.W.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

Dear Sir,—Further to my letter on page 290 of your issue No. 3,077 dated April 19, 1970, we have now completed the second quarter of 1970, and your readers may be interested in the following figures. These are again based on 12 issues, commencing with April 3, 1970, and ending with June 26, 1970, but omitting the issue of June 19, 1970, as this did not include a "Gratefully Acknowledged" column.

	Totals Published	Donations Acknowledged
Peals	668	128 (£29 5s. 9d.)
H.B. Peals	134	1 (10s. 0d.)
Quarter Peals	1079	634 (£134 12s. 9d.)

Thus 19.16 per cent. of published peals and 58.75 per cent. of published quarter peals sent included donations towards The Ringing World production costs, and it is encouraging to note that these show a slight increase over the previous figures.

The total subscribed during the second quarter amounts to £202 5s. 6d. and is made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Peals	29	5	9
H.B. Peals		10	0
Quarter Peals	134	12	9
Personal	37	17	0
	£202	5	6

Peals account for 14.478 per cent. of this total, quarter peals 66.56 per cent., and personal donors 18.712 per cent. The overall figure is lower for this quarter than the previous one and, based on an average week's figures, would probably still have fallen short of the final total, even including the issue for June 19, 1970.

I am again showing the breakdown taking an average of all peals (tower- and hand-bell) and quarter peals basing on six alternatively eight bells, with a 6d. contribution from each ringer.

	3s.			4s.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
668 Peals	100	4	0	133	12	0
1079 Quarter Peals	161	17	0	215	16	0
134 H.B. Peals	20	2	0	26	16	0
	£282	3	0	£376	4	0

I believe readers will be able to draw their own conclusions from these figures, especially when compared with those previously published. I still feel that a small contribution from a lot of people would help put The Ringing World finances on a sure footing.

Since my last letter was published Governments have changed, but you will recall that there was, and may be still is, a threat of increased postal charges. Furthermore, there has been unrest in the printing industry, and printing costs could rise by as much as 15 to 20 per cent. before the year is out. These two items alone would make serious inroads into any funds now available. What would this mean? Firstly an increase in the price of The Ringing World, which would no doubt have a secondary effect in reducing circulation, the very item that The Ringing World Committee are anxious to increase.

Need I say more? Please continue with your donations, the larger the better, and let us see if, during the current quarter, we can improve on past performances and really indicate to The Ringing World Committee our support for all that The Ringing World means to us.—Yours faithfully,

RICHARD J. CANN.

Solihull, Warwicks.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Dear Sir, — Mr. House (Ringing World, page 343) claims that the meetings held by guilds and associations along traditional lines serve no useful purpose and implies that they could well be discontinued. He is, of course, overlooking one basic fact, that these meetings are the backbone of our guilds and associations, and to take this course of action would without doubt be to sound their death knell as we know them today. No one would deny the good that can be achieved by additional organised practices held on week-day evenings, thus allowing beginners to take advantage of the additional facilities provided, but I would disagree with him that the successful organisation of such practices is as easy as he would have us believe. The tuition of inexperienced bands in their own tower by a team supplied by the guild or association involved is again not so easy to organise, mainly because a large number of would-be instructors can only give one evening a week to ringing, which is rightly spent in their own tower. Even in cases where such organisation is possible, great care must be exercised with the often delicate feelings of the local band, if these are to go smoothly and the bells continue to be rung on Sundays, which is the prime object of the exercise.

To return to meetings, regrettably a large proportion of Mr. House's admittedly cynical remarks are nevertheless true at many of our guild and association meetings. A beginner attending perhaps his or her first meeting generally feels that there is very much a cold "them and us" atmosphere. A simple method is called for and a band comprising 75 per cent. beginners catches hold. The ringing master makes no effort to correct this, with the inevitable result. Surprise is then called for and the so-called experts ring a touch, only to disappear again without trace. The answer clearly lies with the ringing master. Obviously the person holding this office must have the personality to welcome the ringers into the tower, particularly the nervous beginners, quickly putting them at their ease. He must ensure that a good distribution of ringing to meet all needs is met as far as possible. That a touch in a simple method is not overloaded with beginners, asking some to stand down and detailing more experienced ringers, who rarely have any objection to ring when required. To ensure that those who have been attempting Grandsire for upwards of 20 years with no visible personal effort to improve and thus avoid wasting others people's time do not hog the available time, and generally to conduct the proceedings in an efficient and agreeable manner. After all, the ringing master is the principal officer that many ringers come into contact with, and to them he is the guild or association.

How then do we elect a person to this important post? Only too often the position is considered as the junior post in the officers' team. This results in an up-and-coming youngster, who may well be a capable ringer although this is by no means an essential requirement, who has no idea of how to organise and manage other ringers, being elected with the all too familiar result. Indeed this attitude is almost sponsored by many guilds and association, including my own, by making the post a supernumerary one with no place on the general committee.

More thought by our guilds and associations as to their aims and objects will convince them that to abandon meetings would be contrary to their function for the simple

ORIGINAL MINOR

Dear Sir,—The publication by Mr. K. Price of the compositions used by his band for Original Minor (Ringing World, page 534) raises several interesting points.

I am sure that Mr. Price and all other interested people will have noticed that Extent No. 1 is identical in all respects except the instructions given by the conductor with Extent No. 94 of Single Court in the 1961 edition of the Minor Methods Collection. Any extent of Single Court Minor can in fact be produced by ringing Original, and this raises a question concerning the specification of the contents of touches. I think it is true in general that if a touch contains a plain lead of all the methods rung it is possible to tell, by listening to the ringing, exactly what methods have been rung, although in some cases one might not be sure how much of each method had been rung (e.g. in a touch of Spliced Single Court and Single Oxford Minor). Ignoring for the moment the particular problems of Doubles ringing and irregular methods, there is only one situation where the above statement is not true, and this is when either or both of Single Court and Original Minor are rung.

When Mr. S. Humphrey published the report of the first peal of Original Minor to be rung on tower bells there was a footnote to the effect that Single Court was not rung, which presumably meant that anyone listening to the ringing would have been in no doubt that the band was ringing Original. But can we say this of some of Mr. Price's peals, which have included a peal of Original, peals including Original and Single Court in separate extents, and peals including an extent of Spliced Original and Single Court? I would suggest that the peals in which both methods were rung should have both methods counted only if, to a listener, it was absolutely certain that Original was being rung when the band thought they were ringing it.

I would hasten to assure Mr. Price and his band that this is in no way intended as a criticism of their peals. I have been aware of this anomaly in the rules for some time and these peals provide an appropriate example of the ambiguity which can arise.

Finally, a brief reference to Doubles. All parts of Grandsire Doubles except singles can be produced in ringing, Original, and Reverse St. Bartholomew has now, in spite of its plain lead being a Grandsire single, been accepted as a regular method. So there is really no such method as Grandsire Doubles; what we ring is simply Spliced Reverse St. Bartholomew and Original (Grandsire variation), but of course, just like those who continue to use April Day as the name of a variation although they are ringing spliced, those who wish to, and I am sure we are in the majority, will continue to use the time-honoured name.—Yours faithfully,

Keele, Staffs.

PHILIP GAY.

reason that it would be tackling the problem from the wrong direction. What they may well conclude is that far more of their and indeed the Central Council's efforts should be directed at a ringing in the tower level and less on agendas and activities that have little meaning to the majority of ringers in general.

In conclusion it would appear that David and Janet House may well have had some unhappy meeting experiences in a land of cocoa drinking ringers.—Yours faithfully,

C. A. TESTER.

Maidstone, Kent.

KEEN RABBIT

Dear Sir,—“A Keen Rabbit” must not despair. He has come up against one of the facts of bellringing life, and that is that the one who needs the most practice, the learner, gets the least.

The one who can only ring rounds is fortunate to get two goes an evening. When he can ring plain hunt he can grab a rope for the rounds as well. Arriving at the plain course he comes in three or four times an evening, and so on.

We are all learners at one stage or another, and at a meeting everybody likes to have an attempt at something near the borders of his capacity, and the experienced ringer “attempting to ring . . .” Chowbent Surprise will have spent some considerable time previously learning the method. Of necessity, few of us get as much ringing as we would like at a branch meeting.

If “A Keen Rabbit” wishes to progress more quickly I would suggest that he gathers together three or four other ringers of similar attainment, and with one or two ringers a little further on in experience spend a Saturday afternoon ringing plain courses of Plain Bob. His branch secretary would, I have no doubt, give him assistance in the organisation of such a practice.

There are villages on the Derbyshire-Cheshire border where the inhabitants, as they pursue their daily avocations, are known to whistle plain courses of Plain Bob Minor. With variations in the last lead. And syncompated. They love it.—Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR WHITING.

Burnage, Manchester.

A WARNING!

Dear Sir,—While browsing through some old magazines I came across this little article in “A. Webb's Parish Almanack, Tettenhall, 1888,” which might serve as a warning to anybody who wishes to get rid of any bells:

“King Henry VIII looked upon church bells only as so much metal that could be melted down and sold, hence in the wholesale destruction and distribution of church property in his reign countless bells disappeared, to be sold as mere metal. Many curious coincidences attend this appropriation. The King himself suffered greatly from marital and ministerial troubles after the dissolution of the monasteries. Ships attempting to carry bells across the seas foundered in several havens, as at Lynn and Yarmouth. Fourteen of the Jersey bells, on being wrecked at the entrance of the harbour of St. Malo, gave rise to a local saying to the effect that when the wind blows the drowned bells are ringing to haunt the sailors. A certain Bishop of Banzer, too, who sold the bells of his cathedral, was stricken with blindness when he went to see them shipped, and Sir Miles Partridge, who won the Jesus bells of St. Paul's Cathedral from King Henry at dice, was not long afterwards hanged on Tower Hill.”—Yours faithfully,

CHRISTINE TEBBOT.

If you were busy being kind.
Before you knew it you would find
You'd soon forget to think 'twas true
That someone was unkind to you.

ANONYMOUS.

Quarter Peals

HALF PEAL

Nunburnholme, E. Yorks.—July 8, 720 Double Court, Cambridge, Pl. Bob, 360 St. Clement's: R. East 1, D. Smith 2, Elsie Chaddock 3, I. Peacock 4, A. Kneeshaw 5, N. Chaddock (cond.) 6. To mark the birth of a daughter to Mrs. F. N. Johnson (née Susan Chaddock).

FOR 80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION

Ash, Som.—June 13, 1272 Kent T.B. Minor: G. H. Baldam (cond.) 1, H. C. Clark 2, D. Lesley J. Parker 3, E. T. P. Field 4, M. J. Medley 5, R. Parker 6. First of Kent for 2, 3 and 6.

East Coker, Som.—June 13, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Anne Medley 1, D. Lesley J. Parker (first of G.T.) 2, G. H. Baldam 3, G. W. Rendell, sen. 4, R. Parker 5, G. W. Rendell, jun. 6, M. J. Medley (first of G.T. as cond.) 7, H. C. Clark (first on eight) 8. Also a 93rd birthday compliment for Mr. Arthur Mead.

Evercreech, Som.—June 20, 1260 Grandsire Triples: I. Woodborne (first quarter) 1, Jane Stead 2, Susan A. Mayell 3, Mrs. D. G. Mayell 4, J. H. Kingsnorth 5, D. G. Mayell (cond.) 6, G. H. Baldam 7, I. Whitehead 8.

FOUR-IN-A-DAY ON TOUR

(Saturday, July 4)

Shenstone, Staffs.—1440 Kent T.B. Minor: J. P. Burton 1, Miss S. McGonigle 2, P. R. Johnson 3, Miss D. M. Appleby 4, N. R. I. White 5, R. Riley (cond.) 6.

Lullington, Derbys.—1260 Minor (St. Clement's and P.B.): Miss D. M. Appleby 1, Miss S. McGonigle 2, Miss L. Wilkinson 3, S. G. Pick 4, N. R. I. White 5, P. R. Johnson (cond.) 6.

King's Bromley, Staffs.—1440 Cambridge S. Minor: Miss S. McGonigle 1, N. R. I. White 2, Miss C. M. Humphreys 3, Miss D. M. Appleby 4, J. L. Humphreys 5, M. W. Fairey (cond.) 6.

Mavesyn Ridware, Staffs.—1440 Single Oxford Minor: P. R. Johnson 1, Miss C. M. Humphreys 2, J. L. Humphreys 3, N. R. I. White 4, S. G. Pick 5, M. W. Fairey (cond.) 6.

Addington, Surrey.—July 5, 1320 Norfolk S. Minor: A. Hobbs 1, Louise Powell 2, Carol Rodgers 3, I. Wiltshire (cond.) 4, Wendy Wallace 5, E. G. H. Godfrey 6. For Evensong. Also July 6, 1320 Doubles (three methods): Sheila Wilthew 1, A. Hobbs 2, Louise Powell 3, I. Wiltshire 4, E. G. H. Godfrey (cond.) 5. First of Doubles 1, 3 and 4.

Aldbourn, Wilts.—July 12, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Frances Craig 1, G. A. Newman 2, T. R. Jones 3, Margaret Bowman (first Triples) 4, Heather L. Rouse 5, Ann Toomer (first Triples as cond.) 6, A. G. Keen 7, M. H. Rouse 8.

Alloa, Clacks.—July 12, 1260 Bob Doubles: Kathleen Aitchison 1, Betty Wilson (first inside) 2, Linda Robson 3, R. Aitchison 4, H. Glover (cond.) 5, A. Wilson 6. For morning service.

Balcombe, Sussex.—July 5, 1260 Bob Minor: S. Wood 1, E. S. Laker 2, E. Knapp 3, A. E. Laker 4, R. V. Johnson (cond.) 5, S. Allen 6. For Evensong and a welcome to Peter Edward Johnson Laker, born June 25, son of 2nd ringer and grandson of 4th and 5th ringers.

Bath, Som.—July 5 (SS. Michael with Paul), 1260 Bob Minor: Miss H. M. Mitchell 1, Miss F. Benford 2, Miss C. J. Mitchell 3, G. J. Hawkins 4, D. C. Hawkins 5, P. J. Devrell (cond.) 6.

Benhall, Suffolk.—July 4, 1272 Bob Minimus: M. Baldry 1, M. J. Peters 2, R. P. Peters 3, T. Hughes 4. 21st wedding compliments to Joan and Roger Peters.

Bentley, Hants.—July 9, 1260 Minor (Cambridge and Plain Bob): R. Collins 1, R. Backhurst 2, P. J. Rowe 3, E. J. Wells 4, M. Kirk 5, E. J. Fletcher (cond.) 6. For 800th anniversary of the church.

Bilton, Works.—June 23, 1260 Bob Minor: T. J. Frodsham 1, D. Welch 2, W. E. Burnell 3, P. M. Edgson 4, J. G. Edgson 5, M. D. Fiander (cond.) 6.

Newbold-on-Avon, Works.—June 25, 1260 Stedman Doubles: A. G. Eveleigh (cond.) 1, J. G. Edgson 2, P. M. Edgson 3, T. J. Frodsham 4, C. M. Povey 5, K. Rigby 6.

Both were rung open, in memoriam Mrs. Olive Vann, faithful member of St. Andrew's, Rugby, and latterly of Bilton, bands.

Braintree, Essex.—July 6, 1280 Spliced Surprise Major (four methods): Jennifer M. Millbank 1, Josephine A. Brown 2, K. W. Brown 3, Jennifer M. Syder 4, R. J. Lindsell 5, J. Warner 6, P. G. Brown (cond.) 7, A. Wiffen 8. A birthday compliment to Albert Wiffen on his 73rd birthday.

Birch-in-Rusholme, Manchester.—July 12, 1440 Bob Minor: Oneta M. Wilson 1, P. Watson 2, P. A. Sidwell 3, I. E. Margaret Manby 4, A. Ward (cond.) 5, P. Boucher 6, P. Ferguson cover. For the 124th anniversary of the consecration of the church, during a procession of witness of Congregational, Methodist, Baptist and Mormon churches.

Bolsover, Derby.—July 11, 1260 Bob Minor: Sandra Bladon 1, Susan Baguley 2, D. Cooper 3, L. Coe 4, N. Baguley 5, R. M. Chambers (cond.) 6. First quarter 1, 2 and 5. For open-air combined C. of E. and Methodist service.

Brighton, Sussex.—July 12, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: T. Mercer 1, R. I. Vaughan (cond.) 2, Mrs. E. M. Mitchell 3, T. G. Williams 4, A. W. Bond 5, Ann S. Evans 6. An 80th birthday compliment to Mrs. E. M. Mitchell.

Brill, Bucks.—June 27, 1260 Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. E. M. Ingram 1, R. E. Sadowski (cond.) 2, Mrs. A. K. Ingram 3, M. G. Ingram 4, R. C. Ingram 5, V. J. Sadowski 6. A family quarter for Brill flower festival.

Burton, Hants.—July 4, 1260 Doubles (five methods): Maureen Tipper 1, K. Sansom 2, R. Tipper 3, D. Hughes 4, K. Tipper (cond.) 5, R. Cross 6. In memoriam Mrs. Rose E. May, a Liss Sunday service ringer.

Canterbury, Kent.—(St. Stephen's), July 4, 1260 Bob Minor: Joan Baker (first quarter) 1, Frances Pollard 2, Ruth Niblett 3, D. H. Niblett (cond.) 4, L. Huckstep 5, D. G. Mitchell 6. For Canterbury Diocesan Eucharist and Youth Pilgrimage.

Castleacre, Norfolk.—July 6, 1440 Minor (720 Cambridge, 720 Plain Bob): W. J. Houghton 1, W. W. Cousins 2, R. Newton 3, L. W. Houghton 4, C. Cousins 5, N. V. Harding (cond.) 6. In memoriam F. G. Moy, sidesman at this church.

Cheadle, Cheshire.—May 16, 1260 Grandsire Triples: R. Benson 1, G. Gardiner 2, J. Bell 3, A. Cairns 4, J. Barker 5, L. Watkins 6, C. Bell (cond.) 7, W. Cook 8. A wedding compliment to Miss J. Adlard, a ringer at this church, and Mr. G. Allsager.

Chesterfield, Derbys.—July 5, 1296 Bob Caters: P. Roper 1, Marjorie Phipps 2, B. A. Richards 3, H. T. Rooke 4, A. Queen 5, J. D. Arkwell 6, D. Hird 7, P. Taylor 8, M. P. Phipps (cond.) 9, P. Flavell (first on ten) 10. First Bob Caters for all. A welcome to Michael Paul Phipps (born June 4, 1970).

Church Eaton, Staffs.—July 6, 1260 Bob Minor: Sheila Moulton 1, Valerie Keay (first of Minor inside) 2, G. Keay 3, D. Cooper 4, R. Greenaway 5, G. Friend (cond.) 6. A 21st birthday compliment to 5th.

Coalbrookdale, Salop.—July 24, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. I. Friend 1, A. S. Bayley 2, I. Friend 3, R. H. Newton 4, L. D. K. Roberts 5, R. C. Stevens (cond.) 6, E. F. Willcox 7, W. E. Norcott 8. In memoriam Robert Evans.

Compton Dando, Som.—July 10, 1440 Bob Minor: H. Coombs 1, Miss J. Parker 2, Miss S. Willis 3, F. C. Mogford 4, R. Perry 5, A. Coombs (cond.) 6.

Cossington, Som.—July 11, 1260 Bob Doubles: Angela Burt (first attempt) 1, T. Allen (first attempt) 2, M. Fackrell 3, J. P. Hill 4, G. Nabb (cond.) 5, M. Krajewski 6. By an under-21 band from the Bridgwater Branch.

Doncaster, Yorks.—July 9, 1250 Superlative S. Major: W. Johnson 1, E. Cooper 2, E. J. Padgett 3, A. W. Jackson 4, W. E. Critchley 5, F. J. Jackson 6, P. Bruce 7, R. A. Smith 8. Also July 12, 1250 Spiced Major (four methods): W. E. Critchley (cond.) 1, Sheila Bruce 2, A. W. Jackson 3, H. Wagstaff 4, E. Padgett 5, P. Bruce 6, R. A. Smith 7, F. J. Jackson 8.

Ealing, Middx.—July 5 (St. Mary's), 1260 Stedman Triples: Dr. Sybil Aldridge 1, W. G. Wilson 2, Susan Davis 3, H. W. Rogers 4, A. H. Fulwell 5, P. N. Felton 6, M. T. Sprackling (cond.) 7, N. F. Felton 8. For morning service.

Edenbridge, Kent.—June 30, 1260 Grandsire Triples: B. F. Kemp (first quarter) 1, Miss F. Wyman 2, P. R. Everest 3, Pauline Sutton 4, E. J. Jenner 5, R. J. Everest 6, B. E. Jeffrey (cond.) 7, R. P. Sherlock 8. Also July 3, 1260 Bob Triples: E. C. Leigh 1, J. M. Hollyman 2, P. R. Everest 3, M. C. May 4, R. J. Everest 5, E. J. Jenner 6, B. E. Jeffrey (cond.) 7, H. W. Evans 8. For Flower Festival. Both rung to celebrate 850 years of the Church in Edenbridge.

Gnosall, Staffs.—July 5, 1260 Bob Doubles: Jane Burnell (first quarter) 1, G. Friend 2, D. Cooper 3, G. Keay (cond.) 4, R. Greenaway 5, J. Dyke 6. For the Diamond Jubilee of the Guide movement.

Greasley, Notts.—July 5, 1260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): P. R. Bestwick 1, Barbara Hooks 2, Margaret A. Eyre 3, Helen M. Simpson (cond.) 4, T. M. Ford 5, D. J. Beach 6. For Evensong. Also July 11, 1260 St. Simon's Doubles: P. Mary Beach 1, Barbara Hooks 2, D. Coulson 3, Helen M. Simpson (cond.) 4, D. J. Beach 5, T. M. Ford 6. Birthday compliment to 2nd.

Great Totham, Essex.—July 5, 1260 Bob Minor: Mrs. J. Skinner (first P.B.) 1, B. Keeble 2, F. Shynn 3, W. Mills 4, D. Knewstub 5, J. Shynn (cond.) 6. For morning service, also birthday compliment to treble.

Harwell, Berks.—June 30, 1260 Grandsire Triples: M. Wells 1, S. J. Wells 2, D. Jordan 3, H. E. Wells 4, T. G. Pett (cond.) 5, W. L. Gilks 6, W. Corderoy 7, D. Bosley 8. For the 90th birthday of Miss E. E. Aldridge.

Hatherop, Glos.—July 11, 1260 St. Clement's Minor: Ann Herbert 1, M. P. Taylor 2, Helen Taylor 3, Clare Taylor 4, A. Ewins (first in method) 5, E. J. Taylor (cond.) 6.

Hendon, Middx.—June 28, 1260 Grandsire Triples: D. J. Gazeley 1, Dianne Gazeley 2, Elisabeth R. Spry 3, Dorothea M. Robotham 4, Ruth M. Foreman 5, W. G. Knight 6, B. C. Watson (cond.) 7, B. Livings 8. For Parish Communion. Half-muffled in memoriam Mrs. Annie Gazeley.

Henfield, Sussex.—1260 Grandsire Triples: R. V. Johnson 1, F. E. Crutenden 2, D. A. Crutenden 3, D. J. Parsons 4, C. Shepherd 5, S. Allen 6, F. Godmark (cond.) 7, E. F. Packham 8. For St. Peter's Day 1,200th thanksgiving service.

Hurstpierpoint, Sussex.—May 7, 1344 Bob Major: J. N. Lambert 1, Pamela M. E. Middleton (first Major inside) 2, H. W. Brown 3, Anne E. Lambert 4, D. Kirkcaldy 5, J. Kirkcaldy 6, P. D. Hepburn 7, J. R. Norris (cond.) 8. A farewell compliment to Rev. E. Craig, leaving for Cobham. Also May 17, 1260 Grandsire Triples: J. Kirkcaldy (circled tower to quarter peals) 1, D. Kirkcaldy 2, Maureen Kirkcaldy 3, S. W. Brown 4, Anne E. Lambert 5, J. R. Norris 6, H. W. Brown (first Triples as cond.) 7, J. N. Lambert 8. An engagement compliment to John Norris and Mary Lambert, of the local band.

Huyton, Lancs.—June 30, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: L. A. Torr 1, A. Walsh 2, D. W. Peacock 3, J. Dunbavin 4, G. K. Austin 5, W. R. Birchall (cond.) 6. A compliment to Bavarian visitors.

BELL ROPES
JOHN NICOLL
SEE BACK PAGE

Islip, Oxon.—July 5, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Maunder 1, P. Timms 2, Jane Danson (first as cond.) 3, W. Haynes 4, M. Smith (first inside) 5, C. H. Kinch 6. For Evensong and to welcome the new rector, Rev. D. Westcott.

Kettering, Northants.—June 5, 1260 Grandsire Triples: R. Robinson 1, Miss E. Tingle 2, D. Bowen 3, L. Toesland 4, S. Robinson 5, J. Mitchell 6, J. G. Mitchell (cond.) 7, D. Wittchell 8. Also June 12, 1264 Bob Major: Miss V. Hall 1, Miss E. Hall 2, Miss E. Tingle 3, D. Wittchell 4, L. Toesland 5, S. Robinson 6, J. G. Mitchell (cond.) 7, J. Mitchell 8. A birthday compliment to 3rd.

Kingston-on-Soar, Notts.—July 12, 1260 Minor (seven methods): P. R. Wild 1, E. Dawson 2, L. M. Deebank 3, H. G. Wells 4, G. A. Dawson (cond.) 5, J. R. Rigby 6.

Kingston, Surrey.—July 5, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Katharine Salvage 1, Ann V. Salvage 2, Anthea S. Bruce 3, C. E. Bulleid 4, C. D. Collin 5, R. J. Collis 6, B. J. Stone (cond.) 7, J. Knipe 8. For Evensong.

Kingswood, Surrey.—July 5, 1260 Bob Minor: Janet Jesson (first quarter) 1, Barbara Minnion 2, D. Mealor (first away from tenor) 3, B. Hawkins 4, E. W. Taylor 5, C. Daws (cond.) 6. For Belfry Open Day.

Lamberhurst, Kent.—June 13, 1260 Bob Minor: Karol J. Ashby 1, D. Featherstone 2, W. H. Dobbie 3, A. J. Leves 4, E. R. G. West 5, S. Jenner (cond.) 6.

Leytonstone, E.11.—July 5, 1260 Grandsire Triples: C. Willmington 1, Louise Slater 2, Christine Morton 3, M. Balkwill (first inside) 4, W. Theobald 5, J. Slater 6, G. Walker (cond.) 7, M. Waring 8. For Baptism Service.

Liss, Hants.—July 6, 1320 Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles: Cristina Bowles (first quarter) 1, B. S. Gambrill 2, K. Sansom 3, T. S. Bowles 4, D. M. Hughes (cond.) 5, R. J. Lintott 6. In memoriam Mrs. Rose E. May, of Liss.

Little Aston, Staffs.—July 5, 1440 Minor (St. Clement's and Plain Bob): J. Budd (first quarter, aged 11) 1, C. Duckett 2, R. G. Paxton 3, R. Duckett 4, J. Paxton 5, M. W. Fairey (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

Llandaff Cathedral.—May 10, 1344 Bob Major: Anne Cooke 1, Mary E. Pryor 2, F. Bailey 3, N. A. James 4, W. H. Harford 5, N. W. H. Simon 6, J. M. Laken 7, S. Fenwick (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

Machen, Mon.—June 30, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: R. J. Bale 1, G. Hughes 2, L. James 3, F. Reade 4, I. Davies (cond.) 5, V. Jones 6. For Lower Machen Festival Evensong.

Manchester Cathedral.—July 5, 1260 Bob Royal: Miss I. E. M. Manby 1, Miss M. Walshaw 2, Mrs. M. A. Tonge 3, W. Birmingham 4, A. Ward (cond.) 5, P. Dyson 6, D. G. Manby 7, P. Boucher 8, R. F. Eccles 9, P. G. Bellamy-Knights 10. A wedding compliment to Margaret Fenton and John Tyler, married at South Cerney, Glos.

New Alresford, Hants.—July 5, 1260 Grandsire Triples: F. Lynds (first Triples) 1, Dorothy M. Huggins 2, A. Hoar 3, M. Lynds (first Triples inside) 4, Jane Dando 5, J. Huggins 6, L. A. Tremear (cond.) 7, A. Hoskins 8. For Evensong.

Northaw, Herts.—June 28, 1260 Bob Minor: Jill Carter 1, W. Hall (first quarter) 2, Mags Crosbydill (first inside) 3, A. Ellis 4, R. Ellis 5, Brian Greenwood (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

Northfleet, Kent.—July 5, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: Dawn T. Howe (first quarter) 1, Elizabeth A. Thompson (first in method) 2, R. J. Thompson 3, T. Lewis 4, F. Matthews (cond.) 5, R. M. Thompson 6. A farewell to Dawn Howe, leaving for Quebec.

Norton, Herts.—July 9, 1280 Kent T.B. Major: R. H. Vigor 1, Miss C. Forgan 2, T. Freer 3, J. Seager 4, P. J. Cranfield 5, B. J. Willett 6, R. Trebilcock 7, J. S. Dear (cond.) 8. First of Kent for 3 and 6.

Pershore, Worcs.—June 29 (the Abbey), 1264 Bob Major: H. Plumb 1, R. Harris 2, Rev. A. Webb 3, W. J. Newman 4, J. Attwood, jun. 5, A. C. Berry (cond.) 6, J. E. Newman 7, P. Harris 8. Half-muffled in memoriam Rev. F. C. Champion, interred this day at Wick. Also June 28, 1260 Grandsire Triples: A. J. Richings 1, A. C. Berry (cond.) 2, Mrs. S. M. Drew 3, C. T. Burrigide 4, I. Lloyd 5, G. R. Drew 6, W. A. Farmer 7, P. D. Warren 8. For Pershore Festival.

Polesworth, Warks.—June 21, 1260 Bob Doubles: S. Allsopp 1, Jane Myatt (first inside) 2, M. Quimby 3, M. Allsopp 4, D. Hiorns (cond.) 5, T. Oxford 6. Also June 28, 1260 Bob Doubles: A. Allsopp 1, M. Quimby (cond.) 2, S. Allsopp 3, D. Hiorns 4, R. Knight 5, T. Oxford 6. Also July 5, 1260 St. Martin's Bob Doubles: Jane Myatt 1, R. Knight 2, M. Quimby 3, M. Allsopp (cond.) 4, D. Hiorns 5, T. Oxford 6. All for Family Communion.

Portsmouth (St. Mary's).—July 12, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. E. Duguid 1, J. H. Hunt (cond.) 2, Mrs. C. Rolph 3, E. Treagus 4, L. D. Duguid 5, N. George (first Triples) 6, W. F. J. Cope 7, M. Siddorn 8. For "Old People's Service", also 33rd wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Siddorn.

Queenborough, Kent.—July 5, 1260 Bob Doubles: Mrs. M. Croal 1, W. A. Wood 2, Marian Cundiff (first quarter) 3, Rosemary Underdown 4, P. King (cond.) 5, Miss S. Kimblings 6. For a Civic Service.

Radlett, Herts.—July 12, 1260 Bob Minor: Rosemary A. Howard (aged 13, first quarter) 1, Elizabeth Forster 2, Frances Dodds (first as cond.) 3, Dawn Owen (first Minor) 4, Joyce M. Clarke (first P.B. Minor) 5, R. A. Sheasby 6.

Rayleigh, Essex.—June 28, 1280 Bob Major: A. J. House 1, C. J. Belcham 2, P. Giles 3, F. C. May 4, M. J. Hallett 5, T. Sharp 6, R. A. Ward 7, D. E. Belcham (cond.) 8. For the christening of Andrew David Belcham, the band included grandfather (2nd), father (8th) and godfather (7th). Also July 5, 1296 T.B. Minor (720 Kent, 576 Cambridge): Miss P. Halliwell 1, F. C. May 2, P. Sadler 3, J. Laken 4, T. Sharp 5, D. E. Belcham (cond.) 6.

Redmarley D'Abitot, Glos.—July 4, 1260 Bob Minor: Mrs. E. Stevens 1, Miss P. Stocken 2, R. H. Newton 3, M. J. A. Orman 4, R. C. Stevens (cond.) 5, E. F. Willcox 6. Rung during the School Fete, at which "Miss Gloucester" opened the new school swimming bath.

Rickmansworth, Herts.—June 28, 1260 Bob Doubles: Joan Hibbert 1, A. Bradbury (first inside) 2, Margaret Sears 3, D. Hibbert 4, H. Bradbury (cond.) 5, J. Hibbert 6. Half-muffled in memoriam A. C. Cooley who worshipped here.

Salisbury, Wilts.—(St. Thomas), July 7, 1282 Superlative Surprise Major: H. Rumens 1, Rev. R. Keeley 2, N. O. Skelton 3, A. T. Collins 4, L. A. Page 5, R. T. Jones 6, R. N. Marlow 7, B. J. Woodruffe (cond.) 8. To commemorate the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Thomas of Canterbury.

Shaftesbury, Dorset.—(St. James), July 4, 1260 Doubles (three methods): W. C. Shute 1, Mrs. M. M. Godley 2, A. E. Woods 3, C. W. Tidwell (cond.) 4, R. J. Mears (first in three methods) 5.

Shrewsbury, Salop.—(St. Chad), July 5, 1328 Bob Major: D. Smith 1, Miss V. Bennett 2, Mrs. E. Stevens 3, F. Hector Bennett 4, P. J. Evans 5, R. C. Stevens (cond.) 6, R. H. Newton 7, E. F. Willcox 8. For Red Cross Service.

Solihull, Warks.—July 5, 1342 Grandsire Cinques: W. H. Leeson 1, Muriel Reay 2, Pamela M. Turner 3, D. H. Walters 4, V. Green 5, M. F. Edwards 6, T. J. Warner (cond.) 7, E. J. Cole 8, G. E. Fearn 9, E. T. Lloyd 10, R. J. Cann 11, A. Crabtree 12. For evening service.

Stourton, Wilts.—July 4, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: K. L. Laver (cond.) 1, F. L. Andrews 2, H. G. White 3, H. G. Doel 4, W. J. Tilley 5, H. F. Creed 6. Birthday compliment to Mrs. M. Davls.

Sutton-cum-Lound, Notts.—July 5, 1260 Singles: R. J. Morton (first quarter) 1, B. Birkett (cond.) 2, P. Blythe 3.

Tonbridge, Kent.—June 13, 1280 Glasgow Surprise Major: Ann Jenner 1, Margaret E. Oram 2, D. C. Brookes 3, E. F. P. Bryant 4, D. Featherstone 5, I. H. Oram (cond.) 6, W. H. Dobbie 7, S. Jenner 8. First in method 3, 4, 5.

Waltham-on-the-Wolds, Leics.—July 9, 1260 Grandsire Doubles: K. Anne Cooke 1, Katherine M. Cooke 2, Harold T. Bonshor 3, Alan French 4, Charles E. Cooper (cond.) 5, John Smith 6. First quarter 1, 2 and 6.

Warbleton, Sussex.—July 1, 1272 Kent T.B. Ann Smith 1, F. J. Lambert 2, G. Beeney 3, Rev. J. Greene 4, D. R. Reed 5, I. V. J. Smith (cond.) 6.

Warnham, Sussex.—July 5, 1260 Bob Doubles: Miss C. Dawson 1, Miss E. Watts (first as cond.) 2, N. Carter 3, B. Pink 4, G. Francis 5, M. Davies 6. For Evensong.

Washington, D.C.—June 29, at 4929 Hillbrook Lane, 1260 P.B. Minor: Ann Gardner 1-2, Marjorie Batchelor 3-4, Penny Moriarty (cond.) 5-6. First as conductor. First on the bells. Thanks to Mr. Richard Roeckline for the use of his bells.

West Bridgford, Notts.—June 28, 1260 Bob Doubles: Judith Wall 1, W. Ratcliffe 2, Janet Crossland 3, D. Gryles 4, P. Beacroft (first inside and as cond.) 5, R. Renshaw 6. An engagement compliment to Peter Else (tower captain) and Janet Thomson (secretary).

Willington, Sussex.—June 30, 1260 Bob Doubles: T. Randall (first quarter) 1, N. M. Chapman (first inside) 2, D. I. Ramsay 3, I. J. Rees 4, T. M. Barlow (cond.) 5, R. Cater 6. For the feast of St. Peter.

Woodford, Northants.—July 12, 1260 Spliced St. Clement's and Plain Bob: L. Stapleton 1, V. A. Headland 2, D. J. Atley 3, W. J. Whitmore 4, A. Idle 5, F. E. Crosier (cond.) 6. For Festal Evensong.

Woodlesford, Yorks.—July 4, 1440 Oxford T.B. Minor: G. D. Johnson 1, R. Cater 2, G. Hancock 3, E. G. Cox 4, P. Carbutt 5, W. F. Moreton (cond.) 6. For the centenary of All Saints' Church and bells.

Worcester.—(All Saints'), July 9, 1260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): Barbara E. Douglass 1, Jane E. Hills 2, Judith Rhodes 3, C. J. Pickford (cond.) 4, N. C. R. Cronin 5, M. R. C. Hughes 6. To mark the end of the school year (and of G.C.E. exams, in which all have been involved).

Youlgreave, Derbys.—June 24, 1344 Bob Major: J. Leary (first on eight) 1, A. Else 2, C. Davis 3, P. Rose 4, J. D. Arkwell 5, P. Taylor 6, M. P. Phipps (cond.) 7, D. Hird 8. To mark the centenary of the installation of the clock and bells; also a birthday compliment to the conductor's wife.

DEDICATION QUARTER PEAL

On June 28 at a service at SS. Peter and Paul, S. Petherton, Som, the new heating system and also the restoration of the belfry were dedicated by the Rural Dean of Crewkerne (Rev. W. T. Taylor) and Rev. J. H. Jelly (vicar).

The ringing chamber has been extensively improved and redecorated and has a new ceiling, panelling, fluorescent lighting, etc. The local ringers have worked hard cleaning, painting, installing panelling and laying carpeting. Special thanks are due to the vicar, the tower master (Mr. R. C. Beale), Mr. Gordon Glyde (correspondent), the lady ringers and others who assisted.

The vicar encouraged the ringers and thanks go also to those in and around the village (of all denominations!) who gave during the ringers' house-to-house collection.

There was a good attendance of ringers for the morning service, including officers of Ilchester Branch (to which this tower belongs), and later a quarter peal of Plain Bob Major (1,264 changes) was rung for the dedication. It was also the 14th wedding anniversary of the captain (Mr. R. C. Beale), a 9th birthday compliment to Kevan Beale (his son and a ringer at this church) and a welcome to the grandson of Mr. F. Welch. Those taking part were Mrs. A. Medley 1, R. C. Beale 2, R. Beale 3, F. Welch 4, W. H. Pearce 5, R. A. Welch 6, M. J. Medley 7, W. E. Turner (cond.) 8.

BELLRINGERS' DIARY

Mr. W. H. Viggers of 37 Highfield Gardens still requires revised information from 45 Association secretaries and from 12 University Associations to complete the revision of his Diary copy, which is due to go to the printers by the second week in August. So, do it now, or your officers will go in as last year!

Peads

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

LONDON, St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, E.C.

Sat., July 11, 1970, 3hr. 44min. (42 cwt.)

5086 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Composed by R. W. Pipe.

- 1 G. William Critchley
- 2 James R. Taylor
- 3 Brian Bladon
- 4 Andrew N. Stubbs
- 5 John N. Diserens
- 6 David C. Brown
- 7 David P. Hilling (Conductor)
- 8 John M. Jelley
- 9 D. John Hunt
- 10 Noel J. Diserens
- 11 David E. House
- 12 Michael P. Moreton

First of Bristol Surprise Maximus in the City: Rung in connection with the City of London Festival.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSN.

BATHEASTON, Som, St. John the Baptist.

Sat., May 16, 1970, 2hr. 53min. (13 cwt.)

5120 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR (4 methods: 1280 Cambridge and Lincolnshire, 1440 Yorkshire, 1120 Rutland, with 69 changes of method and all the work).

Composed by P. G. K. Davies.

- 1 Victor Savage
- 2 Norman G. N. Knee
- 3 Peter J. W. Hardwick
- 4 George W. Massey
- 5 Adrian P. Beck
- 6 Robert E. Beck
- 7 Roger I. Kendrick
- 8 David G. Massey (Conductor)

For the marriage of Peta C. A. Cannon to Donald C. Joyce, which took place earlier the same day.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAZEL GROVE, Cheshire, St. Thomas, Norbury.

Mon., June 1, 1970, 2hr. 42min. (14 cwt.)

5056 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR (8 methods: 768 London and Rutland, 640 Bristol, 576 Cambridge, Lincolnshire, Pudsey, Superlative and Yorkshire, 142 changes of method).

Composed by Norman Smith.

- 1 Mandi McCallion
- 2 Christopher L. D. Munday
- 3 Margaret P. Booth
- 4 Neil Bennett (Conductor)
- 5 Marcus C. W. Sherwood
- 6 Raymond J. Ballard
- 7 Richard S. Starkie
- 8 Jeffrey Brannan

HAZEL GROVE, Cheshire, St. Thomas, Norbury.

Mon., June 29, 1970, 2hr. 53min. (14 cwt.)

5088 UXBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by Stanley Jenner.

- 1 Richard S. Starkie
- *2 Mandi McCallion
- 3 Margaret P. Booth
- 4 Raymond J. Ballard
- 5 Giles B. Thompson
- 6 Neil Bennett
- 7 Jeffrey Brannan (Conductor)
- 8 Ian M. Holland

*50th peal.

DAVENHAM, Cheshire, St. Wilfrid.

Mon., July 6, 1970, 2hr. 48min. (15 cwt.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR (7 extents).

- *1 D. Andrew Carter
- *2 Pamela Hough
- 3 Paul Maddock
- *4 P. Graham Walters
- *5 J. Robert Jervis
- 6 Harry W. Howard (Conductor)

*First attempt. Average age of 1 to 5 17 years.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD

CHEWTON MENDIP, Somerset,

St. Mary Magdalene.

Sat., July 4, 1970, 3hr. 8min. (24 cwt.)

5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by A. Craven.

- 1 Ian F. Garvie
- 2 Hubert E. Ashley
- 3 Frank W. Perrens
- 4 George Pluckrose
- 5 Alan J. Boyd
- 6 L. Michael Callow
- 7 Geoffrey Pratt (Conductor)
- 8 James R. Taylor

SHIRLEY, Warwicks, St. James.

Mon., July 6, 1970, 2hr. 20min. (6½ cwt.)

5280 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by E. A. Barnett

- 1 John K. Foot
- 2 John F. Thorne
- 3 Frederick Shallcross (Conductor)
- 4 Derek H. Walters
- 5 Peter C. Randall
- 6 Charles P. Quartley
- 7 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 8 Geoffrey W. Randall

DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

WEST HALLAM, Derbys, St. Wilfred.

Thur., July 9, 1970, 2hr. 34min. (9½ cwt.)

5152 LINCOLNSHIRE S. MAJOR

Composed by C. K. Lewis.

- 1 Denis R. Carlisle
- *2 Andrew Queen
- 3 Arthur F. Hall
- 4 David W. Parkin
- 5 Rev. R. D. St. John Smith
- 6 Timothy Wylie
- 7 Gordon A. Halls (Conductor)
- 8 Robert Chambers

*First of Surprise Major.

NORTHAMPTON, St. Giles.

Sat., July 11, 1970, 3hr. 10min. (24 cwt.)

5007 STEDMAN CATERERS

Composed by John Carter.

- 1 David W. Friend (Conductor)
- 2 Susan Davies
- 3 Jennifer Beech
- 4 Timothy Wylie
- 5 Gordon A. Halls
- 6 Clive A. Thrower
- 7 Derek G. Astridge
- 8 David W. Parkin
- 9 Frank Beech
- 10 Ian Wilson

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

GREAT HOLLAND, Essex, All Saints.

Sat., July 11, 1970, 2hr. 44min. (15 cwt.)

5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by G. Lewis.

- 1 Brian J. Vaughan
- 2 Katharine M. Thorley
- 3 Muriel R. Page
- 4 Leslie G. Brett
- 5 Frank B. Lufkin
- 6 Adrian Knights
- 7 Walter Arnold
- 8 J. Martin Thorley (Conductor)

THORINGTON, Essex, St. Mary Magdalene.

Sun., June 21, 1970, 2hr. 51min. (9 cwt.)

5040 MINOR (Ipswich, Norwich, Cambridge, Kent T.B., Oxford T.B., Single Oxford, Plain Bob).

- 1 Eileen S. Button
- 2 A. George Button
- *3 Neville F. Whittell
- *4 Jennifer H. Whittell
- †5 Rachel J. R. Orman
- 6 George N. Orman (Conductor)

*50th together. †Has circled tower. For Flower Festival.

PRITTLEWELL, Essex, St. Mary.

Sun., July 5, 1970, 2hr. 58min. (18 cwt.)

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Composed by G. B. Thompson.

- 1 Bernard C. Sadler
- 2 Josephine A. Brown
- *3 Stephen G. Halliwell
- *4 Peter G. Giles
- *5 David Sloman
- 6 Keith W. Brown
- 7 Michael J. Hallett
- 8 Alfred J. House
- 9 Philip J. Rothera
- 10 Peter G. Brown (Conductor)

*First of Surprise Royal. First of Royal as conductor.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

SEND, Surrey, St. Mary.

Thur., July 2, 1970, 2hr. 46min. (10½ cwt.)

5040 DOUBLES (16 extents Grandsire, 26 Plain Bob).

- *1 Timothy Denyer (aged 12)
- †2 Jennifer Sharpe
- 3 Lesley Smith
- †4 Anne Collins
- 5 Edward Fitcher (Conductor)
- *6 Ian Hiscock

*First attempt. †First inside. ‡First of Doubles. First as conductor. To mark the 22nd anniversary of the dedication of the six bells. Believed to be the youngest band to ring a peal for the guild. (Average age 15 years 7 months.)

NEWDIGATE, Surrey, St. Peter.

Sat., July 11, 1970, 2hr. 34min. (8 cwt.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR (7 extents).

- *1 Jacqueline W. Wolfe
- †2 Frances Mulvey
- 3 David D. Smith
- 4 Michael J. Mulvey
- 5 Martin L. Haigh
- 6 Tony Skilton (Conductor)

*First attempt. †First of Bob Minor on tower bells. First on the new bells. A welcome to the rector (Rev. D. Parker), also a birthday compliment to the conductor.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

ST. ALBANS, Herts, St. Stephen.

Tues., July 7, 1970, 2hr. 47min. (8 cwt.)

5040 SURPRISE MINOR (York, Durham, Beverley, London, Wells, Norwich and Cambridge).

- 1 Valerie Urban
- *2 Rosemary Urban
- 3 Elizabeth Forster
- *4 Alison Macfarlane
- 5 Steven D. Chandler
- 6 John R. Mayne (Conductor)

*First of 7-Surprise Minor. A wedding compliment to Peter T. Dale (former captain) and Barbara Bush, married at Sidcup, Kent, on July 4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION
EDENBRIDGE, Kent, SS. Peter and Paul.
 Sat., July 4, 1970, 3hr. 55min. (14 cwt.)
7168 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
 Composed by Stanley Jenner.

- 1 John E. Warner
- 2 Margaret E. Oram
- 3 Brian E. Jeffrey
- 4 Michael H. O'Callaghan
- 5 Ian H. Oram
- 6 Edward J. Jenner
- 7 Walter H. Dobbie
- 8 Stanley Jenner (Conductor)

Arranged as part of the town's celebrations to mark the 850th anniversary of the first mention of a church on this site.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, Lancashire,
St. Michael and All Angels.

Wed., May 27, 1970, 3hr. 20min. (25½ cwt.)
5042 LINCOLNSHIRE S. MAXIMUS

- 1 Derek Butterworth
- 2 Frank Osbaldiston
- 3 Margaret P. Booth
- 4 Basil Jones
- 5 Neil Bennett (Conductor)
- 6 C. Kenneth Lewis
- 7 Alan F. Scholfield
- 8 J. Barry Pickup
- 9 Richard J. Parker
- 10 Jeffrey Brannan
- 11 Richard S. Starkie
- 12 Ian M. Holland

LEICESTER, Cathedral Church of
St. Martin.

Sat., June 20, 1970, 3hr. 40min. (25 cwt.)
5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MAXIMUS

(105 methods: 48 Albanian, Aldenham, Apsley, Ashton, Barford, Bedford, Belfast, Belgrave, Belvoir, Birmingham, Blackley, Brigstow, Bristol, Buckfast, Buckinghamshire, Cambridge, Christchurch, Cirencester, Clerkenwell, Clifton, Conisbrough, Cornwall, Cotswold, Deansgate, Dodford, Dorking, Double Dublin, Dunsmore, Ealing, Eldon, Elkington, Essex, Evesham, Feering, Gartree, Goscote, Halifax, Hampshire, Indiana, Jedburgh, Jersey, Kidderminster, Lambeth, Langley, Leicestershire, Leominster, Lilbourne, Lincolnshire, Lindsey, Londinium, Lutterworth, Manchester, Manitoba, Mellor, Metropolis, Moorgate, New Durham, Newgate, New Gloucester, Oldham, Oxfordshire, Painswick, Pennine, Pontefract, Preston, Prittlewell, Pudsey, Quex, Reading, Redcliffe, Redfield, Ribbleson, Rochester, Saskatchewan, Shropshire, Solihull, Southwark, Southwell, Stonegate, Stoodley, Strathclyde, Superlative, Swindon, Timaru, Trafalgar, Trowbridge, Twickenham, Utah, Verulam, Warwickshire, Welford, Wembley, Wensleydale, Westminster, Wexham, Wigston, Winchester, Worcestershire, Worsley, Wycombe, Xenia, Yarmouth, York, Yorkshire, Zelah; 104 changes of method).

Composed by Derek Ogden, Neil Bennett and John H. Fielden.

- 1 Christine Andrew
- 2 Richard S. Starkie
- 3 Frank Osbaldiston
- 4 John H. Fielden
- 5 C. Kenneth Lewis
- 6 Bernard F. L. Groves
- 7 Derek Butterworth
- 8 Cyril Crossthwaite
- 9 Neil Bennett (Conductor)
- 10 Robert B. Smith
- 11 Brian Harris
- 12 Jeffrey Brannan

This is the largest number of methods yet rung in a peal on 12 bells.

For new methods see page 608.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

CLAYBROOKE, Leics, St. Peter.

Sat., July 4, 1970, 2hr. 52min. (13½ cwt.)
5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by J. Nichol.

- 1 John A. Bayliss
- *2 Andrew S. Hayden
- *3 Tony R. Natt
- 4 Brian L. Burrows (Conductor)
- 5 John Watkins
- 6 Robin A. Gilliver
- †6 K. Paul Gilliver
- 8 A. James Poynor

*First in the method. †175th peal. A wedding compliment to Martin and Jane Campbell-Kelly.

HIGHAM-ON-THE-HILL, Leics,
St. Peter.

Fri., July 10, 1970, 2hr. 47min. (10½ cwt.)
5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR (21 methods, 7 extents: Carlisle and Northumberland; Chester and Munden; London, Wells and Cuneastre; Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Primrose, Bourne and Hull; Westminster and Allendale; York, Durham, Beverley and Surfleet; Berwick and Hexham).

- 1 Andrew S. Hayden
- 2 Lawrence Watkins
- 3 John Watkins
- 4 Robin A. Gilliver
- 5 Brian L. Burrows (Conductor)
- 6 K. Paul Gilliver

A 21st birthday compliment to Robin A. Gilliver.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

WINTERTON, Lincs, All Saints.

Mon., June 22, 1970, 2hr. 53min. (9½ cwt.)
5040 SPLICED MINOR (14 methods: One extent Lytham and Thelwall, London Bob and Double Oxford, College and St. Clements, Wavertree and Childwall, Single Oxford and Single Court, Double Bob and Reverse Bob, Fulbeck and Canterbury Pleasure, with 168 changes of method).

- 1 Peter Saunders
- 2 Roger Hippisley
- 3 Jack Bray
- *4 Melvyn A. Rose
- 5 Richard Hall
- 6 John G. Hall (Conductor)

*First of 14-spliced.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

WHITCHURCH, Cardiff, Glam, St. Mary.

Thur., July 9, 1970, 2hr. 47min. (15 cwt.)
5040 DOUBLES (1 extent Stedman Slow Course, April Day, 5 extents Winchendon, St. Nicholas, St. Simon, St. Martin, Rev. Canterbury, Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman).

- *1 Susan Redmond (13)
- 2 Paul W. Thomas
- 3 Stephen Fenwick (Conductor)
- 4 Gwendoline Bidgood
- 5 Richard Hall
- 6 William H. Harford

*First peal.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION
AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

WILLESDEN, Middlesex, St. Mary.

Thur., July 2, 1970, 2hr. 38min. (9½ cwt.)

5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by John L. Morris.

- 1 Dorothea M. Robotham
- 2 Joan Beresford
- 3 Claudia A. Critchley
- 4 Alice Cutler
- *5 Brian Watson
- 6 G. William Critchley (Conductor)
- 7 Frank Reed
- 8 John Hill

*First in method.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

GORING-ON-THAMES, Oxon, St. Thomas
of Canterbury.

Sat., July 11, 1970, 2hr. 53min. (8½ cwt.)
5184 EASINGWOLD SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by Christopher Forster.

- 1 William Birmingham, jun.
- 2 Alan R. Pink (Conductor)
- 3 Walter G. Knight
- 4 Leonard Stilwell
- 5 William Birmingham
- 6 Valerie Willard
- 7 Michael Hatchett
- 8 D. Kay Adkins

First in the method by all (except the treble) and for the guild. To mark the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Thomas à Becket.

OXFORD SOCIETY

WITNEY, Oxon, St. Mary.

Sat., July 4, 1970, 2hr. 46min. (17 cwt.)

5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
 (Heywood's.)

- 1 John W. T. Hibbert
- 2 Brian R. White (Conductor)
- 3 Norman H. Leslie
- *4 David C. Woodward
- 5 Dennis A. Leslie
- 6 Frederick A. H. Wilkins
- 7 John H. Napper
- 8 Francis A. White

*First of Stedman. A birthday compliment to F. A. H. Wilkins.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

APPLETON, Berks, St. Laurence.

Sat., July 4, 1970, 2hr. 36min. (14½ cwt.)

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
 Composed by R. W. Pipe.

- 1 Stephen K. Thompson
- 2 Andrew N. Stubbs
- 3 Lawrence J. Haines
- 4 Peter H. Mackie
- 5 G. Robert Mordaunt
- 6 Richard H. Johnston
- 7 Colin J. E. Wyld
- 8 Jeremy R. Pratt (Conductor)
- 9 Roger M. Heyworth
- 10 John E. Camp

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PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD**WEEKLEY, Northants, St. Mary the Virgin.**

Fri., July 3, 1970, 2hr. 39min. (8 cwt.)

5040 SPLICED SPECIAL ALLIANCE AND LITTLE COURT (2 extents Butterwick, Frampton, Freiston, 1 Benington, each spliced with Bastow Little Court).

- 1 Sally K. Diamond
- 2 Barry R. Care
- 3 Murray A. Coleman
- 4 Richard J. Cowley
- 5 J. Malcolm Tyler (Conductor)
- 6 Stephen B. Bell

First by all and for the guild. For the wedding anniversary of Murray and Mary Coleman, and with best wishes to Richard Cowley, shortly leaving to join the Police Force.

IRTHINGBOROUGH, Northants, St. Peter.

Sat., July 11, 1970, 2hr. 58min. (10 cwt.)

5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR (5 methods: 1216 Cambridge, 1120 Rutland, 1056 Lincolnshire, 864 Superlative, Yorkshire, 85 changes, all the work).

Composed by P. G. K. Davies.

- 1 John G. Mitchell
- 2 J. Malcolm Tyler
- *3 Brian R. Danby
- *4 Stephen B. Bell
- *5 Alan J. Marks
- 6 Edward C. Buckby
- 7 Barry R. Care
- 8 Murray A. Coleman (Conductor)

*First of spliced.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM**BIRMINGHAM, St. Martin.**

Tues., July 7, 1970, 3hr. 23min. (37 cwt.)

5042 CAMBRIDGE S. MAXIMUS

Composed by R. W. Pipe.

- 1 Maurice F. Edwards
- 2 George E. Fearn
- 3 Norman J. Goodman
- 4 Vernon Green
- 5 Roderick W. Pipe (Conductor)
- 6 Christopher M. P. Johnson
- 7 Stephen W. Barton
- 8 John G. Gipson
- 9 James W. Belshaw
- 10 Kenneth J. Hesketh
- 11 Philip J. Rothera
- 12 Peter Border

BIRMINGHAM, St. Philip's Cathedral.

Sat., July 11, 1970, 3hr. 18min. (31 cwt.)

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Composed by R. Baldwin.

- 1 John N. Lindon
- 2 Iris M. E. Lemare
- 3 Muriel Reay
- 4 Arthur V. Pearson
- 5 Norman J. Goodman
- 6 Terry R. Hampton
- 7 Maurice F. Edwards
- 8 Roderick W. Pipe (Conductor)
- 9 James W. Belshaw
- 10 George E. Fearn

Following the marriage of David John Taylor (head verger) and Brenda Margaret Bland.

EDGBASTON, Birmingham, St. Bartholomew.

Wed., July 8, 1970, 2hr. 37min. (10 cwt.)

5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by S. J. Ivin.

- 1 Stephen W. Barton
- *2 Joyce J. Barton
- *3 F. John Keddie
- 4 J. Edward Cawser
- 5 Arthur V. Pearson
- 6 A. Bryan Ellsmore
- 7 Maurice F. Edwards
- 8 Michael J. Fellows (Conductor)

*First in the method.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**CHIRTON, Wiltshire, St. John.**

Sat., July 4, 1970, 2hr. 57min. (9 cwt.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

- 1 Katherine Jones
- 2 Philip S. Gaisford
- 3 Dennis A. Powney
- 4 Ruth Jones
- 5 Frederick W. Box
- 6 Robert J. Purnell (Conductor)

To celebrate the 800th anniversary of the dedication of the church.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION**ASTON INGHAM, Herefordshire, St. John the Baptist.**

Sat., July 4, 1970, 2hr. 25min. (5½ cwt.)

5040 MINOR (1 extent Cambridge Surprise, 2 Kent T.B., 4 Plain Bob).

- 1 Reginald H. Newton
- 2 Barbara Luckes
- 3 Elizabeth Stevens
- 4 Michael J. A. Orman
- 5 Ernest F. Willcox
- 6 Richard C. Stevens (Conductor)

BERRINGTON, Shropshire, All Saints.

Sat., July 11, 1970, 2hr. 54min. (13½ cwt.)

5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Composed by J. R. Pritchard.

- 1 Elizabeth Stevens
- *2 Vivian B. Bennett
- 3 Jennifer M. Beech
- 4 Ruth A. E. Fairbrother
- 5 Edward R. Fairbrother
- 6 Richard C. Stevens (Conductor)
- †7 Frank Beech
- 8 Ernest F. Willcox

*First peal. †100th peal.

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD**LOWDHAM, Notts, St. Mary.**

Tues., July 7, 1970, 2hr. 38min. (9 cwt.)

5040 DOUBLES (3 methods: 14 Rev. Canterbury Pleasure, 14 Grandsire and 14 Plain Bob).

- *1 Edward J. Berridge
- 2 William L. Exton (Conductor)
- 3 Sydney Adams
- 4 Maurice W. Harrison
- 5 R. Brian Mills

*First peal.

At the completion of Lowdham Festival Week, especially arranged to mark the 800th anniversary of the founding of this church.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION**LODSWORTH, Sussex, St. Peter.**

Sat., July 4, 1970, 2hr. 32min. (6½ cwt.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

- 1 Michael L. Leclere
- 2 Ruth E. Halford
- 3 Christopher G. Renyard
- *4 Geoffrey F. Durrant
- 5 E. Winifred Keys (Conductor)
- 6 M. Iain Davey

*First inside.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD**ST. ENDELLION, Cornwall, St. Endellienta.**

Sat., July 11, 1970, 2hr. 29min. (8½ cwt.)

5040 DOUBLES (10 methods: St. Martin, St. Osmund, St. Simon, Eynesbury, Rev. Canterbury, Plain Bob, Grandsire, Newark, Antelope and Wollaton. 60 variations).

- *1 Wilfred C. Boucher
- 2 Robert Peel Pearce
- 3 Anthony J. Davidson (Conductor)
- *4 Gordon H. Baldam
- *5 Thomas E. Howarth
- *6 Robert J. Perry.

*Most methods/variations.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD (St. Peter's Guild)**PETERSFIELD, Hants, St. Peter.**

Sun., June 28, 1970, 2hr. 47min. (15 cwt.)

5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Composed by C. K. Lewis.

- *1 Carol Stacey
- 2 Keith Sansom
- 3 Christopher Renyard
- †4 Kenneth A. Tipper
- *5 Ronald G. Tipper
- 6 Andrew P. Reeves
- 7 Patrick M. Willis
- 8 Philip Stevens (Conductor)

*First on 8. †First of Major. A farewell to Canon J. S. Long (moving to Cambridge).

WHITCHURCH, Hampshire, All Hallows.

Fri., July 3, 1970, 2hr. 57min. (14 cwt.)

5184 WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR (3328 Portsmouth, 1856 Winchester, 116 changes of method).

Composed by William T. Perrins.

- 1 Katherine J. Maundrell
- 2 Timothy F. Collins
- 3 Graham W. Elmes
- 4 Richard A. G. Inglis
- 5 Geoffrey K. Dodd
- 6 Richard H. Youdale
- 7 Edward W. Colley
- 8 William T. Perrins (Conductor)

On the eve of the guild's A.G.M. at Basingstoke.

SOUTHAMPTON, Hampshire, St. Mary.

Sat., July 11, 1970, 3hr. 20min. (21½ cwt.)

5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

- 1 Kenneth S. B. Croft
- *2 Christopher S. M. Nokes
- 3 Richard H. Green
- 4 David J. Forder (Conductor)
- *5 John S. Croft
- 6 George E. Evenden
- 7 John Hartless
- 8 Maurice J. Butler
- 9 John H. Hunt
- 10 Ronald N. Marlow

*First in method.

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WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION**MIDDLE LITTLETON**, Worcestershire, St. Nicholas.Tues., July 7, 1970, 2hr. 37min. (12 cwt.)
5040 SURPRISE MINOR (7 methods: London, Berwick, Hexham, Primrose, Beverley, Surfleet, Cambridge).

- *1 Christopher Hims
- 2 Shirley M. Drew
- 3 Hugh N. Evans
- *4 Roger H. Hunt
- 5 John Clements
- 6 Geoffrey R. Drew (Conductor)

*First 7-Surprise.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION**SOWERBY**, Yorkshire, St. Peter.

Sat., June 27, 1970, 3hr. 10min. (16 cwt.)

5040 ST. SIMONS BOB TRIPLES

Arranged by Wilfrid F. Moreton.

- 1 Patricia North
- *2 Margaret White
- *3 Pamela A. Lockwood
- *4 Delwyn B. Tidball
- *5 George Hancock
- *6 Philip Charlesworth
- 7 Ian North (Conductor)
- 8 Douglas Barker

*First in the method.

CAMPSALL, Yorkshire, St. Mary.

Sat., July 4, 1970, 2hr. 55min. (11½ cwt.)

5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Composed by W. E. Critchley.

- 1 James Thorley
- *2 Sheila Bruce
- 3 W. Eric Critchley (Conductor)
- †4 Alan W. Jackson
- †5 Ernest J. Padgett
- †6 Peter Bruce
- 7 Roger A. Smith
- 8 Frederick J. Jackson

*First of Surprise. †First in the method.

WRAGBY, Yorks, St. Michael & Our Lady.

Sat., July 4, 1970, 2hr. 38min. (10½ cwt.)

5040 MINOR (28 methods: Wath, Pontefract, Carisbrooke and Donottar; Killamarsh, Kent, Trinity Sunday and Pontefract; Felkirk, Havercroft, Barnsley and South Kirkby, College Bob IV, Newdigate, Old Oxford and Willesden; Wragby, Charlwood, Neasden and St. Albans; College Exercise, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk and Norbury; London Scholars, Oxford, Capel, Sandal and Kingston).

- 1 Delwyn B. Tidball
- 2 Margaret White
- 3 Patricia North
- 4 David S. Lockwood
- 5 Robin Brown
- 6 Ian North (Conductor)

Handbells**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD****ALTRINCHAM**, Cheshire, 52 Wellington Road.

Thur., June 25, 1970, 2hr. 38min. (15 in C.)

5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Arranged by Alan F. Scholfield.

- 1-2 J. David Atkinson
- *3-4 Peter Broadbent
- 5-6 C. Kenneth Lewis
- 7-8 Alan F. Scholfield (Conductor)
- 9-10 John Gander

*First on an inside pair.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD**COVENTRY**, Warwicks, 68 Warwick Av.

Mon., May 18, 1970, 2hr. 35min. (16 in B.)

5088 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Composed by J. Carter.

- 1-2 Frank W. Perrens
- 3-4 S. Clarke Walters
- 5-6 Geoffrey Pratt (Conductor)
- 7-8 Ernest Sibley
- 9-10 Hubert G. Summers

DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION**SHEFFIELD**, Yorks, 194 Gleadless Com.

Sun., June 21, 1970, 1hr. 36min. (10 in A.)

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR (7 extents.)

- 1-2 Geoffrey Bridges
- *3-4 Keith J. Walpole
- 5-6 A. Colin Banton (Conductor)

*First of Surprise Minor and first of Cambridge in hand.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION**MIDDLESBROUGH**, Teesside, 29 Farley Drive, Acklam.Sun., July 12, 1970, 1hr. 44min. (13 in E.)
5040 MINOR (4 methods: 2 extents Single Oxford, Double Bob, St. Clements and 1 of Plain Bob).

- 1-2 Margaret Lawson
- 3-4 Enid Lawson
- 5-6 Kenneth Lawson (Conductor)

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION**ST. ALBANS**, Herts, 114 Park Street Lane.

Mon., July 6, 1970, 2hr. 2min. (13 in E)

5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR (7 extents.)

- *1-2 Frank C. Price
- *3-4 Julia A. Fellows
- 5-6 John R. Mayne (Conductor)

*First of Cambridge Minor on handbells. The ringer of 3-4 has now rung Cambridge from Minor to Maximus on both tower- and handbells.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD**GLENFIELD**, Leicester, 22 Groby Road.

Tues., June 30, 1970, 2 hr. 57min. (15 in C.)

5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS

Composed by Sam Wood.

- 1-2 David F. Moore
- 3-4 Peter J. Staniforth (Conductor)
- 5-6 John M. Jelley
- 7-8 Alfred Ballard
- 9-10 Robert B. Smith
- *11-12 John B. Bramley

*First of Kent T.B. Maximus on handbells.

GLENFIELD, Leicester, 22 Groby Road.

Tues., July 7, 1970, 2hr. 45min. (15 in C.)

5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Composed by F. H. Dexter.

- 1-2 Robert B. Smith (Conductor)
- *3-4 Jill Staniforth
- *5-6 Peter J. Staniforth
- 7-8 Alfred Ballard
- *9-10 Gerald Moorhouse
- *11-12 J. David Atkinson

*First of Stedman Cinques on handbells.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD**WINTERTON**, Lincs, Wicken, Westwinds Estate.

Mon., June 29, 1970, 2hr. 15min. (17 in A.)

5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Composed by C. K. Lewis.

- *1-2 Peter Saunders
- 3-4 Roger Hippiisley
- 5-6 C. Aubrey Harrison
- 7-8 John G. Hall (Conductor)

*First of Major in hand.

WINTERTON, Lincs, Wicken, Westwinds Estate.

Mon., July 6, 1970, 2hr. 25min. (17 in A.)

5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Composed by C. K. Lewis.

- 1-2 Peter Saunders
- 3-4 John G. Hall
- 5-6 C. Aubrey Harrison
- 7-8 Roger Hippiisley (Conductor)

First as conductor.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD**WHITEPARISH**, Wiltshire, Anchorsholme.

Mon., July 13, 1970, 1hr. 57min. (14 in D.)

5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR

- 1-2 A. Terence Collins
- 3-4 Brian J. Woodruffe (Conductor)
- *5-6 Rev. Roger Keeley

*First of Treble Bob on handbells.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

(Sheffield and District Society)

ROTHERHAM, Yorks, in All Saints' Belfry.

Sat., June 13, 1970, 2hr. 42min.

5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Arranged by Stuart Armeson.

- 1-2 Marie Hatswell
- 3-4 M. Alec Beaumont
- 5-6 Stuart Armeson (Conductor)
- 7-8 Neil Donovan
- 9-10 Malcolm S. Turner

First of Royal in hand by all.

(Sheffield and District Society)

ROTHERHAM, Yorks, in All Saints' Belfry.

Thur., June 18, 1970, 2hr. 30min.

5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Composed by J. A. Trollope.

- 1-2 Marie Hatswell
- 3-4 M. Alec Beaumont
- 5-6 Stuart Armeson (Conductor)
- 7-8 Neil Donovan
- 9-10 Malcolm S. Turner

(Sheffield and District Society)

ROTHERHAM, Yorks, in All Saints' Belfry.

Fri., June 19, 1970, 2hr. 17min.

5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Composed by Vernon Bottomley.

- 1-2 Marie Hatswell
- 3-4 M. Alec Beaumont
- 5-6 Stuart Armeson (Conductor)
- 7-8 Neil Donovan

WAKEFIELD, Yorks, 5 Copley Lane, Robin Hood.

Sun., July 12, 1970, 2hr. 7min. (17 in A.)

5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

(48-course block reduced.)

- 1-2 Stella M. Brown
- 3-4 Patricia North
- 5-6 Robin Brown (Conductor)
- 7-8 Ian North

LANGAR (NOTTS) CHURCH BELLS

Early in 1970 a band of ringers from Wolverhampton on a ringing outing found Langar bells in an unringable state due to missing ropes and stays. A letter to the vicar resulted in him contacting Mr. M. W. Harrison in order to get the necessary repairs started. A working party was set up and found the installation in a poor state. The bells are in a wooden frame on ball bearings (rehung 1939) in the central tower. The louvres were open to the atmosphere, there being only some broken mesh in the windows. The clappers were all loose, as were two bells on their metal headstocks. These troubles were righted, the louvres being blocked by heavy gauge clear polythene sheeting nailed upon frames put up, and this served a dual purpose—excluding both birds and the weather, and is recommended. The clappers were removed, regreased, wire brushed and painted and replaced and tightened.

It was at this point that some consideration was given to the ringing of the bells. They are a ground-floor ring with 30 feet of loose rope, rung from the crossing of the church. Installation of rope guides was impossible without obscuring the view. However the upstairs floor (of concrete) was about 13 feet below the bell frame, which had no floor, and after consultation with the church authorities, permission was obtained to put a new floor in the bottom of the bell frame. The timber was kindly donated by Maurice Harrison, but before laying the floor the whole of the bell frame and supporting timbers were given two coats of preservative. Two trapdoors were made in the floor, a large one below the tenor and a small one for access to the bells and clock.

The rope circle upstairs was found to be unsatisfactory, the treble and second ropes being about nine inches apart and six inches from the wall. Both were lifted and turned to bring the wheels further into the centre of the ringing chamber. The wheel on the third also had to be turned. The ropes on 1 and 2 now fall in line with one of the 14in. deep main beams, and an augur had to be borrowed from Messrs. J. Taylor to do this job. A catwalk was built across the roof to prevent undue strain and, as a finishing touch, lights were installed in the new belfry and on the stairs.

Those taking part were Jack Dawson, Geoff Wells, Peter Hayward, David Flower, Maurice Harrison, Brian Mills, Liz and George Dawson. To many others who have helped at various times thanks are also due. As a result of donations by various people and money-raising by the Bingham District of the Southwell Diocesan Guild, the effort has cost the church nothing, and it is to be hoped that a tower which previously was unsafe for any but experienced ringers will now be available to train a local band.

ERNIE AMBROSE JOINED IN

The day fixed for the Lavenham ringers' outing was June 27, and with wives, friends and ringers from the district they visited Bungay, Beccles, Pakefield, Southwold and Leiston and a variety of methods was rung. Lunch was at the King's Head, Beccles, and tea at the Dutch Barn, Southwold. It pleased everyone to have in their company the grand old man of Sudbury, Mr. Ernie Ambrose, who despite his 92 years ascended the towers and took part in the ringing. Home was reached at 10 p.m., when a vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Arthur Haynes, the organiser.

M. T. S.

Guildford Diocesan Guild.**FOURTEEN TEAMS ENTER**

The Farnham District striking competition was held at Ash on June 27, when a representative cross-section met on a rather blustery afternoon, and this was not the only problem for the judge (Mr. C. H. Kippin), who had also to contend with diesel trains and low-flying aircraft, which at times shut out the sound of the bells.

Fourteen teams took part, eleven tower teams and three mixed (who were not competing). Later all sat down to tea in the church hall.

The ringing master (Mr. T. Page) introduced Mr. Kippin, who gave the results with remarks about each team. Most of the bands, he said, appeared competent, but those with probationers could not expect to produce perfect ringing but should not be discouraged.

Farnborough ("A" team) were the winners, followed by Ash ("A") and Aldershot.

Mr. Kippin was thanked for adjudicating, and Mr. J. Dodds thanked the Ash ringers for acting as hosts.

A. E.

MARPLE'S BELLS

The fine old ring of six was cast by Rudhalls of Gloucester and hung in the Parish Church of Stockport in 1731, where they remained until the church was taken down in 1810. For some years the bells were stowed away, partly in the hearse house and partly in an old mill. The successors of Rudhalls, having contracted for a new ring in 1816, offered £400 for the old ring of six, but owing to their sweet tone a strong desire prevailed that the bells should be retained in the parish, and as Marple Church had been rebuilt with a tower the Stockport Parish Church authorities resolved that Marple should have the preference of purchase at the price offered by Rudhalls.

An appeal was made to the inhabitants of Marple not to suffer the bells to be conveyed from amongst them for ever. As a result several local gentlemen guaranteed the amount and concluded the bargain. The same day (April 29) a dray was sent for the tenor and treble and two carts for the remaining four. On June 30, 1816, they were opened, and the day kept as a gala day. They were rehung in the early part of 1886 by Taylors and re-opened on Easter Sunday by the Hayfield ringers. It is strange to note that there is no record of a peal having been rung on them.

The church is on an eminence which commands an extensive view of the bold, swelling hills of Derbyshire and of the more fertile vales of Cheshire, and no situation could be better adapted to give the full effect of the uncommonly fine tone of the bells.

"How Marple obtained its fine bells"—from a report printed in *The Ringing World*, July 9, 1920.

72 YEARS A RINGER

The Western Morning News of July 3 reported that recently many tributes have been paid to Mr. Richard Grylls Collacott at Bradworthy Parish Church (Devon).

An illuminated scroll, presented by the vicar (Rev. H. T. Lingham Lees), was from the bellringers of Bradworthy and the Tamar Valley Guild "in appreciation of 65 years of devoted service as bellringer at Bradworthy, and over 25 years as captain."

A certificate of merit in appreciation of 63 years as a guild ringer was presented to Mr. Collacott, a man "skilled in the art of bellringing." He retired last year at the age of 85, having completed in all about 72 years as a ringer.

PAUL TAYLOR IN AUSTRALIA

(From Ringing Towers.)

Among her many official duties on her Royal Tour of New Zealand and Australia, H.M. the Queen opened the carillon in the new tower at Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra. This, it will be remembered, was built with money given to the Australian Government by its counterpart in the U.K. There is obviously little point in commenting again on the lack of a ring of swinging bells in the project, suffice it now to say that a ring was originally envisaged and that its absence is due mainly to delay on the part of the Australian authorities.

If we did not get a new ring, the opening of the carillon at least brought us a visit from the founder, Paul Taylor, and his charming wife, Merle. They arrived in Perth, where Paul inspected the bells at St. Paul's Cathedral. Next stop was Adelaide, where a very good practice night at the Cathedral was highlighted by a well-struck course of Cambridge Major, the first for some little time.

The following day was spent with visits to St. Cuthbert's, Prospect, where a new ring is to be installed, and to the Town Hall. Here Hervey Bagot and Richard Jolly rang the bells for Paul's inspection. While he was looking over the bells a couple of photographers arrived, beautifully dressed. This is a mistake in the Town Hall belfry, which bears the marks of 105 years of occupation by feathered creatures. One of the photographers managed to get himself stuck in a corner of the belfry, and generally a good time was had by all.

The Taylors' next few days were spent between Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra, with little time spent in any place at any one time. Monday night at Sydney was spent at St. Andrew's Cathedral practice, and afterwards with tower captain Bill Rowe. On the following night Paul met a large group of Sydney ringers at that well-known ringing centre, Enid Roberts' flat. This was a most enjoyable evening, listening to Paul Taylor's stories of ringing, bells and ringers. Wednesday was spent at the Sydney University carillon. On the next day I was able to lunch with the Taylors in Sydney before taking them for Paul to look over the bells at Christ Church, St. Laurence, at Railway Square.

Next stop was to be New Zealand, and then home.

The Adelaide Advertiser published a report on Mr. Taylor's visit to the Town Hall. Mr. Taylor's verdict, after dusting off the grime and pigeon feathers he had collected was "Not very good." The bells should be melted down, remodelled and recast, he said. "I could make them sound beautiful . . . like those at St. Peter's Cathedral, the finest ring in the Southern Hemisphere."

Concluding, he said that his firm did not make the Town Hall bells, but did make those at the Cathedral. It would cost the city about \$5,000 to have the ring of eight recast, and about half as much to just repair the bearings, headstocks and other mechanism. "It is a bad thing when a town hall cannot keep its bells in order. You have one of the few town hall rings in the world. Sooner or later one of two things, or both, will happen. The bellringers will pack up in disgust, because they will be exhausted by the physical strain of ringing, or the worn working parts will break and the headstocks will split."

Mr. Taylor afterwards went to St. Cuthbert's Church, Prospect, to discuss proposals for installing bells there.

Editorial

HOLIDAYS

The holiday season is here and many ringers from various parts of the country will be visiting new areas and doing a little tower-grabbing. In some cases the method ringer will be hoping for a pull with his brother ringers who ring call-changes, but it is doubtful if the latter will, in similar circumstances, be courageous enough to join a "scientific" band.

Whatever your ringing capability, however, if circumstances allow, we ask you to go along to your nearest church with a ring of bells, find out the times of Sunday ringing and be prepared to take a rope, even if it is only for rounds.

Nothing sounds more depressing than three or four bells being chimed when four or five might be rung. The complaint that "most of our band are on holiday" or "we always stop ringing during August" are frequently heard, whereas if a visiting ringer or ringers to that particular town or village had contacted the incumbent or one of the local band the bells could have been kept ringing, even in lesser numbers. In this way, and with forethought and co-operation, the Exercise will be carrying out its main function, which is the ringing of the bells for the church services.

RINGING ON T.V.

The Rev. John Elphinstone Fyfe, of the B.B.C., has been able to arrange that the B.B.C.1 programme "The Ringing Isle", to be shown at 6.15 p.m. on Sunday, August 2, will be repeated at 12.55 p.m. (lunch time) on Monday, August 10. This will enable many people with Sunday duties to see the programme. Please let your incumbent (and others) know. W. G. W.

BRAIN-TEASER

Our band recently rang a splendid peal of Cambridge Major, in spite of our three odd-struck bells, and in our tower that's hard and thirsty work. In the "Stay and Slider" afterwards they quenched their thirst in the traditional way. Each man drank as many pints as the number of the bell he rang, plus an additional number depending on his age. The two in their twenties drank one extra, the two in their thirties two extra, the two in their forties three extra and the two in their fifties four extra. On top of all this, anyone who rang an odd-struck bell was entitled to an extra pint and the conductor to two extra.

I asked Charlie on the following morning who had rung each bell, but all he could tell me was:—

He drank most (exactly twice as much as Fred). George drank nine pints, the ringer of the second six pints, and the tenor ringer ten pints. The ringer of the third drank least. George rang between Harry and Alf. Our veteran, Don, rang the treble. Fred rang an odd-struck bell. Bert rang a heavier bell than Ernie. The conductor was not on the fourth. The number of pints that Harry drank was half the sum of the numbers of the odd-struck bells. Everyone drank a different number of pints.

Of course, I know the age of our ringers, so I had no trouble working it all out, but can you, if I tell you that George is twice as old as Harry?

Answer next week.

Belfry Gossip

Personal Records: Frank Beech (100 peals), Mandi McCallion (50), K. Paul Gilliver (175).

New Conductors: Roger Hippisley (hand-bells), Edward Fletcher.

The band who rang the peal at Chirton, Wilts, on July 4th, were entertained by the Vicar and local ringers afterwards and are grateful to them for their generosity.

It is encouraging to read of youngsters ringing in peals, and this week we record a peal where the average age of the band was 15.7 years and another where 5 of the 6 averaged 17 years.

The 750th anniversary of the granting of the Charter to Stockport was marked by a peal at St. George's, but this was especially arranged and unfortunately further peals are barred, for the time being, at any rate.

To ring a quarter after less than 18 months is quite an achievement for a man over his half century in years, writes a correspondent (a young one, no doubt), but "turned 50" is not old when you reach that "mature age", as we all find out in time!

The first peal of Bristol S. Maximus to be rung in the City of London was rung at St. Mary-le-Bow on July 11, and simultaneously Cambridge S. Maximus was rung at St. Michael's, Cornhill, in connection with the City of London Festival.

First Peal congratulations to Vivian B. Bennett, Edward J. Berridge, D. Andrew Carter, Pamela Hough, P. Graham Walters, J. Robert Jarvis, Timothy Denyer (12), Ian Hiscock, Jacqueline W. Wolfe, Susan Redmond (13).

Yorkshire Surprise Royal was rung to a peal at Southampton, Hants, on July 11, as a thanksgiving for the life of John W. Faithfull, who was captain there for 30 years.

On the eve of the A.G.M. members of the Winchester and Portsmouth D. Guild rang a peal of Spliced Surprise Major named after their Guild at Whitchurch, Hants.

Your old friend (and ours) Mr. Tom White celebrated his 76th birthday on July 22 and is now in good health. Each Sunday he visits his mother (at Woking), who is in her 101st year.

We were glad to welcome to our office on July 21 Mr. and Mrs. Denis Bayles, of Chester-le-Street, Durham, who were on holiday in Hampshire. Denis is a valuable member of the R.W. Committee.

News from America is that Marjorie Batchelor is going to Smith College and will be invaluable to other ringers there. Bill Theobald is hoping to go over himself in September and to help out during his stay.

Miss Doris Weiss, of Chicago, who wrote so appreciatively of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lock's help whilst she was in England, has returned some photographs of church towers which we loaned her, and she adds: "We miss England and its bells greatly."

When the Leatherhead (Surrey) ringers held their annual outing they visited Basingstoke and rang at both churches and after lunching in the town went on to Bramley, Stratfield Mortimer and Yateley. An early return was made, arriving at 7.30 p.m.

Quite a relief to Worcester Schools Society is the end of G.C.E. exams and, to celebrate, three of the G.S. for Girls and three of Kings School got together and rang a quarter of Doubles. (What a wonderful relaxation is bellringing!)

When Marlborough (Wilts) Grammar School had its annual commemoration service at St. Mary's, Marlborough, the school ringers were able to ring a variety of methods including, for the first time, Grandsire and Plain Bob Triples—quite something for a "school" band.

The first quarter peal for Eastbourne Grammar School Society by one past and five present pupils was rung to welcome back Mr. J. Harrison, a master at the school for 39 years, after a serious illness, and as a farewell to Mr. G. D. Buckwell, leaving the school after three years.

Mrs. E. M. Mitchell's 80th birthday was not allowed to pass un-noticed, and peals and quarter peals were attempted. One, at St. Peter's, Brighton, of Grandsire Doubles, was difficult to arrange as so many regulars are away on vacation, but no doubt the effort is appreciated by Mrs. Mitchell.

The Wiffin family were known in the Exercise for many years, and to mark the 73rd birthday of Albert, the only remaining active ringer, the Braintree ringers, with Albert Wiffin on the tenor, rang a quarter to mark the occasion.

A hundred or more ringers attended the Truro Festival, and five towers were available and well used during various hours of the day. The only visible damage was one broken rope—which happened in "extra time"—the tower being open till 8 p.m. and the rope broke at 8.20! (In protest, no doubt!)

The quarter rung at Brill (Bucks) on June 27th was the first family quarter—Mr. R. C. Ingram and Mrs. E. Ingram coming from Birmingham and Mr. R. and Mr. V. Sadowski from Cheltenham to make up the band. The quarter was rung on the first day of the flower festival at Brill.

The boys of King Alfred's School, Wantage, rang the bells of the Parish Church, Wantage, for the end of term service on July 10. It is hoped to ring a peal in the near future, the ringers being either members of staff or former pupils.

Mrs. Gladys Munsey, who travelled all the way down to Alton, Hants, from Peterborough, for the 900th anniversary of the church, was able to claim several new towers (and two new counties) for her collection. She had to leave her home very early to make the long journey and returned on the 11.45 p.m. train to reach home during the early hours of Sunday. All very worthwhile, she said, but she could not understand why others living in a 20-30 miles radius of Alton did not make the effort.

One reason offered by a ringer 10 miles from Alton was that 6s. 6d. for high tea was too expensive. Several ringers were taking a picnic tea, it is understood, but did that necessitate non-attendance at the church service? The ringers at Alton are a keen Sunday service band, loyally supporting their church and going around to other village towers to help keep the bells going.

Face flatterer and backbiter are the same.—Tennyson.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF CHANGE RINGERS

By ROBIN BROWN

ON January 31, 1970, after 14 months of discussions and negotiations, the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society was formally dissolved and immediately reborn as the Leeds and District Branch of the Yorkshire Association. Thus ended an 81-year period in which the Society and the Association had coexisted, sometimes on amicable terms and sometimes on anything but! Certainly there can be little doubt that friction within the Association helped to give rise to the District Society. Conversations the writer has had with old ringers who knew the founder members have inevitably come round to the subject of rivalries, and an entry in the minute book for September, 1890, echoes this: on the Association's move to introduce prize ringing on church bells it was resolved "that the Yorkshire Association be left to manage its own business" and added, in a different hand (probably that of Bob Binns), "if it ever could"! Evidence of clashes appears throughout the Society's history. Even in the 1960s the formation of the Joint Council of Yorkshire Ringing Societies was feared by some to be an insidious "takeover bid" by the Association! And in 1968, when the idea of the present merger was first mooted, there was strong opposition from a small group. It seems auspicious for the new branch, however, that differences of opinion were so reconciled that the final motion to fuse with the Association was carried unanimously.

After an exploratory meeting the previous Sunday the Leeds and District Society came into being on March 30, 1889, with Tom Lockwood, of Leeds, as its president. The inaugural meeting, which was held in the Old Nag's Head Inn opposite their church, was called "at the instigation of the Leeds Parish Church company." Towers represented were Bramley, Headingley St. Chad's, Holbeck, Leeds, Pudsey and Rothwell, and of these Headingley, Pudsey and Rothwell maintained a continuous association with the Society until its dissolution.

By May, 1889, membership had topped 60, but early the following year only six or eight ringers were attending the meetings. Interest was revived; August saw over 40 members at Armley and by mid-1891 the Society was flourishing. Nevertheless, these early vicissitudes foreshadowed the pattern of the Society's history. By 1903 there were 120 members; in 1938 249; in 1957 255 (although only 104 were paid up). At the time of dissolution there were exactly a hundred paid up members. In contrast, the years 1923-5, 1948 and the mid-1960s were very bleak periods. In 1924-5, indeed, the Society had no officers, apart from the secretary, and must have been very near to folding up.

The original district was an area with a six-mile radius from Leeds City Square, but a provision for selecting towers outside this area led to a rapid spread of activities. Otley was visited in 1891 and Harrogate in 1892. Both became regular towers and, in a different direction, Shipley held regular meetings from 1901 onwards. The 1904 (June) invitation meeting was held at Hull! In January, 1893, it was agreed that each member be allowed sixpence as expenses for the Otley meeting. Fears about the possible repercussions of such a decision led to a motion preventing any backdating of expenses and finally to a rescinding of the rule in January, 1894.

Meetings were held on the last Saturday in every month, although the December meeting was almost always transferred to early January and was eventually dropped. Ringing in the early days was generally by companies, Rule IX providing the "steward in charge" with power "to call on any member of the committee present, to make out any company who are unable to make up a full set." Long touches were the order of the day: 720s were common and one or two date touches were rung! In November, 1891, prior to general ringing, a peal was attempted at the meeting tower (Pudsey) and this established a custom which, in spite of some opposition and various interruptions, was not finally abolished until September, 1927. It is difficult to see how, under these circumstances, the original object of the Society, "to mutually assist each other in the advancement of the Art of change-ringing," could ever be realised, and thus not surprising to find the following minuted in 1902: a long discussion "as to whether the Society . . . had ever carried out the object for which it was formed, but too much personality being introduced . . . the Chairman was obliged to apply the closure."

On the credit side, the meetings seem to have been a great success in another respect. For many years the business meetings were invariably held in a pub and were followed by long and much-enjoyed social sessions, with handbell ringing, both changes and tunes, and vocal contributions among the regular features.

In 1894 the Society became affiliated to the Central Council and was regularly represented until 1921 when it "temporarily" withdrew its membership. In fact it was never represented again: when the Council approached the Society in 1927 a motion to reaffiliate was defeated.

Traditionally the Society seems to have been strongly opposed to striking competitions of any kind. Its reaction to a Yorkshire Association proposal in 1890 has already been mentioned and a proposal that it should introduce its own contest was defeated in 1907. When, in 1966, the writer proposed that the Society support a joint council striking contest, his motion received only two votes; yet exactly a year later the same motion was accepted and as a result the Society organised its own competition in both 1968 and 1969. So successful was the venture that it is to continue as an annual event in the new branch. A pewter tankard, as a trophy, has been presented to Mr. and Mrs. R. Cater. There seems a light irony in the fact that in the 1969 joint council contest the Leeds Society came second, beaten only by the Halifax District experts from Roughtown.

The golden jubilee of the Society in 1939 was celebrated with a service in Leeds Parish Church, followed by a "hotpot" supper, for which members paid 1s. 9d. each; 120 members attended, at least four of them being founder members. A peal of Bob Major, composed by the first president, was rung at Burley by past and present officers, being conducted by William Barton, of Pudsey, who 32 years later also conducted the final peal for the Society at St. Chad's, Far Headingley having by that time been a member for 56 years.

In spite of its varied fortunes, the Leeds and District Society may fairly be said to have played, eventually, a leading role in

"PULL THE OTHER ONE"

Under this heading in a local newspaper a householder put all sorts of reasons forward for a rate reduction, but it was refused. The article said: "The bells of St. Mary's, Oldswinford, ring out loud and clear—but they are too loud and peal for too long."

A 26-year-old accounting analyst, Mr. A. Telford, was asking for a reduction in the rate assessment on his three-storey house in Chawn Park Drive. The church was 250 yards away from his house but the bells often drowned the television.

"I think they are so monotonous," he said. "It is the same thing over and over again and they go on for hours at a time. I think some of them might be cracked."

He agreed that he felt the view of the church outweighed nuisance from the bells.

Mr. Telford, who also spoke for three neighbours, claimed that the church spire caused "ghosting" on the TV picture.

The chairman said the panel felt that the objection to the church could hardly have been made seriously.

If allowance were made to every property within 250 yards of a church, it would affect the large proportion of homes in the country.

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED

During a recent peal of Eastwood S. Major at St. Mary's, Reading, the ringers heard a chorus of young people loudly bellowing below and feared that they were "after their blood." When they descended the stairs they discovered a Conservative election meeting at the base of the tower and the speaker being subjected to rough verbal treatment. Trying to overcome both the hostile audience and the bells ringing overhead must have been quite a problem. Later that evening (June 6) some of the band heard their efforts on the TV news during an election round-up, and the incident was repeated immediately after the election. One, at least, of the ringers concerned enjoyed a second hearing. W. B.

the advancement of ringing in the area. It has had its due share of both highly talented and colourful ringers. Yet first and foremost in its ranks stands one who qualified at neither extreme but who, by long and unstinting dedication to his task, brought the Society from the verge of extinction into the most flourishing state it has known. Harry Lofthouse, of Armley, became secretary of the Society in 1923, when times were so hard that it was unable to purchase new membership cards without pleading for payment of subscriptions. When he relinquished the post, exactly 30 years later, there were 230 members, of whom 163 were fully paid up, and the balance sheet (on an annual subscription of sixpence) showed assets of over £23. From taking office he went seven years before he missed a meeting and in his 30 years as secretary missed only 12 times altogether. In May, 1937, he organised what was believed to be the "first service of its kind ever held"—a ringers' Communion service. He was made a vice-president in 1954 and was president from 1955-57. He died in 1960. There was no secret or complex formula for Harry's success: he was a perfect gentleman. Perhaps the greatest tribute to his work was implicit in the fact that by 1953 the Society had come to be known affectionately as "Lofty's L. and D."

(To be concluded)

Notices

SCALE OF CHARGES

5/- for 30 words (minimum), each additional word 2d.; Meeting Notices—3 insertions the price of 2.
Display Advertisements: 7/6 per inch single column; 1/- page £3; 1/- page £5/10; Whole page £10. Reduction for block bookings (on application) 65 screen for half-tones.

BIRTHS

HARDY.—To Katherine (née Maylott) and Bob, on July 17, 1970, a daughter, Anne Melinda, at St. Albans City Hospital. 9319

LAND.—On June 30, to Gordon and Pauline (née Lansley), at Keynsham Maternity Unit, Bristol, God's gift of a daughter, Jennifer Lesley. 9313

PERSONAL

Excellent speech becometh not a fool; much less do lying lips a prince. (Proverbs XVII: 17)

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

Two sets: (1) 39 bells, E20 to F05 sharp, good condition; (2) 15 bells, F19 to 7D, foundry condition. Offers to J. P. Partridge, 1 Bankfield Lane, Rochdale, Lancs. 9320

HANDBELLS WANTED

Set of 10 or more handbells for change ringing. Write giving full details of condition and price to G. Nabb, Bell Lane, Cossington, Bridgwater, Somerset. 9325

Would buy single or set. Also music required and information on handbell ringing and care of bells, etc. 9312

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

MID-DEVON.—Bed, breakfast and dinner. Good centre for touring. Mrs. A. Fidler, "Highcroft", Bow, Crediton. Also 4-berth caravan at Sandymouth Bay, near Bude.—Vacancies September. Bow 379. 9302

DORSET, near MILTON ABBEY.—B. and B. 20s. Evening meal 7s. 6d. Mrs. Dunford, Hambledon Cottage, Hilton, Blandford, Dorset. Homely accommodation in heart of lovely countryside. Indoor sanitation. Full terms on application. 8998

MISCELLANEOUS

LECKHAMPTON, GLOS.—Owing to state of frame and tower, Sunday ringing, 9.15-10 a.m. ONLY. No Monday practices until Sept. 7th. Belfry Repair contributions to E. J. Taylor, 43, Prince's Road, Cheltenham. 9334

PEAL BOARDS.—Hand-lettered to your specification. Prices: approximately 14 gns. for a 2ft. by 3ft. board.—Andrew Allen, 10 Highgate, Penwortham Hill, Preston, Lancs. 9324

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Preliminary notice. Striking competition will be held on October 24th at Ripponden. 9327

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Aldershot Tower: Sunday service ringing at Aldershot Tower has been cancelled for Aug. 16, 23 and 30. Similarly, Thursday evening practices have been cancelled for Aug. 20 and 27.—S. J. Tate-Mitchell, Tower Sec. 9281

EVENING MEETINGS AND PRACTICES

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Sat., Aug. 8, Fulbourn (8), 6 p.m. onwards.—J. S. 9286

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Evening meeting, Wicken, Sat., Aug. 1. Bells (5) from 6.30-8.30 p.m. Special methods: Winchendon Place and New Bob. 9303

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—North-east District.—Evening meeting, Sat., Aug. 1, at Walkern (6), 5.30-7 p.m.; Ardeley (6), 7-8.30 p.m. Everyone welcome. 9306

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Evening meeting at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (8) 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Note.—There will be no ringing at Whitworth on this day.—G. Cheatham. 9321

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—An evening meeting will be held at Queniborough on Saturday, August 8th. Ringing from 6 p.m. until 8.30 p.m. A business meeting will be held in church at 7 p.m. 9277

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Monmouth Branch.—Evening practice meeting, Fri., July 31, Usk. Bells 7.30-9 p.m. Methods: Double Norwich and Surprise. 9270

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Practice meeting, St. Giles-in-the-Fields (one minute from Tottenham Court Road tube station), Mon., Aug. 3, 7 p.m. 9297

SUFFOLK GUILD.—North West District.—Induction of new rector, Rev. J. E. Ruttford, at Walsham-le-Willows (6) on Friday evening, Aug. 7. Service 7.30. Ringing from 6.30 before and after service. Ringers welcome.—A. F. B. 9291

WINCHESTER and PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—District practice, SS. Peter and Paul, Hambledon, Friday, August 7th, 7.30 till 9 p.m. Methods: Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Plain Bob Minor. 9275

AFTERNOON MEETINGS

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Warwick Archdeacons.—Monthly meeting, Sat., Aug. 1, Great Woolford. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. M. Windsor, 5 Park Lane, Harbury, Leamington Spa (phone: Harbury 504). Evening ringing at Long Compton. Bells (6) 7-8.30 p.m.—R. A. S. 9234

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting, Belchamp St. Paul (6), Sat., Aug. 1. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea, business and further ringing. Numbers for tea to C. H. Gillingham, 69 Mount Road, Braintree. 9280

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Meeting, Hawley, Sat., Aug. 1. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. D. Jennings, 74 Chapel Lane, Farnborough, by previous Wed., please.—S. J. Tate-Mitchell, Dis. Sec. 9282

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting at St. James', Poolstock, Wigan (8), Saturday, August 1st, at 3 p.m. Service, tea at 5, followed by business meeting and evening ringing. Special methods: Grandsire Triples, Superlative Surprise. All very welcome.—C. D'Aeth, Hon. Sec. 9323

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District.—Meeting, Sat., Aug. 1, Cranford (6), 3-4.45 p.m. Tea and short business meeting at Heston Church Hall (adjoining church) 5. Heston bells (8) 6.30-8.30 p.m. All welcome.—C. H. R. 9292

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Quarterly meeting at Withyham (8). Aug. 1. Bells 3 p.m. Service 6. Picnic tea. Meeting 6 in belfry. Ringing in the evening until 8.30 p.m.—Jean Osbon, Div. Sec. 9295

DEVON GUILD.—N. and N.W. Branch.—Summer meeting, Stratton (Cornwall), Sat., Aug. 8. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea. Names, please, to Mr. R. Pearce, by Mon., Aug. 3, Buttsbeer Cross, Bridgerule, Holsworthy (Tel.: Bridgerule 210). 9309

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, August 8, at Speldhurst (8). Ringing 3 p.m. Please make own arrangements for tea. Evening ringing from 6.30.—M. A. Large (Hon. Sec.). 9318

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Stroud Branch.—Meeting, Eastington/Stonehouse, Sat., August 15th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at Eastington. Names for tea to P. Birt, "Lynholme", Rack Hill, Chalford, Stroud, Glos. 9322

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Joint meeting of Manchester and Rossendale Branches on August 15 at All Saints', Stand (Whitefield), from 3 p.m. Tea at 5, followed by evening ringing at St. Mary's, Radcliffe. Names for tea to Mr. G. O. Sanders, 7 Mountbatten Close, Unsworth, Bury, BL9 8PU, no later than Mon., August 10.—P. Dyson, Rossendale Sec. 9311

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Joint Preston and Wigan Branch meeting on Sat., August 15th, at Tarleton (8). Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Further ringing after business meeting. Cups of tea but please bring own food. Special methods: Ealing S.M. and St. Clement's Bob Triples.—C. D'Aeth, D. G. Lawson, Branch Secs. 9317

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Meeting at Cartmel on Sat., Aug. 8th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. J. Nelson, "South View", Cartmel, Grange-over-Sands, Lancs.—T. F. Metcalfe. 9284

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davenry Branch.—Meeting at Newnham (6) on Sat., August 8th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Ringing at Badby (6) 7 onwards. Names for tea to Mr. P. Box, "Boxmoor", Newnham, not later than Wednesday.—I. Webb. 9330

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bingham District.—August 8th, Willoughby-on-the-Wolds. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Nether Broughton 3 to 4. Names for tea to W. L. Exton, "St. Queens", Whetton, by Wed. previous. 9327

SUFFOLK GUILD.—North East District.—Quarterly meeting at Fressingfield on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. L. E. Etheridge, Willow House, Fressingfield, Diss, Norfolk, by Wednesday, August 5th.—T. N. J. B. 9333

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, August 8th. Fittleworth (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Petworth (8) 6 p.m.—8 p.m. Please make own arrangements for tea. 9332

FLOWER FESTIVAL

BENHALL ST. MARY'S, SUFFOLK

August 29th, 30th and 31st.

Festival Service, 6.30 p.m., Sunday, 30th. Bells open daily, 2-9 p.m. 9321

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS (Northampton Branch)

On Saturday, October 3rd, 1970

FESTIVAL OF MUSIC ON HANDBELLS and

GRAND BAZAAR

to be held at

Moulton School, Northants.

Teams wishing to take part should contact Mr. B. R. Care, 12 Parade Bank, Moulton.

Proceeds from this event for the P.D.G.

Bell Restoration Fund.

All welcome.

9310

ST. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH NORTHFLEET, KENT

Saturday, August 15th

50th ANNIVERSARY OF DEDICATION OF TWO TREBLES IN 1920

AND

LAUNCHING OF APPEAL FOR £4,500

FOR RESTORATION AND AUGMENTATION TO TEN

Service 4.15 p.m.

(Conducted by the Rev. Stanley Evans)

Ringing from 2.30 p.m. and during the evening. Light refreshments available.

ALL WELCOME.

9331

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern Branch)

A joint meeting with the BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT and the SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES

will be held at

Thrybergh (6), 15.00-16.30,

Wath-on-Deane (8), 18.30 onwards,

on Saturday, August 1.

Tea, followed by a short business meeting, will be held at Wath-on-Deane at 17.00, and those requiring teas should notify A. Colin Banton, 194 Gleadless Common, Sheffield, S12 2US (Tel.: 390557), by the previous Thursday (July 30). Everyone is cordially invited. 9274

CUMBERLAND AND NORTH WESTMORLAND ASSOCIATION

CROSTHWAITE, KESWICK,
FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS, MUSIC and DRAMA
July 30 to August 2

Joint branch ringing meeting on Sat., Aug. 1.
Bells available throughout the day except for
short periods for prayers in church.

Refreshments available in school adjoining.
J. W. Brownrigg, Gen. Sec. 9240

9th ANZAB RINGING FESTIVAL

The entry in the Ringer's Diary for June 13, 1970, states "Anzac Festival Starts, Sydney." This was technically the 9th Annual Festival of Ringing held by the Australian and New Zealand Association of Bellringers, and what a successful week-end it turned out to be!

It was in 1966 that the ANZAB Festival was last held in Sydney and many of those attending this year vividly remembered the amount of rain that fell on that occasion. However, any fears of a similar fate soon disappeared, as Sydney turned on its best and brightest autumn weather to greet the nearly 70 ringers present.

The week-end (unofficially) began on the Friday, when ringers from Adelaide, Melbourne and Ballarat flew or drove to Sydney and joined with the local ringers at Turramurra for their weekly practice. Also present was New Zealand's representative, Mike Clayton, who had been in Sydney for several weeks. We knew that John Smith had flown down from New Guinea, and his father, Sid Smith, had come up from Hobart. After an enjoyable practice, visitors were invited to Tom and Margaret Goodyer's for supper.

TELEVISED

Saturday dawned bright and clear as we met at St. Andrew's Cathedral. Ringing was on the relatively new Taylor 10 (tenor 29 cwt.) and ranged from rounds to Stedman. During the morning two commercial television stations sent their cameras to film the ringing, and we were able to see ourselves on both channels that evening.

We again met at St. Andrew's after lunch to be officially welcomed by the president of the N.S.W. Association, Ralph Clark. To enable everyone to ring in the nine towers open, the ringers divided into two groups, each following a pre-arranged programme. On Saturday Group 1 rang at St. James', Turramurra (6, 9 cwt.), All Saints', Parramatta (6, 10 cwt.) and St. Paul's, Burwood (8, 11 cwt.) Group 2 rang at St. Andrew's and then followed Group 1 to Turramurra and Parramatta. Impressions of the ringing were getting in and out of cars, crossing the Harbour Bridge, short cuts round Sydney and bells! bells! and more bells!

THE DINNER

The annual dinner was held that evening at Manning House, Sydney University. About 60 ringers attended and ANZAB president Jack Roper, who was accompanied by his wife, presided. Guests were Dean Marley (St. Mary's Basilica) and the Rev. and Mrs. Johnstone (St. Jude's, Randwick). An excellent four-course meal was served and Ralph Clark acted as toastmaster. Dean Marley proposed the toast to "The Association" in an amusing speech and expressed the churches' thanks to the ringers for their services. Replying, the president said it was their duty to ring for Sunday service and to practise during the week in order to become more proficient in their art. "The Visitors" was proposed by Ralph Clark, who asked inter-State

visitors from each tower to stand as their names were called. He welcomed the ringers to Sydney, and congratulations were offered to Willie Watson and his fiancé for their wedding the following Tuesday. Replying for the visitors, ANZAB secretary, Mike Scowen, expressed thanks for the excellent arrangements and read a letter from Andrew and Shirley Bolton in England. During the evening it transpired that there were now only three members who had attended all nine ANZAB dinners — Jack and Gwen Roper and Willie Watson.

Sunday morning saw service ringing at St. Andrew's and St. Paul's, Burwood. After an early lunch everyone met outside St. Mary's Basilica and negotiated the 111 steps and the catwalk without much difficulty. Ringing took place on the Mears eight (25 cwt.) and later the ringers again divided into two groups for the remaining Sydney towers. Group 1 faced St. Benedict's, Broadway (6, 16 cwt.), St. Mark's, Darling Point (8, 8 cwt.), and St. Philip's, Sydney (8, 20 cwt.), followed by a choice of service ringing at Parramatta or Burwood. Group 2 continued at St. Mary's and then followed the first group with service ringing at St. Jude's, Randwick. By the end of the afternoon everyone had had enough, St. Benedict's and St. Philip's having taken their toll. (The writer suffered ignominious defeat at the hands of the 4th at St. Benedict's, when it dropped like a stone immediately after being pulled off, and all his efforts to get it back up were of no avail.)

1972 FESTIVAL IN NEW ZEALAND

After service ringing, all dashed into the city to rendezvous in Enid Roberts' flat for the A.G.M., 42 members being present and business proceeding briskly. The results of the postal vote on the proposed new constitution (70% Yes, 29% No) had been circulated and the constitution is effective as from April 14, 1970. Officers elected were: President, John Cummins; secretary, Michael Scowen; treasurer, Ross

Bampton; peal secretary, Ralph Clark; Ringing Towers editor, Richard Jolly. Following Ralph Clarke's resumé of what was involved in visiting New Zealand and Mike Clayton's invitation to a visit, it was unanimously agreed that the ANZAB Festival be held there in May, 1972. Next year's Festival is to be in Ballarat and Bendigo on the Queen's birthday week-end in June. The meeting closed at 10 p.m. and an excellent supper followed.

THE BARBECUE

The final day was the best as far as weather was concerned and also for hospitality. There was ringing at St. Andrew's and this was followed by what the programme called "Surprise Major Ringing." Apart from some Superlative and Cambridge, however, Grandsire and Stedman Caters were rung!

The highlight of the day was when all boarded the chartered ferry at Circular Quay and took a short cruise to Clark Island in Sydney Harbour. Here our hosts had prepared the traditional ANZAB barbecue in a setting where the sky was cloudless, the Harbour Bridge towered in the background and the waves gently lapped at the edge of the island. Vast quantities of chops, sausages and salad were consumed and there was a cruise around the harbour before finally returning to the quay, where most of the farewells were said and visitors started on their long trek home.

A few staying on in Sydney met that evening at St. Andrew's and St. Mary's for the weekly practice and, following custom, later found themselves eating and drinking in Enid Roberts' flat. Five other intrepid ringers decided to go to Maitland for their evening practice and after a 260-mile round trip were back in Sydney by 11 p.m.

Thus another successful ANZAB week-end came to a close. Our thanks go to all New South Wales ringers who worked so hard and with such enthusiasm to make the week-end the success it proved to be.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT

Annual Music Festival

April, 1971.

This will include for the first time a Tune Handbell Ringing Section with the W. W. Worthington Challenge Cup as the prize. This will be held for one year and returned for the ensuing contest each year. Each team will ring two tunes of their own choice and then any variation of "The Ashgrove" will be the set piece.

THE DATE will be SATURDAY, APRIL 17th, 1971.

THE PLACE: THE TOWN HALL, BURTON-UPON-TRENT.
(Seats 800)

Apply **MRS. S. J. GILL** (Hon. Sec.), "CONEY GREY", SOUTH HILL,
ROLLESTON-ON-DOVE, BURTON-UPON-TRENT.

LATE NOTICES

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

COBB.—As from August 4th the address of Lewis F. Cobb will be: 45, Kennett Avenue, Swindon. 9343

SMITH.—Pauline, Alan, Rachel and Caroline may now be contacted c/o P.W.D., Western Division, Lautoka, Fiji (phone: 61432). 9339

STRACEY.—Michael, Betty and family have now moved from Chippenham, Wilts, to 13 Yatesbury Road, Carterton, Oxford. 9341

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District. — Meeting, Aug. 8, at Amptill. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea and meeting in Church Hall at 5 p.m.—A. H. Smith. 9338

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETY.—Joint with Yorkshire Association, Eastern District. Saturday, Aug. 8, Flamborough and Bridlington. Flamborough bells 3.30-4.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Bridlington Priory bells 7-8.30. Names for tea to Miss C. Atkinson, Ca Manor, Southsea Road, Flamborough, Yorks. 9344

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District. — Evening meeting, Sat., Aug. 8, Aspenden (8), 6.30-9 p.m.—S. E. James, Dis. Sec. 9342

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District. — Meeting, Tring, Aug. 8. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Miss Theresa Wright, 66, Dundale Road, Tring, Herts. 9337

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District. Surprise practice at Christ Church, Epsom, on Wed., Aug. 5, 2000-2115 hours. Methods: London, Rutland, Yorkshire and Cambridge. 9345

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District. — At a district committee meeting on June 20 at Stoke D'Abernon, Peter J. Munday was appointed district master for the remainder of the year, following the resignation of Alan Smith. 9346

CROYDON RINGING FESTIVAL

Arrangements are well in hand for this event which takes place on September 12th, and five routes leading to St. John's, Croydon, have been worked out, with ringing at towers during the morning and afternoon. **Route 1** starts at East Grinstead, on to Lingfield, Bletchingley, Godstone and Nutfield. **Route 2:** Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Edenbridge, Westerham, W. Wickham and Addington. **Route 3:** Fulham, Putney, Battersea, Tooting Graveney and Streatham. **Route 4:** Cripplegate, Southwark, Camberwell, Lewisham and Beckenham. **Route 5:** Guildford, Merrow Cobham, Leatherhead, Banstead, Croydon (two churches) and Beddington.

A time-table, map of the area and other information available from K. Taber, 17 Birdhurst Rise, S. Croydon, CR2 7EG, Surrey.

FRONT COVER—continued

THE BELLS AND INSCRIPTIONS

- Treble.—6½ cwt. Wm COCKEY BELL FOUNDER 1724.
 2.—7½ cwt. Wm COCKEY BELL FOUNDER 1724.
 3.—9½ cwt. IOSIAH AMES & TIMOTHY LACY CHURCHWARDENS. 1788 (2 roses). Wm. BILBIE CHEWSTOKE FECIT (seven roses with decoration between).
 4.—11½ cwt. (Fleur-de-lys border.) I AM HEE FOR IOHN LOTT MADE MEE ANNODO MI NI 1624 (vine border). (Fleur-de-lys) CP on waist.
 5.—14 cwt. (Fleur-de-lys border.) WATER BEARENS ION PHITMAN C W ANNODO MI NI 1624 (John Lott). (Vine border) I L (Fleur-de-lys) (cp) on waist.
 6.—17½ cwt. Mr Wm BARTON & Mr. IOSEPH CLAUZY Ch Wds Wm COCKEY BELL FOUNDER 1746.
 7.—THE RIGHT REVd THE LORD BISHOP OF EXETER VICAR (rose) ROBT. BLUNT & GEO: GEORGE CHURCH WARDENS. ROBT. WELLS ALDBOURN WILTS FECIT 1792 (on soundbow).
 Tenor.—31 cwt. WILLIAM WHITCHVRCH ANDREW ROGERS C W D 1662 I L (John Lott). (Royal Arms) on waist.

Ladies' Guild.

MRS. MITCHELL'S BIRTHDAY

On July 4 eight members of the Ladies' Guild met at Henfield, Sussex, to pay tribute to one of their number, Mrs. E. M. Mitchell, a founder member of the guild, who was keen to ring a peal for her 80th birthday. We were met at the church by the incumbent, who was until recently at the church Mrs. Mitchell attends in Southwick, who led us in prayer before we started for a peal of Stedman Triples.

Unfortunately we were not successful (through no fault of Mrs. Mitchell), but we then rang a quarter of Stedman to honour the occasion. Those taking part were: Joan Beresford (cond.) 1, Mrs. E. M. Mitchell 2, Mary R. Andrews 3, Jean M. Pike 4, Susan E. M. Davis 5, Freda Cannon 6, Doris Colgate 7, Anne Horsford 8. Then, although we did not deserve it, we were royally entertained to tea at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cruttenden, and any ringer who has ever had tea at Henfield will know what this means. We finished the meal with portions of birthday cake, beautifully decorated with silver bells and golden bellropes, made by Mrs. Mitchell's daughter. D.C.

REPORT OF THE TOWERS AND BELFRIES COMMITTEE FOR 1969

The number of enquiries received by the Committee during 1969 shows a slight decrease on the previous year but nevertheless is the second highest yearly total on record. Advice on bell and tower restoration was given by members of the Committee in 1969 in one hundred and twenty-nine churches. Sixteen enquiries were dealt with by correspondence; the remainder necessitated visits to the churches concerned.

As has been the custom for many years the report of the Committee's work has been compiled by the Convenor from statistics sent in by its members, and a brief summary is appended.

The 129 churches in which advice was given may be analysed geographically thus:

Bedfordshire (A.J.F.), 3; Berkshire (F.S.), 11; Buckinghamshire (F.S.), 9; Cambridgeshire (B.D.T.), 1; Carmarthenshire (F.S.), 1; Cheshire (B.D.T.), 1; Derbyshire (F.S.), 1; Devon (J.G.M.S.), 20; Dorset (F.E.C.), 4; Essex (A.J.F.), 1; Gloucestershire (F.S., B.D.T.) 8; Glamorganshire (T.M.R.), 4; Hampshire (F.E.C., F.S.), 4; Herefordshire (F.S.), 5; Hertfordshire (A.J.F.), 1; Huntingdonshire (B.D.T.), 1; Lancashire (A.J.F.), 1; Leicestershire (F.S.), 1; Lincolnshire (J.F.), 3; London (A.J.F.), 6; Monmouthshire (T.M.R.), 1; Northamptonshire (B.R., A.J.F., F.S.), 6; Oxfordshire (F.S.), 1; Shropshire (F.S.), 1; Somerset (H.J.S.), 21; Sussex (F.E.C.), 1; Warwickshire (F.S.), 3; Wiltshire (F.E.C., F.S.), 3; Worcestershire (F.S.), 2; Yorkshire (F.S.), 4. Total: 30 counties, 129 churches.

In addition the Convenor met by appointment archdeacons in three separate dioceses to discuss bell restoration, and gave evidence on two occasions in Consistory Courts. He also accepted the invitation by the Dean of Gloucester to serve on the Conservation Committee of the Council for The Care of Churches.

The work of the Committee may be further analysed as follows:

Advice given on: Maintenance of existing bell gear, 87 churches; Recasting cracked or unsatisfactory bells, 16; Augmentation of rings, 14; Repair of existing frames and gear, 24; Rehang- ing bells with near gear, 40; Installation of new bell frames, 23; Tuning, 27; Oscillation of towers and structural repairs to masonry, 53; Bell acoustics and sound control, 55; Sale of redundant bells, 2; Transfer of bells due to redundancy, 3; Replacement of stolen bell, 1; Welding, 1; Electronic "bells", 1; Installation of ringers' gallery, 1.

Seventeen lectures have been given to Diocesan, Architectural and Professional organisations and Resident Ringing Courses. In addition members have when requested addressed Parochial Church Councils on many occasions. Con-

25 YEARS AGO

Taken from *The Ringing World* for July 27, 1945

"The Manchester Cathedral bellringers were engaged in one of their crazy endurance festivals, and the sound of the bells soared and tumbled, crashed and surged, setting a maelstrom of sound awash."—"Hard Facts" by Howard Spring.

At Bradford Cathedral, Leslie W. G. Morris conducted Kent Royal in which Frederick W. Rushworth rang his first of Royal.

At Loughborough bellfoundry Arthur Fidler rang his first peal—the treble to Grandsire Triples, his father, John P., ringing the second and Ernest Morris conducting from the 7th.

A handbell peal of Bob Royal at Burgess Hill was rung by Mrs. E. A. Barnett (first on 10) 1-2, Frank I. Hairs 3-4, Edwin A. Barnett 5-6, George W. Cecil (first on 10 in hand) 7-8 and Mrs. F. I. Hairs 9-10. E. A. Barnett conducted.

Wilfrid F. Moreton rang his first handbell peal of Minor with Betty Spice and John E. Spice (in 16 methods).

A quarter of Grandsire Triples at Stratford-on-Avon was rung by R. Hands, V. B. Hunt, A. Print, R. Chapman, H. Price, F. Lyne, C. R. Steed and D. Stanley.

"To the Norwich ringers belongs the credit of extending it (Stedman) from Doubles to Triples and then to Caters and Cinques."—Leader.

50 YEARS AGO

July 30, 1920

At the same time the Central Council will have to take some steps to settle once and for all—if that is really possible—the differences that exist among its own experts upon some points in connection with the principles of ringing—differences, the existence of which shake the confidence of the Exercise in the competence of any body of legislators to lay down rules.—Leader.

Frank Perrins conducted a peal of Stedman Cinques at Wolverhampton and Sgt. George Gilbert conducted one of Minor at Puttenham in which the Misses Hilda and Bertha Mills, of Aldershot, rang their first peal.

Although the Bath and Wells Association had a balance of £74 it was decided to double the subscriptions from 1/- to 2/- and no peal booking fee to be charged.

The new ring at Lowestoft, recently dedicated, have inscriptions "Dedicated to Lowestoft Fishermen," "The Drifters' Bell," "The Trawlers' Bell," "The Gallant Dead, 1914-18" and "... Skipper Thomas Crisp, V.C., of the trawler Nelson."

The new ring at Pontefract was dedicated by the Bishop of Beverley, and the Mayor and Corporation also attended.

It was proposed to restore the ancient use of the Peace Bell on Fridays at noon in the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, as a perpetual memorial to the fallen.

FREDERICK SHARPE (Convenor), F.S.A., F.B., F.I.O.B.

B. Austin, A.R.I.B.A.
 F. E. Collins, M.J.Inst.E.
 J. Freeman, M.I.Mun.E.
 A. J. Frost, A.R.I.B.A.
 H. J. Sanger
 J. G. M. Scott, M.A.
 T. M. Roderick, N.A.M.M.
 B. D. Threlfall, M.A., M.I.C.E.

siderable progress has been made on the production of the proposed two new handbooks and it is hoped to go to press with these this year.

Methods now rung for the first time.
(A) New Methods

Blackley
—3t—16—56—3t—14—3t—14—145t—36
—145t—36—hl et lh 12 b

Buckfast
—3t—16—56—3t—14—5t—16—7t—18
—9t—30—hl 1t lh 12 a

Dunsmore
5t—5t.14—5t—36.14.9t.14.58.9t.14.9t.70.
18—18.9t—18—hl 1t lh 12 b

Elkington
—30—14—5t—36—1470—58—369t—
30.14.58.14.7t.14.36.14. hl et lh 12 b

Lilbourne
38—36.1478—12.7t.36.14—14.5t.16—16.
7t.14.58.14.9t.14—14. hl 9t lh 12 f

Ribbleton
36—56.14.5t—5t.16—34—58—1256—1470
—14.56.149t—14—hl 1t lh 12 b

Twickenham
—5t—16—12—36—14—3t—16—3t—36
—3t—36—hl 3t lh 12 f

Note.—This method is the extension of Wembley Surprise Royal but can not carry the name Wembley since the extension of Wembley Surprise Major to Maximus has already been named and rung.

Welford
—5t—16—56—3t—34—3t—14—5t—16—
7t—10—hl 9t lh 12 b

Wensleydale
—3t—14—5t—16—127t—18—12—3t—14
—5t—16—hl et lh 12 b

(B) Methods Extended from Major

Cornwall
—56—14—56—3t—14—5t—14—5t—14—
5t—14—hl 5t lh 1t l

Cotswold
—5t—16—127t—1238—149t—1450—36—
167t—58—189t—70—hl et lh 12 b

Essex
—5t—14.5t—5t.16—14—3t.14—14.5t.14—
14.5t.14—14. hl 5t lh 1t h

Jedburgh
—5t—16—7t—18—9t—10—90—10—78—
7t—10—hl 9t lh 12 b

Leominster
34—34.16—56—3t—14—3t—36—5t—36—
5t—36—hl 5t lh 1t m

New Gloucester
56—56.14.78—78.36.90.12.90.58—349t—
70—56—9t—78—hl 1t lh 1t m

Preston
36—56.14.5t—5t.16—34—58—12—70—
12—9t—12—hl 1t lh 12 b

Shropshire
3t—3t.14—12—36—12—58—12—70.14—
14.9t.14—14. hl 3t lh 12 b

Trafalgar
—34—145t—56—16—14—3t—16—5t—18
—7t—10—hl 9t lh 12 b

Trowbridge
—5t—14—12—3t—12—3t—14—5t—16—
7t—10—hl 9t lh 12 b

Verulam
36—56.14.5t—5t.36—14—58.14—14.70.14
—14.9t.14—14. hl 3t lh 12 b

Xenia
—5t—16—5t—18—7t—10—9t—10—78—
7t—70—hl 1t lh 12 a

Zelah
—3t—14—125t—36—347t—1458—569t—
1670—78—189t—10—hl et lh 12 b

(C) Methods Extended from Royal

Redcliffe
—5t—14.5t—5t.38—3478—30—5690—50.
18—18.9t—18—hl 1t lh 1t m

Swindon
—3t—14—5t—16—7t—18—9t—10—16—
7t—58—hl et lh 12 b

Wexham
—7t—18—125t—36—14—5t—16—7t—18
—9t—10—hl et lh 12 b

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