



# THE RINGING WORLD

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

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### STONEY.

Call change ringing is generally despised and disliked by change ringers and few of them would willingly take part in it if they could get anything else. And they have good reasons; it is dull and monotonous to ring and dull and monotonous to listen to. If our art had nothing better than that to offer it might very well be left alone.

Now a man may have likes and dislikes and hold them strongly without giving any definite reasons for his preferences either to himself or to anyone else; but it is neither wise nor prudent for him to despise a thing unless he understands it. Before we despise call change ringing it may be just as well to consider what it is, whence it came, and what are its uses, if indeed there are any.

Stoney has a very respectable pedigree. It may be degenerate, but it can trace its line back to the early days of change ringing, and the Plain Changes out of which it directly came were constructed on just as strictly mathematical lines and with just as much regard for truth as any method. What distinguished them from 'cross peals' was that only one pair of bells changed at a time, which caused slow movement and monotonous music.

This slowness of movement and monotony of music are the inherent defect of stoney. As usually rung it is haphazard in its construction, the conductor seldom having any design in his mind and then of the crudest; and every change is repeated over and over again until both ear and eye are thoroughly tired of it. But these things need not be. The conductor could call according to a prearranged plan as definite as any method of change ringing, and a fresh change could be made at every whole pull. Many conductors and many change ringers who despise stoney would find it not too easy in such circumstances.

Would it be worth doing? Definitely not, we think, in the ordinary way. There would still be the slowness of movement and the monotony of music. But the thought occurs, might it not be possible in some circumstances to turn these very defects into an advantage? When a new band is being formed and when there is no stiffening of older and experienced ringers, it is not difficult for the instructor to teach his pupils one by one how to handle a bell. When he has done that thoroughly it is not too difficult to teach the band to ring fairly good rounds. But the next stage is very difficult. Unless the pupils are of exceptional quality they

(Continued on page 142.)



cannot be expected to begin to ring changes with any idea of good striking in their minds. They have no chance to know what it means and what to aim at. Very often, having learnt something of method ringing and realising its fascination, they are inclined to push on too fast in the one direction and never gain that sense of rhythm which is essential to a first class ringer.

What is wanted is some means which will at the early stage allow both eyes and ears to be trained at the same time. This is where stoney, properly used, may be of the greatest value. Its slowness gives the learner time to adjust his eyes and ears to the different changes and to know when he is wrong and when he is striking badly. But the instructor should know his job. Call changes, as usually rung, are of little use. The instructor should insist on each change being rung properly, should quicken up the changes as the striking improves, until double changes in whole pulls can be rung. The band will have then got a solid basis on which to start change ringing.

There are two points worth mentioning. The first is that for the general public, though good change ringing is far better and more effective than the best stoney, good stoney is better than bad change ringing. The wireless time signal has made many thousands of people familiar with call changes at their best. It does not appeal to the ear of a change ringer, but it does show what good and regular striking can be like. And, secondly, it may be significant that not a few men who have made distinguished names as change ringers served a more or less prolonged apprenticeship in stoney bands.

**HANDBELL PEALS.**

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Mar. 28, 1944, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes, AT 45, WALSINGHAM ROAD,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5169 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 17 in B flat.

*ERIC A. DENCH ... .. 1-2	MRS. G. W. FLETCHER... 7-8
†MRS. J. THOMAS ... .. 3-4	*ALBERT J. WALLMAN ... 9-10
JOHN THOMAS ... .. 5-6	*DENNIS H. LANGDON ... 11-12

Composed by MORRIS J. MORRIS. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

\* First peal on 12 bells. † First peal on 12 in hand.

COVENTRY, WARWICKSHIRE.  
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Wed., Mar. 29, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes, AT 117, WIDDINGTON ROAD,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15 in C.

SERGT. E. SIBLEY, R.A.F. 1-2	FRANK E. PERVIN ... .. 5-6
FRANK W. PERRENS ... .. 3-4	HUBERT SUMMERS ... .. 7-8
JOHN W. TAYLOR ... .. 9-10	

Composed by J. GROVES. Conducted by FRANK E. PERVIN.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Mar. 30, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes, AT 45, WALSINGHAM ROAD,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 16½.

MRS. J. THOMAS ... .. 1-2	MRS. G. W. FLETCHER ... 5-6
JOHN THOMAS ... .. 3-4	WILLIAM L. B. LEESE ... 7-8
ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 9-10	

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by E. C. S. TURNER.

**EIGHT BELL PEALS.**

STOURBRIDGE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 25, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 19 cwt.

*ROBERT LEES ... ..Treble	FREDERICK V. NICHOLLS 5
†FLORENCE L. WRIGHT... 2	NORMAN G. LEECH ... 6
BERNARD LAWTON ... 3	JOHN W. SMITH ... 7
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 4	JOHN LLOYD ... ..Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. SMITH.

\* First peal. † First attempt inside.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 1, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES ... ..Treble	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 5
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 6
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW 3	EDWIN JENNINGS ... .. 7
CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... 4	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT...Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 1, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT ... ..Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 5
EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 2	JAMES E. BAILEY ... .. 6
CHARLES T. COLES... .. 3	HENRY HOVERD ... .. 7
FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 4	PHILIP A. CORBY ... ..Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

Mr. Edwin Barnett's 200th peal on the bells.

**SIX BELL PEALS.**

CRANFORD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 25, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being one 720 of St. Clement's and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt, in B flat.

TONY PRICE ... ..Treble	WALTER SPARROW ... .. 4
RICHARD E. PRICE ... 2	GEORGE C. GOODMAN ... 5
G. WILLIAM MORRIS ... 3	H. WILLIAM BARRETT ...Tenor

Conducted by H. WILLIAM BARRETT.

First peal as conductor.

SOUTHBROOM, DEVIZES, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Mar. 27, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Forty-two six-scores (10 different callings). Tenor 9 cwt.

*MISS OLIVE G. HUNT...Treble	ALEXANDER T. WEEKS... 4
JOSEPH S. WEEKS ... 2	*DAVID J. LYE ... .. 5
*PETER J. F. HUNT ... 3	*MILROY H. BRYANT ...Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH S. WEEKS.

\* First peal and first attempt. Rung as a 14th birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

WOOLWICH.—On Sunday, March 19th, 1,264 Bob Major: J. Beaumont 1, H. E. Audsley 2, D. L. Hall 3, J. Wheadon 4, R. Wake 5, N. Chadcock 6, B. Aldridge 7, J. E. Bailey (conductor) 8.

PENWORTHAM, LANCs.—On March 19th, 672 Bob Major: E. R. Martin (conductor) 1, W. Illsley 2, J. R. Taylor 3, W. Taylor 4, J. Gornall 5, W. E. Loxham 6, J. W. Best 7, Fred Haworth 8.



**TWELVE-BELL RINGING.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Your excellent leader of March 12th re the above should create some interesting discussion among twelve and even ten-bell ringers. As an average one on the latter number, and having rung on most twelve-bell rings, I hope you will allow me space to place before your readers my own personal experience, comments and what may be suggestions.

My pre-war job was such that I was away from home three out of five week-ends, when I usually turned up to ring on Sundays at the place I happened to be staying. Well, I turned up at a twelve-bell tower and received the usual warm welcome to ring. I always took a middle bell to avoid as much as possible having to calculate on how close to keep to or off light and heavy bells to produce good striking.

After ringing two or three whole pulls of rounds and before anything like a regular heat is gained, 'Go, Stedman,' is called. I think to myself, why not ring rounds for a minute or two so that all may settle down to a proper compass? Then directly Stedman is called a 'Bob or Single' is called. This is where I come unstuck. I'm torn with the anxieties of striking properly, keeping my place, picking up my dodging and course bells and so on. If the touch is rung it has been no credit to the band and far from a pleasure to me.

I ask myself why must conductors call bobs at the start and why not ring a plain course? This would give me, an unpractised twelve-bell ringer, the advantage of using the natural coursing order of the bells as a guide.

Another thing I ask myself, why could not Grandsire Cinques have been rung? Its music is, in my opinion, as good as and I think better than Stedman, for the reason that the small bells do not get so mixed up with the large bells because there is no slow work. Again, the coursing order is less broken up by the slow work and bobs. Again, all ringers' ears are more attuned to Grandsire, whether it is on five, seven, nine or 11 bells with tenors covering. To illustrate my meaning, I have a confession to make. I cannot ring an inside pair of handbells to a touch of Grandsire, and yet I have hundreds of times rung 5-6, 7-8 and 9-10 to plain courses in a perfect manner. Here I will state that I have no difficulty with Grandsire Cinques on tower bells.

To me Stedman Cinques is about the same as a six-bell ringer trying to ring Double Norwich Major before he has practised Plain and Treble Bob.

In my opinion, the reason why there are no more really good twelve-bell bands is that where peals of ten have been augmented to twelve (and there have been many during the last 35 years) the ringers have not practised and become efficient with the simpler method, i.e., 'Grandsire,' before going on to Stedman. I think, too, that Plain and Treble Bob Maximus should be practised before doing so. After all, that is what is done by eight and ten-bell ringers before on to twelve.

SYDNEY R. ROPER.

52, Mount Park Avenue, South Croydon.

**OPEN LEADS AND OTHERS.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Having recently taken part in a peal of Minor rung in a manner commonly known as cartwheeled, I feel I must make my humble confession, seeing I have always been an advocate of a good fat lead on all numbers.

Having always felt a little sympathetic for six-bell towers not possessing an octave, I now come to the conclusion that the closed lead minimises, whereas the open lead rather emphasises that there are only six bells ringing. But for Doubles with tenor covering I should imagine it would sound terrible and open to ridicule.

As for the actual ringing, my opinion is there must be no half measures, the slightest suggestion of an open lead spoils the effect. The peal in question being Spliced Treble Bob Minor, I had quite an easy job on the treble, not knowing (or caring) what the rest of the band were up to. Like the music, I simply went round and round, and I must say did not get bored or dizzy, and however great I may have sinned in the eyes of the Exercise generally, I cannot promise not to do it again. If only for a change I found it a welcome one, and I feel this so-called cartwheeling has long been condemned by others besides myself without having even heard or tried it. This talented band knew my former views before starting.

DAVID VINCENT.

6, Stanway Drive, Hale, Cheshire.

**HOW FAR CAN BELLS BE HEARD?**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. Hoyle's letter in your issue of March 31st, that gentleman's friend would appear to have over-estimated the distance from Boston Stump to Wolferton. Map measurements show this to be just under 23 miles, and not 30 as stated. Even so, the distance is considerable, and the fact that the bells can be heard is probably due to the nature of the intervening country—water and low lying land, mostly the former.

G. A. PECK.

Lynden, Albany Crescent, Claygate.

**SERVICE TOUCHES.**

**CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR.**

1,280					1,280				
23456	B	M	W	R	23456	B	M	W	R
23564	—	—	—	—	35264	—	—	—	—
52364	—	—	—	—	42563	—	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	—	64523	—	—	—	—
42563	—	—	—	—	42635	—	—	—	—
64523	—	—	—	—	42356	—	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—	23456	—	—	—	—
1,280					1,280				
23456	B	M	W	R	23456	B	M	W	R
35264	—	—	—	—	23564	—	—	—	—
56342	—	—	—	—	52364	—	—	—	—
64523	—	—	—	—	35264	—	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—	56342	—	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—	—	64523	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—	35426	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—	23456	—	—	—	—

**A BROADCAST.**

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I have been asked by a number of ringers for information as to how they may hear Staverton bells on Friday, April 14th. They are to be broadcast in the programme for the Pacific Area at 9.30 a.m. (British Double Summer Time). See 'London Calling' No. 235, 07.30 (G.M.T.), 'From all over Britain—a programme from the Midlands.' This programme is put out on 19, 25 and 31 metres, and from what I am told reception is likely to vary enormously in different districts of England, and in some parts will probably be impossible.

I should be grateful for postcards stating how they were heard, and in view of your recent correspondence on the relative qualities of different rings, it would be valuable to know the effect these bells have on listeners 'over the air.' They are a completely new ring recast in 1938, the tenor being 10 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb.

Staverton Vicarage.

E. S. POWELL.

**THE BEST PEAL OF BELLS.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—The correspondence on the best ring of bells in various districts is very interesting to follow.

I do not think that the bells of Bath Abbey have been mentioned. Heard from one of the hills surrounding the city, the musical effect of that grand peal largely from Rudhall's foundry, is magnificent. Another ring, which has struck me as being exceptionally rich in tone, is that at Southgate, and when the Central Council met at Plymouth I was much impressed by Tavistock bells, which I believe to be Taylor's.

Obviously the sound outside the tower is the one thing of real importance, but for grandeur of tone as heard from the ringing chamber three peals are outstanding in my experience: Wells Cathedral, Painswick and—perhaps above all—St. Peter Mancroft.

F. LI. EDWARDS.

Dear Sir,—I was very pleased to read Mr. Bond's letter on Kent, Sussex and Surrey bells, especially Kent and Sussex bells.

In my opinion the finest peal of eight bells in Sussex is St. Saviour's, Eastbourne (tenor 25 cwt.). Salehurst eight (tenor 16 cwt.) are also worthy of note.

I think that Mr. Bond will find that Withyham's tenor is listed as 15 cwt. 9 lb. in the belfry, and also as 18 cwt., including the fittings.

I thoroughly agree that Horsmonden has a very fine six. In fact, it is the finest six that I have had the pleasure to hear. Wittersham has also a lovely six (tenor 18 cwt. approx.) almost ranking with Horsmonden.

FRANK H. HICKS.

11, Almondville, Burnham, Bucks.

**DEATH OF MR. FREDERICK HUNT.**

The death is announced of Mr. Frederick Hunt, of Luton, who passed away on March 19th after an illness of about two years.

He was a native of Bury St. Edmunds, and after living for a time at Wimbledon, went to Luton in 1911, where he joined the local band. His peals included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent, Oxford and Double Norwich Major, and Superlative, Cambridge, London and Bristol Surprise Major.

A service at his house, conducted by the Vicar, preceded cremation at Golders Green on March 24th. The bells were rung muffled on the following Sunday.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.—On Wednesday, March 15th. 504 Grandsire Triples: John Burlinson 1, Neil Adams 2, Mrs. C. W. Powell 3, J. E. Philbrick 4, Joan Burlinson 5, Rev. C. C. Cox (conductor) 6, H. G. Keeley 7, Alan Wellman 8.—168 Stedman Triples: Neil Adams 1, C. Tett 2, J. E. Philbrick 3, Rev. C. C. Cox 4, Mrs. C. W. Powell 5, H. G. Keeley 6, Joan Burlinson 7, Brian Wellman 8.



## BELLS AND THE REFORMATION.

(Continued from page 133.)

Some attempt was made to use the metal for guns for the Royal Navy, and in 1545 the Council sent to the Chancellor of the Augmentations, the head of the Commissioners appointed to deal with the sequestrated lands and property, to take order with — Gouche for the conveyance hither of suche bell-metall as lyeth ready at Boston within the precincts of his receipt to be employed here abowte the affayre of the ordenance and to make a warrante with him for suche money as the said Gouche shall defray upon the transportation of the same.'

It was as broken metal, not as church bells, that the bells were valued and exported; probably in most cases, as at the Jesus Chapel of St. Paul's, they were broken up in the tower as the easiest way of getting them down. Yet some of them did reach the Continent as complete bells, and some of them, no doubt on account of the beauty of their tone, found a new home in tower or steeple on foreign soil.

This is illustrated by an incident so finely described by Lord Baldwin—'I remember many years ago standing on the terrace of a beautiful villa near Florence. It was a September evening and the valley below was transfigured in the long horizontal rays of the declining sun. And then I heard a bell, such a bell as never was on land or sea, whose every vibration found an echo in my inmost heart. I said to my hostess, "That is the most beautiful bell I have ever heard." "Yes," she replied, "It is an English bell." And so it was. For generations its sound had gone out over English fields giving the hours of work and prayer to English folk from the tower of an English abbey. And then came the Reformation, and some wise Italian bought the bell whose work at home was done and sent it to the Valley of the Arno, where after four centuries it stirred the heart of a wandering Englishman and made him sick for home.'

A writer in 'Notes and Queries,' who said he had known Florence intimately from his childhood, wrote that he had never heard of this particular bell, but he recollected being told that many of the church bells in the North of Italy about the Italian lakes were of English origin. And Edmund Ironsides, who wrote a 'History of Twickenham' in the year 1797, relates that 'the family of Corsini in Italy raised themselves by purchasing bells at the demolition of religious houses in England.'

But not all the abbey churches were pulled down. Some of them were cathedrals, and in them there was merely a change of constitution; the buildings with their fittings and ornaments, including the bells, remained as before; and there was no alteration in the services or ritual, or even the personnel. Much the same thing happened in six other great abbey churches which now became cathedrals. In many cases parishes were enabled to acquire the whole or part of a monastic church and to turn it into a parish church, and at the same time some of them obtained the bells.

I am able to say what became of the bells in most of the larger monastic churches of London. Those of Holy Trinity Priory at Aldgate were sold, four went to Stepney parish church (where some of the metal probably still is) and five went to St. Stephen's, Coleman Street. The ring of six at St. Bartholomew's Priory, Smithfield, went to St. Sepulchre's, Snow Hill. The newly formed

parish of St. Saviour's, Southwark, bought the bells of St. Mary Overie when the church was rented from the king. The bells of St. John's Priory, Clerkenwell, were bought for All Hallows', Lombard Street, though they actually were never hung in that tower. The bells of St. Martin-le-Grand were granted with the church to Westminster Abbey and were sold by the Dean and Chapter. Henry the Eighth gambled away the four heavy bells belonging to the Jesus Chapel at St. Paul's Cathedral. The new parish of Christ Church, Newgate was granted the church of the Grey Friars, and no doubt the one bell which hung in the steeple. Westminster Abbey became a cathedral and the bells remained as before. The churches of the Black Friars and the White Friars were pulled down, but as we learn from Stow that each had but a single bell, there was no loss of a ringing peal.

Quite a large proportion of the bells in this list was secured for parochial purposes, and though I have not sufficient evidence on the point, it is a fair inference that the same thing happened in many other parts of the country.

For instance, the great bell of the abbey at Leicester was sold to the parish church of St. John at Peterborough; the great bell of the Black Friars Priory at Norwich was sold to the neighbouring church of St. Andrew; the parish of Buckfastleigh paid £33 15s. to Sir Thomas Arundel for the five bells of the old abbey; the bells of Ford Abbey were bought by the parish; the bells of Newnham Abbey were bought by the parish of Church Stoke; those of Bordesley Abbey were hung in Shensham parish church; four of the biggest bells of the Priory of Bodmin were sold to the parish of Lanivet; at Thirsk was a bell said to have come from Fountains Abbey; and the bells of Oseney Abbey went to what is now Christ Church Cathedral at Oxford, where two of them still remain. A careful inquiry would, no doubt, largely increase this list.

The dissolution of the monasteries had brought vast wealth to the Crown, but it was quickly dissipated. The government acted like a man who has inherited large estates and is not content to live on the income, but must needs sell his property and spend the proceeds. The permanent result was the enrichment of a new class of landed proprietors, and the immediate result to what the appetite of both the government and the gentry for more spoil. By the end of Henry's reign the government was sadly in need of money on account of foreign wars, the raising of prices, and the depreciation of the currency. The abbeys were gone, but there still was a very large amount of land and other endowments belonging to chantries, hospitals, colleges and obits (the hospitals and colleges were not the same things as are now generally known by those names). The guilds owned a lot of property and there were the parish churches with their plate and ornaments, and bells.

The Protestant party in the Church was becoming strong and was demanding a simpler ritual and less ornate churches. Both the Crown and the gentry began to think of a new spoliation. Under the plea that they were the heirs of the original founders, and that the purposes for which the endowments had been given had ceased to exist, men began to seize the lands; wardens and incumbents began to sell the property; and by an Act of Parliament (37 Hen. 8, cap. 4) all colleges,



chantries, free chapels, etc., were placed at the disposal of the king to dissolve or re-establish as might seem proper. It seemed a prelude to a general confiscation of church property.

In several parishes the churchwardens sold the plate in the open market. It is generally suggested that they did it to feather their own nests, but it is more likely that they were acting for the parishioners and the object was to forestall any action by the government and to put the parish property into such a form as would make it less liable to confiscation. As when the vestry of St. Benedict's, Gracechurch Street, ordered that all the church plate should be sold for £117 16s. 5d., the money to be made up to £120, and to be laid out in the purchasing of land for the advantage and maintenance of the church. Or when 'it was agreed by a vestry of honest men for the parish of St. Botolph-without-Aldgate in the City of London' for certain plate and bells to be sold 'and with the money thereof to purchase a row of houses.'

Henry the Eighth died in 1547 and was succeeded by the Duke of Somerset as Protector of the Realm during the minority of the new king, Edward the Sixth. Accomplished, well-meaning, and popular, but weak and incompetent, the ruler, in conjunction with the extreme Protestant party, wrought more havoc in the parish churches than has ever been done, before or since, in the long history of the Church of England.

The Act of Henry was renewed in stronger and fuller terms and all colleges, chantries and hospitals; and all endowments for obits, masses, candles, and the like, were placed in the king's (that is the government's) hands; and though some things were saved from the

wreck and a number of grammar schools founded, everything that could be said to savour of superstition was swept, nominally into the royal treasury, but actually in a large degree into the pockets of a greedy hoard. What interests us here is that a lot more bells were pulled down and the metal thrown on the market.

The number, of course, was not nearly so large as when the monasteries were dissolved, but still it seems to have been considerable. The church of the late College of St. Thomas Glasney, Cornwall, and the steeple and six bells therein, were granted to John Pleysent in return for cash down. The chapel of Rothwell with three bells, which belonged to the Guild of Rothwell, Yorks, to Thomas Cargrave. The charnel house and two bells belonging to the Thorpe Chapel in St. Michael Coslany, Norwich, were granted to Edward and Richard Cattlyn. The College of St. John at Stoke-next-Care, Suffolk, was granted with lead, timber, stone and bells. And so on. Often the bells were reserved to the king's use, and in some cases towns benefited by a new foundation. Thus the Bridewell received all the implements and utensils of the Hospital of the Savoy, only two bells, one great and one little, being reserved to the Chapel of the Savoy. At Norwich the church of St. Giles' Hospital, with all its bells and bell metal, was granted to the citizens to be a hospital for poor men and a parish church. Crediton College Church, with its bells, became a parish church. St. Albans Abbey Church, which, no doubt, had stood derelict since the dissolution (for there was not enough stone in it to make it worth the while of anyone to pull it down) was granted to St. Andrew's parish, and the old parish church, with bells and fittings, to the mayor and burgesses.

(To be continued.)

# John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

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MUFFLES,  
Etc.

### 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official journal of the Central Council of  
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Treasurer of 'The Ringing World': A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,  
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All communications for this journal should be addressed  
to:—

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'The Ringing World.'

The General Committee of the Oxford Diocesan Guild have decided  
that the annual meeting of the Guild shall this year again be held at  
Oxford in July.

#### DEATH OF MR. J. B. CHERRY.

News has been received of the death of Mr. J. B. Cherry, which  
occurred last April in Vancouver, B.C., where he had been living for  
some years. He had reached a great age and was one of the oldest  
members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. He was a brother  
of the late Sir Richard Cherry, sometime Lord Chief Justice of Ire-  
land, who with Gabriel Lindoff founded the Irish Association in 1896.

#### MRS. SHURCLIFF.

We are informed that the reference to Mrs. Shurcliff in our issue  
of March 24th is incomplete and somewhat misleading. In the year  
1902, when she was Miss Margaret H. Nichols, she visited this country  
with her father, and on August 14th rang the third to a peal of  
Stedman Triples at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, with a band of  
the Middlesex Association, conducted by Mr. Alfred W. Brighton.  
That was her first peal. On the 20th of the same month she rang 7-8  
to Stedman Triples for the same association. The others in the band  
were H. P. Harman, Ernest Pye and William Pye (conductor). Be-  
tween the two dates she rang another handbell peal for the College  
Youths with Challis F. Winney as conductor.

#### BELFRY PRAYERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It would seem a pity if the letter from the Rev. A. C. F.  
Davies this week were to leave the impression that the incumbent  
must await an invitation from the ringers before he enters the belfry.  
Surely the position is that he has as full a right there as in any other  
part of the church, and to leave the belfry out of his ken or the  
ringers out of his ministrations, even if he knows nothing about bells  
or the art of ringing, is to make himself largely the cause of his own  
lament.

I feel sure there is nothing the parish ringers would welcome or  
appreciate more than a personal touch with their parish priest in the  
belfry, and a personal interest in their doings, their ambitions, and  
in the records of the tower. They would welcome also his concern to  
see that the ringing chamber is provided with a reasonable standard  
of comfort and his enquiries from time to time whether the essential  
accessories for ringing, such as ropes, need renewal or not.

It does seem strange that the ringers should be expected to do  
anything to educate their local clergymen in matters which are truly  
part of the latter's parochial functions, and I urge that the initial  
advance is due from the incumbent, who will find, in the majority of  
cases, that where the belfry is not a foreign land to him the 'gap'  
referred to is adequately bridged.

As regards belfry prayers, all ringers, whether for practice or for  
services, should open with such. The Lancashire Association, for one,  
prints a short form of prayer for such purpose at the beginning of  
its annual report: an excellent example, to my mind, which every  
Diocesan and County Guild might follow.

C. CAREW COX,

Master of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.  
The Vicarage, Lyme Regis, Dorset.



## ST. MARY ABBOT'S, KENSINGTON.

Among the churches of the Metropolis very few are larger, finer, or better known than St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington. It is destined to become a cathedral if the scheme, oft talked of and always postponed, for dividing the great Diocese of London ever takes form. During a comparatively recent air raid the building was badly damaged, the roof being burnt off, but the tower and spire with the ring of ten bells, are happily safe, so far.

The parish of Kensington is mentioned in the Doomsday Book and there was a church there before 1102. The manor and the advowson were granted to the Abbot of Abingdon, whence came the title by which the church has ever since been known. In 1370 it was wholly or partly rebuilt, and at the time of Edward the Sixth there were 'three small bells and a saunce bell in the steeple.' The church also possessed 'a sacarynge bell and a hand bell.' The sacring bell was probably hung on the screen or the wall of the chancel.

In 1694 the building had become dilapidated and was pulled down and a new church of brick erected. It was badly built, and in 1704 had to be reconstructed. As was the case with so many of the other Middlesex churches the medieval tower had been left standing and now contained a ring of six bells of which no particulars seem to have survived.

On May 2nd, 1692, the parish paid for ringing when the news came 'of the victory gained by His Majesty at and near the Boyne.' In 1704 Mr. Jackman was paid for a barrel of beer for the victory over the French and Bavarians. This was Marlborough's victory at Blenheim. The beer cost fifteen shillings and presumably was shared by many people. Another laconic and regretful entry in the parish accounts reads: 'For Limerick's being taken and 'twas false. 18d.'

In the year 1772 the steeple was taken down and a ring of eight bells with a tenor about a ton in weight, new one built; and in it Thomas Janaway hung a new the sixth (the present seventh) bears the couplet much used by Janaway:—

'The Ringers Art our grateful Notes prolong  
Apollo listens and approves the Song.'

than which it would be hard to find an inscription on a church bell in worse taste. The other inscriptions—'Musica est mentis medicina' (present fourth), 'In-tactum sileo Percute dulce cano' (present fifth), 'Be it known by great and small Thos. Janaway made us all' (old tenor and present ninth)—are much less objectionable, though they fall far short of the medieval mottoes, and would not nowadays be considered suitable.

Thomas Janaway seems to have at one time been in the employment of Thomas Lester at the Whitechapel foundry, for the latter in the first draft of his will left him £50, but afterwards revoked the bequest. He started a foundry at Chelsea, soon after 1760, where he cast a fair number of bells, his most important in London being the octaves at All Saints', Chelsea, 1762; St. Mary Abbot's, 1772; and St. Mary's, Battersea, 1777. The first was broken up many years ago, but the last is still in existence. Janaway's bells are rather poor in quality and when he died his foundry at Chelsea came to an end.

On the present sixth (the old fifth) at St. Mary Abbot's are the initials E. L. They stand for Edward Lulham, who was Janaway's foreman or bellhanger. The

tenor of the ring of six at Ticehurst in Sussex, which was cast in 1771 by Janaway, has the following doggerel verse:—

'This is to show to ages yet to come  
That by subscription we were cast and hung  
And Edward Lulham is his name  
That was the actor of the same.'

The first peal on the new bells was one of Bob Major by the Cumberland Youths on March 21st, 1773, conducted by George Gross. Two men were needed for the tenor. The treble was rung by John Frazier, who seems to have some control of the belfry. Perhaps he was steeplekeeper. He joined the London Youths, and the next three peals were rung by that company. Grandsire Triples and Oxford Treble Bob Major in 1775, and Union Triples in 1775.

About this time a very excellent band was formed in the district belonging to the ancient Society of College Youths. It included William Jones, afterwards the principal author of the 'Clavis,' and James Worster. Worster called two peals of Bob Major at St. Mary's in 1776, and during the following forty years a steady succession of peals was achieved. It was this band which supplied most of the peal ringing energy shown by the College Youths during the early years of the nineteenth century, when the men at headquarters were getting older and less inclined to start for long lengths.

The principal man in the tower besides William Jones was Charles Barber, a Kensington tradesman, and apparently the son of a man who was churchwarden in 1792 and whose name is engraved on two beades' staffs belonging to the church. Another prominent local ringer was James Bartlett, a whip thong maker by trade.

The first six-thousand in the steeple was Oxford Treble Bob in 1780, conducted by John Povey, the beadle of the Society of College Youths, with Samuel Muggerridge, the younger, at the tenor.

In October, 1790, Bartlett called John Reeves' 8,448 of Oxford Treble Bob, at the time the longest length composed without parting the tenors. It still remains the longest peal rung at St. Mary Abbot's.

Six months later practically the same band, with the same conductor, rang 6,720 changes in the same method. William Jones was in this peal, and, taking everything into consideration, there can hardly be a doubt that it was the first time John Reeves' composition with the 60 course ends was performed, although Shipway definitely says it was first rung on October 20th, 1794, at St. Giles', Camberwell, when he himself took part.

The most interesting performance in the steeple was in 1803, when 'the whole peal of Triples on Stedman's Principle, as composed by Mr. Thomas Edwards, was completely rung.' It was the fourth five-thousand achieved in the method and the first that we know to have been true. Barber called it from the sixth and William Jones rang the fourth. The treble ringer, William Paris, was a Hammersmith man. He had rung the tenor to the two long peals of Treble Bob.

Thomas Edwards was a Stourbridge man, and it may seem a little strange that his peal was first rung at Kensington and not in the Birmingham district, where Stedman was already the most highly prized method. The likely explanation is that Edwards had got into touch with William Jones, who, as principal author of the

(Continued on next page.)



## ST. MARY ABBOT'S, KENSINGTON.

(Continued from previous page.)

'Clavis,' would naturally be looked upon as the greatest authority on composition. Perhaps a little judicious flattery from the younger to the older man accompanied the figures, and there is evidence that it would not have been without effect. Some time later another of Edwards' composition (this time one of Grandsire Triples) was rung on the bells. It had a call at 'every Treble Leading,' either Bob, Double, or Single. The figures are lost, but clearly it was on the 3-lead course plan. Barber again conducted and Jones again rang the fourth.

Old Kensington Church was but a mean and humble structure and the time came when something larger and finer was urgently called for. The design was entrusted to Sir Gilbert Scott, and the present building is probably his most ambitious parish church. It was begun in 1869 and the tower and spire were finished ten years later. The length is 179 feet, the greatest width 109 feet and the spire, the loftiest in London, is 278 feet high. The church is a fine one, but is condemned by some as cold and lifeless.

When the tower was finished, John Warner recast the treble, second, and sixth of Janaway's ring and added a new treble and tenor, the latter about 32 cwt. The quality of the bells is rather poor. They were rung for the first time by the Cumberland Youths, muffled for the passing of the year 1879. When they were dedicated they were only chimed.

The peal boards which formerly hung in the old belfry were preserved by one of the churchwardens when the church was pulled down, and they now hang in the new tower.

Kensington bells have played an important part in the history of the London Exercise. From the year 1773 to 1896, fifty-nine recorded peals were rung on them. Forty-three were by College Youths; eight by Cumberland Youths; four by the St. James' Society; three by the London Youths; and one by the Junior Cumberland Youths.

## YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### MEETING AT WATH-ON-DEARNE.

A meeting of the Southern District of the Yorkshire Association was held on March 18th, when members were present from Arksey, Doncaster, Felkirk, Wentworth, Rotherham, Rawmarsh, Sprotborough, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Sheffield Cathedral, Sheffield St. Marie's, and the local company. Touches in the standard methods were rung, interspersed with full opportunities for beginners.

Tea was provided by the local company in the Church Hall.

The business meeting was presided over by the Vicar, the Rev. J. Evans, who welcomed the association.

Five new members were elected.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Ecclesfield on June 17th in conjunction with the three local societies.

A collection in aid of the Bell Repair Fund realised 9s. 6d.

Votes of thanks were given to the Vicar and the local company.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### MEETING AT WHITSTABLE.

A meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association was held at Whitstable on March 25th. Service was conducted by the Rev. T. C. Williams, and an address given by the Rev. G. Hillyard. Tea in the Church Room was followed by the business meeting, at which five new members were elected from Teynham and six from Whitstable. Five wives of the ringers joined as hon. members. The ringing consisted of rounds, Grandsire and Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Thirty-five ringers attended from Boughton, Canterbury, Dover, Littlebourne, Ospringe, Sturry, Wickhambreaux, Whitstable and Bradford-on-Avon.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

### MEETING AT SYSTON.

A meeting of the Leicester District of the Midland Counties Association was held at Syston on March 18th, at which 66 were present from Anstey, Asfordby, Belgrave, Great Dalby, Groby, Leicester (Cathedral and St. Margaret's), Birstall, Melton Mowbray, Ratby, Sileby, Syston, Waltham and Wigston Magna, as well as visitors from Ashby and Loughborough.

The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Major.

Tea was served in the Church Rooms, during which the Vicar, the Rev. F. Tetley, said a few words of welcome and congratulation. He remarked that more than ever bellringing was an essential part of church life, and he gave an invitation to ringers to come to Syston whenever they wished.

The local chairman, Mr. G. T. H. Walker, presided at the meeting.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Great Glen on May 13th.

Twelve new members were elected, three from Birstall, three from Leicester Cathedral, two from Great Dalby and one each from St. Saviour's, Leicester, Melton, Syston and Somerby.

Stedman Triples on handbells was rung by Miss Jill Poole and Messrs. F. Wilson, R. F. Elkington and J. Morris.

## SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

### NORTH DORSET BRANCH.

A meeting of the North Dorset Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, held at Fontmell Magna, was attended by over 30 members from Mere, Gillingham, Shaftesbury, Childe Okeford, Hampton, Okeford Fitzpaine, Shroton, Lydlinch, Kington Magna, Zeals, Hazelbury Bryan, and Fontmell Magna. Service was conducted by Dr. E. W. J. Hellins, assisted by the Rev. William Uphill. The address was given by the Rector (Canon C. P. Edmonds).

Canon Hellins presided over the meeting, at which the secretary presented the balance sheet, showing an income (including a credit balance from the previous year) of £15 11s. 11d. Expenditure amounted to £4 16s. 2d. and the credit balance was £10 15s. 9d. Mr. Ralph and Mr. B. Ridout were elected to serve on the committee. Eleven new members were elected.

The methods rung consisted of Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman as well as rounds.

On the invitation of Canon Hellins, the next meeting will be at Marnhull on the second Saturday in June.

## DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.

### MEETING AT DUDLEY.

About fifty members and friends were present at the annual meeting of the Dudley and Districts Guild, held at Dudley on March 18th. Service was conducted by the Ven. C. P. Shepherd, Archdeacon of Dudley and president of the Guild.

At the tea and business meeting the president took the chair and was supported by Mr. W. R. Edwards, churchwarden, and Mr. A. Spittle, vice-president. The vice-presidents were re-elected with the addition of the Rev. J. H. Herbert, Rector of Brierley Hill. Mr. J. Goodman was appointed Ringing Master in the place of Mr. C. H. Woodberry, Mr. H. Shuck was re-elected hon. treasurer, Mr. F. Colclough was elected hon. secretary, and Messrs. T. Justice and H. Goodman auditors. Eighteen new members were elected, 16 of them from Rowley Regis.

It was decided that the annual peal attempt should be at Dudley, the arrangements to be left in the hands of the Ringing Master. The next meeting was fixed for Rowley on July 1st.

Mr. A. Spittle gave a short account of the early days of change ringing in Dudley. Votes of thanks were passed to the chairman, the organist, the ladies who had served the tea, and those who had made the arrangements.

## LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

### MEETING AT ARMLEY.

At a meeting of the Leeds and District Society, held at Armley on March 25th, members were present from Armley, Batley, Bramley, Headingley (St. Chad's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Rothwell and Selby, together with the Vicar, the Rev. H. G. Hutchison, the churchwarden, Mr. W. Henry, and one member of H.M. Forces.

Mr. Senior presided at the business meeting, held in the belfry, and referred to the late Mr. Joseph Thackeray and his services to Armley tower.

The question of accepting nominations from so few was discussed, and it was proposed by Mr. Helliwell and seconded by Mr. Coldrick that nominations for all officials be left over until the general meeting at Leeds Parish Church on April 29th.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and churchwardens and to the local company and especially Mr. Coldrick for the arrangements. The Vicar referred to the work done by Mr. Lofthouse in blacking out the tower, which had allowed ringing to continue during the winter.



## CENTRAL TOWERS.

BY ERNEST MORRIS.

(Continued from page 136.)

The Church of St. Nicholas, Simpson, also in Buckinghamshire, has a central tower forming part of a cruciform church, which existed here c. 1280. The arches of the tower were rebuilt at this time, and were widened probably in the 14th century, when the tower was heightened. It is 8½ft. by 9½ft., and of three stages, two of them being above the nave roof. The parapet is embattled. The ground stage has four pointed arches of c. 1340. In each wall of the bell chamber is a window of two trefoiled lights with pointed head, probably c. 1400.

The tower was restored in 1930, and contains a ring of six bells. Of the original four, the first was the earliest known bell by Anthony Chandler; the second was by Richard Chandler, 1694; the third by Bartholomew Atton, inscribed, 'God save King James 1604,' and tenor by James Keene, of Woodstock, 1630. They were hung anti-clockwise. Made into five by J. Taylor and Co., who added a treble and recast the old 2nd, and later—1926—they were increased to six by Alfred Bowell. The tenor is 7 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in A flat. The ascent to the belfry is very unusual, and is by a wooden stairway in front of the chancel wall, so that the ringers can be seen by the congregation as they go up and down, to and from ringing.

The Church of St. Iltyd, or Iltutus, Llantwit-Major, Glam, is more unusual, having been extended rather than restored at various periods. This now gives from west to east, ruins of the first chapel; a nave and south porch (now used as a museum); the tower; nave and church, now in use. St. Iltyd, a celebrated monk professor, founded here 568 A.D. a school or college, which continued to flourish for 700 years with growing strength and reputation, its pupils at one time exceeding 2,000 in number. It is stated to have been the first church school in Britain, and the place at which St. David, Gildas the historian, Paulinus, Bishop of Leon, and Sampson, Archbishop of Dol, received their education. The site of the early collegiate church and other conventional buildings was on the north side of the churchyard.

The present church dates from the 9th century, with subsequent additions of the 13th century. It retains some of the most ancient monuments of the early British church in existence. I am informed that to ascend the tower you go through a 'hole in the church' up a spiral stairway that starts left foot first, then crawl along a plank under the apex of the roof, then drop down into the ringing chamber.

There are six bells by Rudhall, which were recast in 1908 by Mears and Stainbank, and the tenor is 11½ cwt. Before that time the bells were down in the churchyard for nearly 40 years, and it took a day to cut away the bushes, etc., that had grown up around them.

Some time ago I was asked through these columns to give a list of central towers where ringers stand in full view of the congregation. The following list is not by any means a full and comprehensive one. I should, however, be pleased to have details of other central towers (with five bells and over) where ringers thus perform from the ground floor.

This list does not, of course, include places where ringers stand in full view under towers that form a

porch, or west towers which are built in to, and not on to, the church; nor side towers like West Grinstead, Sussex. Of the latter type, I hope to deal with in later articles. Besides the following, there are a large number of central towers with from one to four bells where ringing is done from the ground floor, and which are most interesting both from an architectural and historical view. Such a one, for instance, is St. Nicholas', Leicester, one of the oldest churches in the city containing Saxon and Roman work. Having only three bells this does not interest ringers as such.

Algarkirk, Lincs, 6.	Hempstead, Glos, 6.
Alfriston, Sussex, 6.	Horbling, Lincs, 6.
Ashbourne, Derbys, 6.	Ickleton, Cambs, 8.
Aylesbury, Bucks, 8.	Langar, Notts, 5.
Barford, Wilts, 6.	Leckhampton, Glos, 8.
Britford, Wilts, 6.	Long Clawson, Leics, 5.
Broadway, Worcs, 6.	Magor, Mon, 6.
Boughton-Monchelsea, Kent, 6.	Melbourne, Derbys, 8.
Bramshott, Hants, 6.	Meppershall, Beds, 5.
Cricklade, Wilts, 5.	Old Duston, Northants, 6.
Chilmark, Wilts, 6.	Oddington, Glos, 5.
Charlton Queen, Som, 5.	Oulton-Broad, Suffolk, 5.
Crofton, Yorks, 6.	Ousden, Suffolk, 5.
Corley, Warwicks, 5.	Rowington, Warwicks, 5.
Cowsby, Yorks, 6.	Somerby, Leic, 5.
Dinton, Wilts, 6.	Staunton, Glos, 6.
Fairford, Glos, 8.	Tong, Salop, 6.
Foots Cray, Kent, 5.	Thurleigh, Beds, 6.
Glaston, Rutland, 6.	Wollaston, Northants, 6.
Harting, Sussex, 6.	Winsham, Som, 8.
Hanley Castle, Worcs, 6.	Wheathampstead, Herts, 6.
Hemingbrough, Yorks, 6.	

(To be continued.)

### SURREY ASSOCIATION.

#### MEETING AT REIGATE.

The annual general meeting of the Southern District of the Surrey Association was held at Reigate on March 25th. Evensong was conducted by the Vicar, and after tea in the Parish Hall the business meeting was held, the Master, Mr. G. F. Hoad, being in the chair, supported by the Vicar, the Rev. R. Talbot. The treasurer's report was read and received. The secretary stated it was hoped during the lighter evenings that ringing would be undertaken in all the towers in the district, with help given at those towers where beginners were anxious to pass on to change ringing. It was hoped to arrange combined practices at a number of towers, and so maintain a more lively interest in the activities of the association.

Mr. D. Kenneth C. Birt was nominated to serve as Master of the Surrey Association.

### PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

#### MEETING AT MOULTON.

A meeting of the Northampton Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild was held at Moulton on March 25th with a good attendance of members and visitors. Service was conducted by the Rev. G. C. Beach, and light refreshments were provided by the Moulton ringers.

At the business meeting, presided over by the Rev. M. L. Couchman, twelve new members were elected.

## THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK

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All lines exceeding six in any one insertion are charged at the rate of 4d. per line.

The charge for notices other than of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

**NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.**

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Meeting at Bell Foundry, 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1, April 8th, 3 p.m. — A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Annual general meeting at Maidstone on Easter Monday. Committee meeting 11.30 a.m. Service at 3. Tea and business 4.15. Ringing at All Saints', Maidstone, Leeds, Aylesford, Linton, West Malling, Boxley and Bearstead.—F. M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting at Worcester, Easter Monday, April 10th. General meeting in College Hall, 2.30 p.m. Evensong Cathedral 4.15 p.m. Bells: All Saints' (10), St. John's (8), St. Swithin's (6), all 11 a.m.; Cathedral (12), 12 noon to 2.15 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting at Norwich, Easter Monday, April 10th. St. Miles', 11.30 to 1 (bring own lunch); Mancroft and St. Giles', 2 to 4. Service at Mancroft, 4. Tea at Ber House, 5, followed by business meeting; St. John-de-Sepulchre after meeting.—A. G. G. Thurlow, Gen. Sec., 52, The Close, Norwich.

**SOUTHOVER, LEWES.**—Practice, Easter Monday, April 10th, 2.30 p.m.

**EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting at Tibshelf on Easter Monday, April 10th, 2 p.m. Service 4.15.—J. W. England, Hon. Sec.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western District. —Meeting at Dorking on Easter Monday, 3.30. Tea at 4.45 at Orange Cafe, High Street, followed by meeting in belfry.—D. Cooper, 51, Waddon Road, Croydon.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.** — Burton District.—Meeting at Parish Church, Burton-on-Trent, Easter Monday, 3 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Meeting at Sudbury on Easter Monday, at 2 p.m., at All Saints' Church. St. Gregory's later. Secretary will meet ringers at All Saints'.—H. G. Herbert, Hon. Sec.

**LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting at All Saints', Newport, Easter Monday, April 10th, 2 p.m. Service 3. Meeting in Mission House, Lyne Road, 3.45. Tea 5 p.m. St. Woolos' bells after meeting. — J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 94, Altery View, Newport, Mon.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.** — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch. — Meeting at Topsham, Saturday, April 15th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business 4.30. Names for tea by Saturday, April 8th, to R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

**EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—Annual meeting at East Grinstead, April 15th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45. Names to Miss Shepherd, 34, Cantelupe Road, East Grinstead.—C. A. Bassett, Hon. Sec.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.** — Annual meeting at Ipswich, April 15th. Tea and business meeting at Co-op Restaurant 4.15. Bells: St. Mary-le-Tower, St. Margaret's, St. Clement's and St. Matthew's.—H. G. Herbert, Hon. Sec.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—South and West District.—Annual meeting at St. Lawrence's, Brentford (6 bells), Saturday, April 15th, 3 p.m. Committee meeting in the Vicarage 4 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided in the Parish Hall 5 p.m. Annual business meeting to follow. Bells of St. Mary's, Ealing, during evening.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 1, Listoke, Edgehill Road, W.13. Perivale 5320.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division. —Meeting at Lindley, Huddersfield, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.—Wm. Ambler, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.** — Annual general meeting, Saturday, April 15th, St. Margaret's, Leicester. Bells (12) from 2 to 5 p.m. Service 3 p.m. Bishop of Leicester will preach. Committee meet in Vestry 4 p.m. Tea at Cathedral Church House only to those notifying H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester, by 12th. Cathedral bells (12) open after tea.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—Annual meeting at Nuneaton, Saturday, April 15th, 3 p.m. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business, 5 p.m., in Parish Hall. Bells until 8 p.m. Private room at Bull Hotel (opposite G.P.O.) available until 10 p.m.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting at St. Albans, Saturday, April 15th. Ringing at St. Peter's, St. Michael's and St. Stephen's from 2.30 p.m. Service at Cathedral 4 p.m. Tea, Waterend Barn 5.30 p.m. Names for tea before April 13th.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Meeting at Stamford, St. Martin's, on Saturday, April 15th. Service at 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Wisbech Branch. —Meeting at Hilgay, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.3. Tea at 5. Bring food.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Biggleswade District. — Meeting at Maulden, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea at 5.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Daventry Branch. — Meeting at Newnham (6), Saturday, April 15th. Notify for tea. Usual arrangements. — W. C. Moore, 5, Williams Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan and Liverpool Branches. — Joint meeting at Aughton, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea in School, moderate charge. Names to Mr. J. Marsh, 27, Knowsley Road, Ormskirk.—S. Forshaw, G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.



**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Manchester Branch.—Meeting at Brookfield, Gorton, Saturday, April 15th, 3 p.m. Light refreshment. — Frank Reynolds, Branch Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Banbury Branch.—Meeting at Great Tew, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Notify E. Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury, Oxon.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.** — Swindon Branch.—Meeting at Purton, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (heavy six) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon, Wilts.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—Meeting at Bishop Auckland, Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m.—J. T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting at St. James', Milnrow, April 15th, 3 p.m. Tea in Schoolroom. Moderate charge. Notify branch secretary immediately. — I. Kay, 30, Grafton Street, Moorside, Oldham.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.** — Northern Branch.—Meeting at Scothern (6 bells), Saturday, April 15th, 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea at moderate charge at 4.45 p.m. Names by April 13th.—K. W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Carline Road, Lincoln.

**BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Meeting at Eastwood, Rotherham, Saturday, April 15th, 2.30. Cups of tea provided. Bring food.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley.

**SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.**—Meeting on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) afternoon and evening.—G. Burchnall, Sutton-on-Trent.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Chew Deanery. — Meeting at Portishead, Saturday, April 15th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting at Kilburn, Saturday, April 15th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Willesden bells 6.30 p.m. Names to E. M. Atkins, 18, Westbere Road, N.W.2. (Tel. Hampstead 4510) by previous Wednesday.—T. J. Lock, Dis. Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guilborough Branch.—Meeting at Creton, Saturday, April 15th, 5 p.m. Business meeting 3 p.m. Bring food. Cup of tea provided. — C. Green, Branch Sec., Murcott, Long Buckby, Rugby.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—Meeting at Lanchester, Saturday, April 15th, 2.30 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—Meeting at Sharnford, Saturday, April 22nd, 5 p.m.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES

**WALTHAMSTOW.**—At St. Mary's, on Sunday, March 19th for morning service, 1,263 Stedman Caters: H. Smith 1, C. T. Coles 2, H. Rumens 3, H. Street 4, E. E. Holman 5, J. C. Adams 6, J. Bennett (conductor) 7, L. E. Last 8, F. C. Maynard 9, H. Strange 10.

**STOURBRIDGE WORCS.**—On Sunday, March 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Watson, Sub-Lieut., R.N.V.R. 1, Miss F. L. Wright 2, A. Reynolds 3, N. G. Leech 4, F. V. Nicholls 5, A. L. Dunn 6, J. W. Smith (conductor) 7, R. Lees 8.

**BRISTOL.**—At St. Ambrose's on Sunday, March 19th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: \*Mary Bennett 1, F. Skidmore (conductor) 2, \*Mrs. D. Bennett 3, C. Baker 4, Mrs. F. Skidmore 5, A. Maggs 6, G. Wiltshire 7, J. Cox 8. \* First quarter-peal.

**ISLEWORTH.**—On Sunday, March 19th, 1,008 Bob Major: Miss K. Brooks 1, A. Thirst 2, G. Dodds 3, W. F. Gibbons 4, W. W. Bailey 5, S. Croft 6, H. W. Rogers 7, John E. Spice (conductor) 8.

**EGHAM, SURREY.**—On Sunday, March 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. C. Parker, E. Armstrong, E. Morey, W. Shepherd (conductor), E. J. Crocker, E. W. Butler, W. A. Peck, J. Greenough.

**BOURNEMOUTH.**—On Sunday, March 19th, on handbells, in St. Peter's Hall, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. F. J. Marshallsay 1-2, Miss Jessie Chick (first quarter on inside pair) 3-4, Arthur V. Davis 5-6, Francis S. Wilson 7-8.

**KIDLINGTON, OXON.**—On Sunday, March 19th, 1,344 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. Judge 1, Miss V. Hill 2, J. Judge 3, V. Bennett 4, W. C. Porter 5, W. F. Judge (conductor) 6, G. Caldwell 7, Major J. H. R. Freeborn 8.

**ROTHWELL, YORKS.**—On Tuesday, February 29th, 720 Bob Minor: S. Dobson (first 720) 1, G. Ward (first 720 inside) 2, G. Copley 3, T. W. Strangeway (conductor) 4, P. Massam 5, H. Homer 6.

**MARHAM, NORFOLK.**—On Sunday, March 5th, for evensong, 1,260 Bob Minor: F. Matthews, sen. 1, E. Barker 2, J. Buckenham 3, V. Bowen 4, L.A.C. E. Nobles (first quarter-peal of Minor) 5, W. Buckenham (conductor) 6.

**BURFORD, OXON.**—On Saturday, March 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Cornish 1, H. Parker 2, F. Soden 3, B. S. Nichols (conductor) 4, G. Horwood 5, T. W. Bond 6, C. G. Calcutt 7, W. J. Dixon 8.

**CHATHAM.**—On Sunday, March 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Norris 1, E. J. Norris 2, Miss W. Gardiner 3, T. Hill 4, E. A. G. Allen 5, T. Beaumont 6, W. A. J. Knight (conductor) 7, H. Springate 8.

**CRAYFORD, KENT.**—On Sunday, March 12th, for a Confirmation service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. K. B. Jones (first quarter-peal) 1, H. E. Audsley 2, J. Wheadon 3, R. Wake 4, S. Anstead 5, E. H. Oxenham 6, E. Barnett (conductor) 7, W. Lemon 8.

**BELGRAVE, LEICESTER.**—On Saturday, February 26th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Leonard Whitehead 1, Charles Marshall 2, James Draycott 3, Walter P. Whitehead 4, Frank Trotman 5, Leonard Trevor (first 720 Cambridge as conductor) 6.

**DUBLIN.**—At St. George's Church on March 23rd, 720 Bob Minor: Miss V. Crawford 1, Miss I. Eyre 2, Miss I. Rowe 3, Miss J. Rowe 4, Miss A. C. Dukes 5, F. E. Dukes (conductor) 6, A. Darlington 7, A. Worrell 8.

**PORTSMOUTH.**—On Saturday, April 1st, at St. Mary's, Portsea, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. D. Harris 1, E. J. Munday 2, W. Tate 3, F. W. Burnett 4, T. R. Taylor 5, L. P. Cook 6, F. W. Rogers (conductor) 7, H. T. Macey 8. Rung for the induction of the new Vicar.

**LEICESTER.**—On Sunday, March 19th, for evening service at St. Margaret's, 1,120 Grandsire Triples: \*Miss Nancy Price 1, \*Miss Margaret L. Morris 2, Ernest Morris (conductor) 3, Thomas Bent 4, Edwin Cattell 5, George Stedman Morris 6, Charles Cattell 7, Josiah Morris 8. \* Longest length.

**CRADLEY.**—On Sunday, March 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. White (first quarter-peal) 1, A. Williams 2, A. Grove 3, T. Townsend 4, A. Davies 5, H. Wyre 6, N. Leech (conductor) 7, H. Shuck 8.

## JOINT MEETING AT EDENBRIDGE.

A joint meeting of the East Grinstead Guild and the Kent County Association (Tonbridge District) at Edenbridge on March 11th was attended by 30 ringers from 12 surrounding towers. Ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge Major. The visitors included Mr. Dean, of Croydon, Mr. and Mrs. Hazelden, of Guildford, and two ringers from Luton and Tewkesbury. Meetings were arranged for East Grinstead on April 15th, and Lindfield on May 15th.

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