

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

ACCOUNT OF PEALS RUNG IN DIFFERENT METHODS

BY JAMES BARHAM, OF LEEDS, IN KENT,

In that and neighbouring Counties, from 1744 to 1813.

No.	Date.	No. of Changes.	Denomination of Peal.	Place where Rung.	Time in Performance.
1	1744. —	5,040	Plain Bob Triples	Harrietsham	—
2	1745. June 24	15,040	do.	do.	—
3	1746. Dec. 8	10,080	Bob Major Double	do.	7.0
4	1747. May 30	5,040	Bob Major	Wingham	—
5	1748. Dec. 1	5,040	do.	New Romney	—
6	1749. Jan. 25	5,040	do.	Harrietsham	—
7	" May 13	5,040	do.	Faversham*	—
8	" Oct. 10	5,040	Bob Major Triples	do.	—
9	1750. Easter	6,720	Bob Major	Harrietsham	4.18
10	" May 24	10,080	Bob Major Double	do.	6.50
11	" July 6	5,040	Bob Major	do.	—
12	" Nov. 24	5,040	Bob Major Triples	Maidstone	—
13	" Dec. 10	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.30
14	1751. Mar. 23	5,040	Bob Major Double	Harrietsham	3.20
15	" May 17	5,040	Bob Major	Lenham*	3.14
16	" " 27	5,040	Bob Major Triples	do.	3.5
17	" Nov. 2	6,480	Bob Major Caters	Leeds	4.13
18	" " 30	8,100	Plain Ten In	do.	5.26
19	" Dec. 12	6,480	Bob Major Caters	do.	4.11
20	1752. Jan. 25	7,200	Plain Ten In	do.	4.40
21	" Dec. 30	14,600	Bob Major	do.	9.30
22	1753. Jan. 18	20,100	do.	do.	13.34
23	" Dec. 25	5,040	do.	do.	3.12
24	1754. Feb. 0	5,040	do.	Faversham	3.16
25	" Nov. 22	5,040	do.	Wrotham	3.16
26	" " 26	5,040	do.	Leeds	3.12
27	1755. Feb. 10	5,040	do.	do.	3.14
28	" " 22	5,040	do.	do.	3.15
29	" " 21	5,040	do.	Wye	3.10
30	" Mar. 31	do.	do.	Leeds	16.0
31	" May 20	5,040	do.	Wye	3.22
32	1756. Jan. 13	6,720	Oxford Treble Bob	Leeds	4.27
33	" " 20	5,040	Bob Major Double	Maidstone	3.20
34	" Feb. 7	5,040	London Court Bob	Leeds	3.17
35	1757. Feb. 10	6,720	Morning Pleasure	do.	4.21
36	1758. Aug. 6	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Harrietsham	3.16
37	1759. June 3	5,040	Bob Major	Leeds	3.10
38	" Dec. 25	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	do.	3.16
39	1760. April 12	5,400	Oxf. Treble Bob Royal	do.	3.45
40	" May 25	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	S. Mary's, Dover	3.20
41	" Dec. 25	5,184	do.	Leeds	3.17
42	1761. Mar. 28	5,040	Bob Major	do.	—
43	" Apl. 7 & 8	40,320	do.	do.	27.0
44	" Oct. 21	5,040	do.	Lenham	3.16
45	" " 26	5,400	do.	Leeds	2.54
46	" Dec. 5	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Chiddingstone	3.20
47	1762. May 31	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	New Romney	3.22
48	" Dec. 1	5,040	Oxf. Treble Bob Royal	Leeds	3.16
49	" " 25	6,220	Court Bob	do.	4.34
50	1763. Jan. 1	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Maidstone	3.34
51	" " 8	6,720	London Court Bob	Harrietsham	4.27
52	" Mar. 15	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Ashford	3.23
53	" Nov. 17	5,184	Morning Pleasure	Leeds	3.16
54	1764. " 10	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.10
55	1765. Jan. 25	6,720	Court Bob Ten In	do.	4.42
56	" Feb. 2	5,400	Morning Pleasure Ten In	do.	3.35
57	" May 22	6,000	Treble Ten In	do.	4.3
58	1766. Mar. 2	5,056	Morning Exercise	do.	3.17
59	" Dec. 26	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Headcour*	3.26
60	1769. April 30	5,184	do.	Headcour	3.22
61	1770. Mar. 14	5,184	do.	Sevenoaks*	3.24
62	" Nov. 17	5,184	do.	Leeds	3.20
63	" " 29	5,040	Bob Major	Maidstone	3.24
64	" Dec. 30	5,376	Treble Place Bob	Leeds	3.27
65	1771. Mar. 25	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.17
66	" April 28	5,376	Treble Place Bob Double	do.	3.27
67	" " 30	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.10
68	" May 20	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Tenterden	3.27
69	" June 15	5,184	do.	Leeds	3.17
70	" " 23	5,040	do. Ten In	do.	3.16
71	" Aug. 4	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	do.	3.20
72	" Dec. 26	5,184	do.	Salehrst. Sus.*	3.15
73	1772. June 9	5,184	do.	Eltham	3.18
74	1773. Feb. 11	5,760	Bob Major	Leeds	3.34
75	" " 25	5,040	Court Bob	do.	3.10
76	" May 27	3,440	Bob Major	do.	—
77	" " 29	15,760	Court Bob	Leeds	3.42
78	" June 19	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Bromley	3.10
79	1774. " 4	5,088	do.	Leeds	3.9
80	" Aug. 7	15,184	do.	Rye, Sussex	3.7

Account of Peals, &c. (continued.)

No.	Date.	No. of Changes.	Denomination of Peal.	Place where Rung.	Time in Performance.
81	1775. Dec. 23	5,184	New Morning Exercise	Leeds	3.16
82	1776. May 27	5,184	Oxford Treble Bob	Goudhurst	3.14
83	" Dec. 26	5,184	do.	Wye	3.13
84	1778. Jan. 1	5,040	Treble Bob Ten In	Leeds	3.10
85	" " 10	5,184	New Place Treble Bob	do.	3.12
86	1780. Nov. 17	5,088	Treble Bob	do.	3.18
87	1781. Jan. 1	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.13
88	1783. Nov. 1	5,088	Treble Bob	do.	3.11
89	" " 24	5,088	do.	Cranbrook*	3.16
90	1784. May 25	5,760	Treble Bob Ten In	Leeds	3.59
91	" Oct. 30	5,120	do.	Maidstone	4.6
92	" Nov. 8	5,088	Treble Bob	do.	3.34
93	1785. Mar. 25	5,120	do.	Biddenden*	3.35
94	" Nov. 17	5,040	Bob Major	Leeds	3.14
95	1786. Dec. 30	6,480	Bob Major Caters	Maidstone	4.22
96	1791. Mar. 21	5,000	Treble Bob Ten In	Leeds	3.12
97	1792. April 4	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.14
98	" Dec. 25	5,088	Treble Bob	do.	3.17
99	" " 26	5,088	do.	Lenham	3.14
100	1793. Jan. 15	5,040	Bob Major	Leeds	3.10
101	" Mar. 20	5,088	Treble Bob	Faversham	3.11
102	1795. April 16	5,040	Bob Major	Leeds	3.10
103	1796. April 6	5,040	do.	do.	3.13
104	" June 3	10,080	Treble Bob	do.	6.26
105	1798. May 19	5,088	do.	do.	3.13
106	1799. May 28	5,760	Bob Major	Harrietsham	3.29
107	" Dec. 20	5,760	do.	Leeds	3.31
108	1800. Jan. 11	5,040	do.	do.	3.13
109	1803. Mar. 9	5,088	Treble Bob Double	do.	3.10
110	1809. Dec. 18	5,184	Old Oxford Bob	do.	3.16
111	1813. Oct. 25	5,040	Bob Major	do.	3.12

The above is nearly a correct copy from the manuscript of James Barham, which is in the possession of W. Lover, North End, Fulham, Middlesex. Some trifling emendations being necessary in a few instances, it is hoped the author (who is living) will see it was from no motive but to transmit his performances with more precision to his living friends and to posterity, he having rung peals for the space of 69 years.

No. 30. This number cannot be clearly ascertained, nor can it be deemed a peal in consequence of the breaking of a clapper. The said James Barham stood 14 hrs. 44 mins. under the seventh bell, drank two glasses of wine, and called all the bobs, for which the proprietor of this work has a certificate signed by a respectable person, who is willing to testify upon oath the truth of it.

No. 43. The whole peal of changes on eight bells having never been performed before or since.

No. 110 was rung by James Barham, aged 84 years; Thomas Bigg, 45; W. Tilly, 73 years; James Bolden, 41 years; W. Sweetlove, 40 years; Benjamin Bottle, 41 years; Thomas Austin, 74 years; George Tilly, 62 years. All these ages added together make 509 years.

No. 111 was rung by James Barham, 88 years, with two other men and five young hands, who never rung a peal of 5000 before.

NOTE.—Those marked * were first peals at the respective places.

HALL & SON, Printers, Bank Street, Maidstone.

Some Peculiarities about Bells.—No. VI.

SIR,—When I was a boy of 14 I lived at Craven Cottage, Fulham, and on festival or ringing-days I was always in our garden, if it was summer time, before 5 o'clock in the morning to hear the bells. Mortlake always began from 5 to 6. I do not know the weight of the 8 bells there, but they sounded like a musical box, and I feel sure they are light, but beautifully in tune. Then began Chiswick. There were 5 heavy bells in the minor key: very plaintive and curious they sounded. Then thundered out the 10 fine bells of Fulham, and the tuneful 8 of Putney. Sometimes I would hear the 8 of Hammersmith, and some others still more distant. It is not so in this neighbourhood. The only bells I can ever hear ringing from my present garden are the light but tuneful 6 of Hedon, and those who are within hearing of the bells of Patrington from any direction, are not within hearing of any other ring of bells whatever. The church of St. Patrick, Patrington, is one of the most perfect parish churches in all England. Both the transepts are doubly isled, and the graceful spire which rises from the centre of the building is about 180 feet high. Here is a ring of 5 bells, tenor 15 cwt., in the key of G. The steeple would well hold a very good ring of 8; and surely the present 5 might well be augmented to 6 at least. I now speak of my own church, All Saints, Burstwick. We have a tall, grand, square tower at the west end, which was surely built for a ring of bells. We are 3 miles from Hedon in the one direction, and 6 from Patrington in the other. We have but one bell, but it is nearly 1 ton in weight, and sounds the note of E natural. Its deep tone can be heard for several miles, and it is always rung at 8 o'clock every Sunday morning, with such careful accuracy that many a cottager looks up at his clock on the wall to see if it be right, and if not to put it right.

F. B. KING.

Date Touch at New College, Oxford.
1875 Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 13 mins., by Oxford Society of Change-ringers, composed by H. Hubbard, sen., of Leeds, and conducted by J. Field; containing the extent of the 'Tittums' reversed.—Reported.