THE RINGING WORLD

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## CLERGY AND RINGERS.

A good deal has been said recently with regard to the lack of interest shown by many clergy in their ringers. At Guildford a fortnight ago and at Bristol last Saturday it was the theme of several speeches, and there is justification for what was said. The clergy as a whole do not evince that interest in the ringers which the latter have a right to expect. Of course there are notable exceptions, but we believe this branch of church activity could be materially strengthened if the clergy showed a more practical sympathy with the efforts of the ringers, and put themselves into closer touch with the work that is carried on in the belfries. Frequently, it is true, when meetings are held, the ringers hear from the pulpit some kindly words of appreciation nearly always accompanied by a homily upon answering the summons which they extend to others. We do not pretend to suggest that ringers' habits of church-going are always perfect—from the parson's point of view—although the ground for reproach is in these days far less substantial than in times gone by, but how often do the clergy, except they be themselves ringers, visit the belfry? How much effort do they make to help the ringers keep their band up to strength, and what encouragement do they give to the punctual and efficient maintenance of service ringing?

We do not ask these questions in any querulous spirit, but because we believe the clergy could, if they would, do a great deal more than is at present done to raise the efficiency of service ringing, the spirit of the ringers and even the tone of the belfry. Where service ringing is at its best is usually in those places where the ringers get the interest and consideration of the clergy. Unfortunately in many parishes the efficiency of the Sunday ringing is about the last thing that seems to matter. If the choir falls belows strength it becomes the immediate concern of the incumbent and, unless he is dead to all his responsibilities, he takes steps at once to secure new voices. If the bellringers are below strength and the fact is brought to his notice, he may be sorry to hear it—but that is usually where his interest ends. If only the clergy would use their influence more in building up their bands of ringers they would, we feel sure, in many cases get much better service. If they would show members of the congregation that this is one way in which they could render practical service to the Church, they would be introducing church-going people to the belfry, instead of leaving it to the ringers to search the highways and byways for recruits in the hope of turning them into church-going folk afterwards.

(Continued on page 50.)

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This is one direction in which the clergy could help immensely; and there are other ways in which their encouragement would be appreciated. Some of these were mentioned in the speeches to which we have referred, and it is a pity that the criticisms offered cannot be brought home to those clergy who persistently neglect their ringers. The reproach which used to attach to ringers, that they did not attend church, is beginning to swing the other way, and is, at any rate equally, upon the clergy who do not visit the belfry. In many cases this neglect of the ringers is, perhaps, due to lack of thought. If the leaders of the ringers in these neglected towers would have the courage to interview the parsons and put the matter tactfully and politely to them, it is not unlikely there would be a new and better understanding between ringers and clergy which would result in more help and consideration for those who Sunday by Sunday seek to serve the Church by ringing the bells.

## TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Four Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;**

Tenor 50 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CHARLES T. COLES ... | ...*Treble* | WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... | 7 |
| EDWARD P. DUFFIELD... ... | 2 | HARRY HOVERD ... ... ... | 8 |
| GEORGE R. PYE ... ... ... | 3 | HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... | 9 |
| JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... ... | 4 | JAMES BENNETT ... ... ... | 10 |
| ALBERT W. COLES ... ... | 5 | REUBEN SANDERS ... ... | 11 |
| CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... | 6 | WILLIAM PYE ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

**A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5008 CHANGES;**

Tenor 30 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb. in C sharp.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NOLAN GOLDEN ... ... | ...*Treble* | GEORGE HOWCHIN ... ... | 7 |
| WILLIAM E. BASON ... ... | 2 | ERIC G. BENNETT ... ... | 8 |
| CHARLES F. SAYER ... ... | 3 | GEORGE MAYERS ... ... ... | 9 |
| FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ... | 4 | BERTIE J. HOWCHIN ... ... | 10 |
| WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ... | 5 | GEORGE BAILEY ... ... ... | 11 |
| WILLIAM B. DUNCAN ... ... | 6 | WILLIAM J. CLOVER ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. William Clover, of Wymondham. First peal of Little Bob Maximus by all, on the bells and for the association. W. E. Bason has now taken part in peals of Little Bob on eight, ten and twelve bells. The 58 course composition contains the course end extent of the 6th in 5-6 and all combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6 without the 2nd in 6th's.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Monday, January 15, 1934, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;**

Tenor 28 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRANCIS T. JEWELL ... | ...*Treble* | HENRY B. BURT ... ... ... | 6 |
| ALFRED E. REEVES ... ... | 2 | F. CECIL MOGFORD ... ... | 7 |
| STEPHEN H. WOOD ... ... | 3 | JACK CARMAN ... ... ... | 8 |
| ALFRED PEARCE ... ... ... | 4 | JOHN G. JEFFERIES ... ... | 9 |
| GILBERT PEARCE ... ... ... | 5 | FRANK SKIDMORE ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by G. T. DALTRY. Conducted by ALFRED E. REEVES.

Rung to commemorate the completion of 50 years' service as a ringer at this church by Mr. F. T. Jewell.

LLANDAFF.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Wednesday, January 17, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,*

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SS PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EVAN COLES ... ... ... | ...*Treble* | PETER HEATH ... ... ... | 6 |
| ALFRED W. HEATH ... ... | 2 | HUGH THOMAS ... ... ... | 7 |
| ERNEST STITCH ... ... ... | 3 | ERNEST COOMBES... ... ... | 8 |
| JOHN W. JONES ... ... ... | 4 | FREDERICK CHAMBERLAIN ... | 9 |
| CHARLES H. PERRY ... ... | 5 | JOHN PHILLIPS ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by EDGAR GUISE. Conducted by ERNEST COOMBES.

Rung as a coming of age peal for the ringer of the 7th. It was also his first peal of Royal.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| RONALD H. DOVE ... | ...*Treble* | *ROBERT GREEN ... ... ... | 6 |
| FRANCIS E. MAY ... ... ... | 2 | WILLIAM JUDGE... ... ... | 7 |
| HUGH J. BALCOMBE ... ... | 3 | GEORGE HOLIFIELD, JUN. | 8 |
| MARGARET E. REYNOLDS ... | 4 | WALTER F. JUDGE ... ... | 9 |
| FRANCIS E. TAYLOR ... ... | 5 | WILLIAM STONE... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE

* First ten bell peal.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, January 6, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,*

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

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

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb. in B.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... | *Treble* | PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM... ... | 5 |
| FREDERICK J. MILNER... ... | 2 | ALFRED BALLARD ... ... | 6 |
| WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... | 3 | WILLIAM H. CLARKE ... ... | 7 |
| EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... | 4 | PERCY PRICE... ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in deep respect to the late Mr. W. Hyde Inglesant, of Quorndon, Leicestershire, who passed away on December 30th. E. R. Whitehead's 50th peal on the bells.

MOSSLEY, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Monday, January 8, 1934, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 13 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRED DUNKERLEY ... | ...*Treble* | ERNEST GARSIDE ... ... | 5 |
| HAROLD TAYLOR ... ... ... | 2 | STEPHEN L. PARRY ... ... | 6 |
| HAROLD HAMER ... ... ... | 3 | *RALPH TAYLOR ... ... ... | 7 |
| HARRY PICKLES ... ... ... | 4 | †JOSEPH BURGESS ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by F. DUNKERLEY.

* First away from treble. † First peal on eight bells.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(BRISTOL BRANCH.)

*On Wednesday, January 10, 1934, in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-PORT.

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ERNEST ABRAHAM ... | ...*Treble* | SIDNEY RICHES ... ... ... | 5 |
| EDGAR GUISE ... ... ... | 2 | GILBERT PEARCE ... ... .. | 6 |
| HENRY BURT ... ... ... | 3 | JACK CARMAN ... ... ... | 7 |
| FREDERICK G. LEAKER ... | 4 | FRANK SKIDMORE'... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by FREDK. CLAYTON. Conducted by EDGAR GUISE.

Rung to welcome the Rev. Dodgson Sykes, who was inducted on December 9th, 1933. These bells have just been overhauled and fitted with ball bearings by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Monday, January 8, 1934, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

**A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ERNEST BRETT ... ... ... | ...*Treble* | EDWIN F. PIKE ... ... ... | 5 |
| ALFRED PYE ... ... ... ... | 2 | GEORGE R. PYE ... ... ... | 6 |
| JOSEPH MARKS ... ... ... | 3 | JAMES E. DAVIS ... ... ... | 7 |
| JOSEPH WAGHORN ... ... | 4 | CHARLES W ROBERTS | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by J. E. DAVIS.

FULBOURN, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Wednesday, January 10, 1934, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VIGOR AND ALL SAINTS,

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

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CHARLES W. COOK ... | ..*Treble* | MANSFIELD GINN ... ... | 5 |
| ERNEST G. HIBBINS ... ... | 2 | T. REGINALD DENNIS ... | 6 |
| *BASIL D. BUTTRESS ... .. | 3 | *ROBERT G. KING ... ... | 7 |
| FRANCIS G. GLEAVES ... | 4 | FRANK WARRINGTON ... | ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by ERNEST G. HIBBINS.

* First peal of Surprise Major. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Wednesday, January 10, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| RUSSELL W. CURSON ... | ...*Treble* | CHARLES H. MOORE ... ... | 5 |
| ALBERT E. BRACY ... ... | 2 | NOLAN GOLDEN ... ... ... | 6 |
| ERNEST SHORTING ... ... | 3 | GEORGE MAYERS ... ... ... | 7 |
| CEDRIC CURSON ... ... .. | 4 | FRANK H. DAVEY... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

WEST WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

*On Saturday, January 13, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. REGINALD BLABY ... | ...*Treble* | GEORGE MARTIN ... ... | 5 |
| FREDERICK G. BIGGS ... ... | 2 | *ROLAND BIGGS ... ... ... | 6 |
| PERCY NEWTON ... ... ... | 3 | WILLIAM HENLEY ... ... | 7 |
| WILLIAM H. FUSSELL... ... | 4 | HARRY WINGROVE ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

* 100th peal.

TODMORDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, January 13, 1934, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**

Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRANK FIELDEN ... ... ... | ...*Treble* | LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... | 5 |
| LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... | 2 | THOMAS B. WORSLEY... ... | 6 |
| ROBERT WALLWORK ... ... | 3 | HERBERT DAVENPORT... ... | 7 |
| WILLIAM CRABTREE ... ... | 4 | EDWARD JENKINS ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by E. JENKINS.

Arranged and rung as a memorial to William Horan, died January 16th, 1933, and Titus Barlow, died December 21st, 1933.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

*On Sunday, January 14, 1934, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 21½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| LESLIE G. BRETT ... | ...*Treble* | WILLIAM C. RUMSEY ... ... | 5 |
| GEORGE PRYKE ... ... ... | 2 | JAMES BENNETT, JUN.... ... | 6 |
| JAMES BENNETT ... ... ... | 3 | LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... | 7 |
| ALBERT E. WHITING ... ... | 4 | T. WILLIAM LAST ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by L. C. WIGHTMAN.

ROYSTON, HERTS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, January 13, 1934, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**
Tenor 11¼ cwt. in F sharp.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| VIOLET E. SHORTER ... | ...*Treble* | FRANK WARRINGTON ... ... | 5 |
| ERNEST G. HIBBINS ... ... | 2 | REGINALD T. DENNIS... ... | 6 |
| *FRANCIS GLEAVES ... ... | 3 | FREDERICK DENCH ... ... | 7 |
| *MANSFIELD GINN ... ... | 4 | JOHN W. WARD ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by JOHN W. WARD.

* First peal of Superlative. A birthday peal for the mother of the conductor on attaining her 79th year. Also a compliment to the composer on the anniversary of his wedding.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, January 13, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12¾ cwt. in F.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRANCIS E. DAWE ... | ...*Treble* | HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... | 5 |
| THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. | 2 | EDWIN A. BARNETT ... ... | 6 |
| HARRY HOVEND ... ... ... | 3 | THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. | 7 |
| JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... ... | 4 | EDWIN BARNETT ... .. | ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to Edwin Gibbs, a past master of the Ancient Society of College Youths, who passed away that morning.

LONDON.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Monday, January 15, 1934, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,
**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**
Tenor 20 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALBERT LAWRENCE ... | ...*Treble* | GEORGE R. PYE ... ... ... | 5 |
| HARRY HOSKINS ... ... ... | 2 | JOSEPH MARKS ... ... ... | 6 |
| EDWIN F. PIKE ... ... ... | 3 | ERNEST BRETT ... ... ... | 7 |
| ERNEST W. FURBANK ... ... | 4 | CHARLES W. ROBERTS | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

SCUNTHORPE, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
*On Tuesday, January 16, 1934, in Three Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 18½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *THOMAS WARR ... ... | ...*Treble* | GEORGE W. MOODY ... ... | 5 |
| FRANK LORD ... ... ... | 2 | ERNEST BRITTAIN ... ... | 6 |
| BERNARD GILLATT, JUN. ... | 3 | JACK BRAY ... ... ... ... | 7 |
| *FRED LACEY ... ... ... | 4 | CECIL PYE ... ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal. Mr. F. Lord has now 'completed the circle' in this tower, and is the first to do so. This peal was rung in honour of Canon H. T. Parry, president of the Grimsby District, being appointed Archdeacon of Lindsey.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Tuesday, January 16, 1934, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**
Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| LIONEL J. CULLUM ... | ...*Treble* | HARRY HOSKINS ... ... ... | 5 |
| EDWIN F. PIKE ... ... ... | 2 | HERBERT E AUDSLEY... ... | 6 |
| JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... .. | 3 | FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... | 7 |
| EDWIN A. BARNETT ... ... | 4 | CHARLES W. ROBERTS | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by FREDK. J. CULLUM

## COMMITTEE RING 720.

A 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung at Battle on Saturday, January 6th, by members of the committee of the Hastings and District Guild after a meeting: J. Linden 1, W. Franks 2, F. Medhurst 3, W. Gorringe 4, A. Levett 5, B. Saunders (first as conductor) 6.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION
(ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.)
*On Wednesday, January 17, 1934, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *FREDERICK MORRIS ... | ...*Treble* | THOMAS E. SONE... ... ... | 5 |
| MRS. H. BAKER ... ... ... | 2 | WILLIAM P. TICKNER ... ... | 6 |
| †NELSON BOURNE ... ... | 3 | KENNETH PATTENDEN ... | 7 |
| HARRY BAKER ... ... ... | 4 | CECIL B. BALLARD ... | ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal of Triples 'inside.' Mrs. H. Baker's and the conductor's 200th peal.

SOBERTON, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Wednesday, January 17, 1934, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| WILLIAM LINTER, JUN. | ...*Treble* | JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... ... | 5 |
| GEORGE WILLIAMS ... ... | 2 | WALTER LINTER ... ... ... | 6 |
| *ERNEST W. WHITEMAN ... | 3 | WILFRED ANDREWS ... ... | 7 |
| WILLIAM LINTER, SEN. ... | 4 | EDWIN J. HARDING, SEN. | ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal. Rung on the 50th anniversary of the conductor's first peal, the first peal on the bells and the first peal in Hampshire by the former Winchester Diocesan Guild.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Wednesday, January 17, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**
Tenor 15 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| WALTER CHARMAN ... | ...*Treble* | NELSON ELLIOTT ... ... ... | 5 |
| GEORGE OLLIVER... ... ... | 2 | JACK M. CRIPPS ... ... ... | 6 |
| ROBERT SWIFT ... ... ... | 3 | CECIL NICE ... ... ... ... | 7 |
| KENNETH SNELLING ... ... | 4 | OLIVER SIPPETTS... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by F. BENNETT (No. 21). Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Thursday, January 18, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HERBERT E. AUDSLEY | ...*Treble* | EDWIN A. BARNETT ... ... | 5 |
| THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. | 2 | EDWIN BARNETT ... ... ... | 6 |
| JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... ... | 3 | THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. | 7 |
| E. CHARLES PATTEN ... ... | 4 | WILLIAM E. BOND ... | ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. George Evans, who gave the bells in 1876, and bore the cost of rehanging in 1921, who was interred at Crayford on this day.

GREAT STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Thursday, January 18, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS'.
Tenor 12 cwt. 19 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CHARLES DYKE ... ... | ...*Treble* | CHARLES T. COLES ... ... | 5 |
| EDWARD ASHBY ... ... ... | 2 | JOHN E. ROOTES ... ... | 6 |
| MISS ELSIE K. FULTON ... | 3 | *ROY WILKINSON... ... ... | 7 |
| GEORGE R. PYE ... ... ... | 4 | GEORGE A. HUGHES ... | ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

* First peal in the method.

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**DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM**

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 18½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| THOMAS J. LOCK ... ... ... | *Treble* | HARRY KILBY ... ... ... | 5 |
| *MISS FRANCES HUMPHREY | 2 | ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... | 6 |
| MISS KATH. M. BRADFORD | 3 | FREDERICK W. GOODFELLOW | 7 |
| FRANK CORKE ... ... ... | 4 | J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE... ... | *Tenor* |

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER

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

HAWKHURST, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**

Tenor 23 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HARRY BAKER ... ... ... | *Treble* | *JAMES G. POWELL ... ... | 5 |
| MRS. H. BAKER ... ... ... | 2 | THOMAS E. SONE ... ... | 6 |
| WILLIAM HAIGH ... ... | 3 | †REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... | 7 |
| *WILLIAM GORRINGE ... ... | 4 | ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... ... | *Tenor* |

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal in the method. † 150th peal. A birthday peal for J. G. Powell. The composition, No. 387, is rung for the first time and brings the conductor's total to 100 different compositions.

ANSTEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. in G.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JOSEPH S. CARTER ... ... | *Treble* | WILLIAM H. CLARKE ... ... | 5 |
| KENNETH A. ROE... ... ... | 2 | FREDERICK ROE ... ... ... | 6 |
| FRANCIS W. LLOYD ... ... | 3 | FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... | 7 |
| ALBAN DISNEY ... ... ... | 4 | JOHN GRANT ... ... ... ... | *Tenor* |

Conducted by FREDERICK ROE.

HANDBRIDGE, CHESTER.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-WITHOUT-THE-WALLS,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *ARTHUR E. PEGLAR, JUN. | *Treble* | SAMUEL JONES, JUN. ... ... | 5 |
| ROBERT SPERRING ... ... | 2 | ROLAND PARK ... ... ... | 6 |
| JOHN HAYES ... ... ... | 3 | PERCY SWINDLEY .. ... ... | 7 |
| GEORGE R. JONES ... ... | 4 | ARTHUR E. PEGLAR, SEN. | *Tenor* |

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.

* First peal of Major. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Samuel Jones, jun.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 21 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *JOHN HOBDEN ... ... ... | *Treble* | FREDERICK G. WOODISS ... | 5 |
| HAROLD N. PITSTOW... ... | 2 | †THOMAS NORMAN ... ... | 6 |
| †NORMAN HOBDEN ... ... | 3 | †FRANK E. MITCHELL... ... | 7 |
| †WILLIAM HOBDEN ... ... | 4 | ALBERT E. CHEESMAN ... | *Tenor* |

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by H. N. PITSTOW.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. Rung on the birthday of the 7th ringer. All except ringer of 7th are members of local band.

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HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 12 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MISS L. NOEL CAWTHORNE | *Treble* | MISS KATH. BURCHNALL ... | 5 |
| *MISS LUCY M. KELLY ... | 2 | JOHN MARSHALL ... ... ... | 6 |
| MISS GRACE BURCHNALL ... | 3 | JOHN J. L. GILBERT ... ... | 7 |
| FREDERICK CARDWELL ... | 4 | FRED WATKINSON ... ... | *Tenor* |

Conducted by J. J. L. GILBERT.

* First peal of Surprise away from treble. Arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Turner, one of the local band.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

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

Tenor 14½ cwt. in G.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HAROLD E. PENNACK ... ... | *Treble* | CHARLES W. BURTON ... ... | 5 |
| GEORGE GREEN ... ... ... | 2 | AMBROSE MASON ... ... ... | 6 |
| PERCY GREEN ... ... ... | 3 | WILLIAM CHALK ... ... ... | 7 |
| ALFRED G. G. THURLOW ... | 4 | WILLIAM KEEBLE ... ... | *Tenor* |

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY NATIVITY,

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

JOHNSON'S VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALFRED E. REEVES ... ... | *Treble* | JOSEPH T. DYKE ... ... ... | 5 |
| FREDERICK A. TARGETT ... | 2 | WILLIAM B. KYNASTON ... | 6 |
| WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT... ... | 3 | RONALD G. BECK ... ... ... | 7 |
| HARRY J. SANGER ... ... | 4 | WILLIAM A. CAVE ... ... | *Tenor* |

Conducted by W. A. CAVE.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

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

Tenor 19 cwt. 12 lb. in D.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ARTHUR C. OTWAY ... ... | *Treble* | GEORGE MARRINER ... ... | 5 |
| JOHN BEAMS ... ... ... ... | 2 | WILLIAM J. WHITING ... ... | 6 |
| ALFRED H. WINCH ... ... | 3 | ARTHUR H. SMITH ... ... | 7 |
| W. CYRIL SMITH ... ... ... | 4 | ALBERT HARMAN .. ... ... | *Tenor* |

Composed by G. MARRINER. Conducted by A. HARMAN.

A peal in this method is now rung for the first time. Also rung as a birthday compliment to W. J. Whiting.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 21½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| GEORGE WIGHTMAN ... ... | *Treble* | WILLIAM WIGHTMAN ... ... | 5 |
| WILLIAM J. GROOM ... ... | 2 | ARTHUR GRIMWOOD ... ... | 6 |
| ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN ... | 3 | WALTER RUFFLES ... ... | 7 |
| FRANK RUFFLES ... ... ... | 4 | GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... | *Tenor* |

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN. Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb in F.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| WALTER CHARMAN ... ... | *Treble* | WILLIAM T. BEESON ... | 5 |
| *WILLIAM M STONE ... ... | 2 | WILLIAM STANFORD ... ... | 6 |
| JOHN COOK ... ... ... ... | 3 | JOHN H B HESSE ... ... | 7 |
| PETER CHARMAN ... ... | 4 | *ALFRED H. PULLING ... ... | *Tenor* |

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by A H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method on eight bells. First peal in the method by the Guild.

## SIX BELL PEALS.

CADOXTON.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**
Being seven extents called differently. Tenor 7½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JOHN L. BLOXHAM ... ... | *Treble* | DAVID J. LEWIS ... ... ... | 4 |
| JOHN E. BLOXHAM ... ... | 2 | EDWARD PHILLIPS ... ... | 5 |
| WILLIAM J. THOMAS ... ... | 3 | GWYN I. LEWIS ... ... ... | *Tenor* |

Conducted by G. I. LEWIS.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
*On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GABRIEL,
**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**
Being 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JOSEPH LAWRENCE ... ... | *Treble* | SIDNEY T. HOLT ... ... ... | 4 |
| FRANK LAWRENCE ... ... | 2 | CHARLES CAMM ... ... ... | 5 |
| WILLIAM RANFORD ... ... | 3 | THOMAS W. LEWIS ... ... | *Tenor* |

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX,
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
*On Friday, January 12, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,*
AT THE VESTRY HALL,
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALFRED G. G. THURLOW ... | 1-2 | LEWIS W. WIFFEN ... ... | 5-6 |
| WILLIAM KEEBLE... ... ... | 3-4 | BASIL REDGWELL... ... ... | 7-8 |

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE

LEVERSTOCK GREEN, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Wednesday, January 17, 1934, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,*
AT THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE,
**A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**
Tenor size 15 in O.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *REV. E. BANKES JAMES ... | 1-2 | WILFRID H. J. HOOTON ... | 5-6 |
| CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY | 3-4 | †WALTER AYRE ... ... ... | 7-8 |

Composed and Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.
* First peal in the method 'in hand.' † First peal in the method. First peal in the method in the county.

LEVERSTOCK GREEN, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Wednesday, January 17, 1934, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,*
AT THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE,
**A PEAL OF SHIPWAY'S COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**
Tenor size 11 in G.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| REV. E. BANKES JAMES ... | 1-2 | WILFRID H. J. HOOTON ... | 5-6 |
| CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY | 3-4 | WALTER AYRE ... ... ... | 7-8 |

Composed by Rev. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.
First peal ever rung in the method.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Thursday, January 18, 1934, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,*
AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT.
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**
Tenor size 12 in F.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALFRED BARNES ... ... ... | 1-2 | FREDERICK PAGE ... ... | 5-6 |
| ALLEN F. BAILBY... ... ... | 3-4 | *A. ERNEST JONES ... ... | 7-8 |

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by A. F. BAILBY.
* First peal on handbells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

**(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)**

## NEW RING OF SIX FOR STAFFORDSHIRE

### TREBLE BELL ADDED AT TUTBURY.

The augmented ring of six bells at St. Mary's Priory Church, Tutbury, was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Lichfield, on Saturday, January 13th, when a large congregation was present in the magnificent Norman Church—one of the finest examples of its kind in the country.

Among those present were the Rural Dean (Preb. Edwards, Vicar of Stretton), the Revs. W. S. Penley (Boylestone) and A. Cole (Hanbury) and about 40 ringers from Burton, Derby, Uttoxeter, Overseal, Loughborough, Rocester, Norton-in-the-Moors, Breaston, Melbourne, Marlow (Essex), etc.

During the singing of the hymn, 'The sacred bells of England,' the Bishop, clergy and churchwardens proceeded to the base of the tower, where the Bishop solemnly dedicated the bells and unveiled a brass tablet recording the generosity of the two donors. He afterwards delivered an inspiring address. At the dedication the bells were chimed by the local ringers, and as the congregation left the church the bells were raised in peal, and a well-struck 240 of Grandsire Doubles was rung by J. H. Swinfield 1, J. W. Cotton 2, W. W. Worthington 3, R. H. Dove 4, C. Harrison 5, R. G. Lewis 6.

Upwards of 80 sat down to tea in the Church Schools, and during the evening the bells were at the disposal of the visitors, who made good use of them.

The five bells have been retuned and quarter turned and rehung with complete new fittings at the expense of Mr. H. Newton, of The Cliff, Tutbury, while the cost of a sixth bell has been borne by Mr. W. W. Worthington, of Maple Hayes, Lichfield.

Originally the tenor rope fell close to the wall, but the rope circle is now all that can be desired. The comfort of the ringers has been greatly improved by the insertion of a new floor, which forms a separate room for the clock, and has reduced the draft of rope to pleasant proportions. A further transformation has been effected by blocking up the louvres, so that the sound of the bells is modified in the neighbourhood of the church. The whole work has been carried through by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who were represented by Mr. J. Oldham, and all present were loud in their praise as to the excellence of the work.

The bells are inscribed as follows:—

Treble.—'1933.' This bell was given to the Church of St. Mary, Tutbury, by W. W. Worthington to the Glory of God. C. Hudson, Vicar. O. V. Gunning, W. Bentley, Churchwardens.

2nd.—Tempore Joseph Willington et Ben Applebie, Wardens. 1699.

3rd.—His. Nazerenvs. Rex. Ivdeorvm. Fili Dei. Miserer. 1669.

4th.—God Save His Church. 1699.

5th.—All Glory Bee To God. 1699.

Tenor.—Taylor's Loughboro. 1861. (10 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb. in F sharp.)

### DEATH OF MR. PHILIP SADLER.

A NORWICH HISTORIAN.

Many of the older ringers in Norfolk and Suffolk will hear with regret of the death on Christmas Eve of Mr. Philip Sadler, of Norwich. 'Philip' was the last link between things old and things new in Norwich ringing life, and was looked upon by his former comrades as a 'character,' and an amazing one too. All his life he had devoted an immense amount of time to delving for ringing history from the files of old Norwich newspapers and other likely sources, and, in close co-operation with the late Samuel Slater, of Glemsford, Suffolk, he had brought to light a tremendous amount of information of historical value of the days when the old Norwich Scholars were a power in the ringing world.

He was a mine of information about the old Norwich men—where they were born—married—buried—their occupations—the houses in which they lived—their performances and their hates. Much of all this alas! was recorded only in his memory and is now gone for all time.

It was 'Philip'—or was it Samuel Slater?—who found the record of Holt's Original, called for the first time by one of the actual ringers and not from MSS. At any time, if it was a question of food and work versus ringing history, the latter always won. He was 72 years of age, and it is good to know that he went his last long journey via St. Peter Mancroft Church, and that a muffled touch was rung on the bells there on the day of the funeral.

### MEMORIAL TABLET UNVEILED AT APPLEDORE.

At the annual meeting of the Romney Marsh and District Guild held at Appledore on Saturday, the Vicar (the Rev. G. Wright) unveiled a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples that was rung to the memory of the late Mr. Charles W. Player, of Stone.

After the service tea was partaken of at the Swan Hotel, the Vicar presiding, when about 50 members were present from Ashford, Benenden, Kingsnorth, Lydd, Sturry, Stone, Tenterden and Tunbridge Wells. The Master (Mr. C. W. Everett) and Mr. P. Page (hon. secretary) were again elected for the ensuing year.

## BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

### NEW RULE FOR SHIELD CONTEST.

The annual meeting of the Barnsley and District Association was held at Barnsley on Saturday week, when members attended from Ackworth, Darfield, Darton, Dawsbury, Ecclesfield, Felkirk, Hoylandswaine, Penistone, Royston, Sandal, Shelley, Wath, Wortley and the local company. The bells were rung during the afternoon in various methods, and service was held in St. Mary's Church. Canon Hone, M.A., officiated, and Mr. W. Palmer presided at the organ. Tea was partaken of at the Station Restaurant, and at the business meeting which followed Canon Hone presided. The auditor's report was accepted as satisfactory, and as there were no nominations sent in for the offices of president, treasurer and secretary, Mr. W. Robinson moved and Mr. E. Cutts seconded that the present officers be re-elected, viz.: President, Mr. C. D. Potter; treasurer, Mr. H. Chant; and secretary, Mr. A. Panther. This was carried unanimously.

Monk Bretton was accepted for the next meeting, which is to be held on Saturday, February 10th.

A motion from the previous meeting was put to the members and carried, namely: 'That any local company entering the shield contest and only having four members of their own company available shall be permitted to call on any willing financial member, whether living in the radius or not, providing they are not ringing with any other company.'

Mr. Potter moved the customary vote of thanks, which was seconded by Mr. Moxon and carried with applause.—The Rector suitably replied.

The majority then adjourned to the tower for further ringing both in Major and Minor methods, and this concluded a most pleasant meeting.

## KELVEDON RINGERS' 125 EXTENTS.

During the year 1933 125 complete 720's were rung at St. Mary's Church, Kelvedon, where there are six bells, tenor 21 cwt. The methods were: Surprise: London 28, Cambridge 27, Wells 5, York 4, Norfolk 4, Durham 3, Hull 3, Bourne 2, Norwich 2, Primrose 2, Ipswich 1, Lincoln 1; Treble Bob: Oxford 14, Kent 10, College Exercise 1. Plain: Plain Bob 15, Double Court 2, Double Oxford 1.

The ringers who took part were Messrs. C. W. Burton, C. Button, J. Elliott, W. T. Elliott, W. Keeble, A. J. Mason and R. W. Pye, who shared the conducting, F. Bennett, W. Butler, A. P. Cannon, R. Grainger, G. Green, J. Maylon, C. Mills, E. Mingay, J. Papworth, A. Saunders, J. Shepherd, F. Shynn and J. Shynn.

## CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

### CREWE BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Crewe Branch was held at Christ Church, Crewe, on Saturday, January 20th, and members were present from Acton, Alsager, Audlem, Barthomley, Crewe, Davenham, Lawton, Market Drayton, Wistaston, Wrenbury, Warrington, Nantwich, Northwich, Hazel Grove and Stoke-on-Trent, making the splendid attendance of 60 in all.

Ringing commenced at 3 o'clock, and a service was held at 4.30, when the preacher was the Vicar (the Rev. S. T. Stevens), who gave a most appropriate address. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar and wardens, was afterwards served in the Parish Hall. The Vicar extended a very hearty welcome to everybody present. Later he presided at the meeting which followed, and was elected chairman of the Crewe Branch for the ensuing year.

The following officers were re-elected for 1934: Mr. R. D. Langford, secretary; Mr. W. T. Holding, treasurer; Mr. A. Crawley, instructor; and Mr. J. H. Riding, Ringing Master. The Rev. S. T. Stevens was made an honorary member.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar for officiating at the service and for the use of the bells; to Mr. W. Dunning for playing the organ; to the wardens for the splendid tea; and to the ringers' wives for catering. The Vicar proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. R. D. Langford, the secretary, for so ably organising such a successful gathering. Ringing afterwards took place on the peal of ten bells under the supervision of the Ringing Master, Mr. J. H. Riding, and touches of Plain Bob Royal, Treble Ten, Stedman Caters, Grandsire Caters, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major were much enjoyed, this happy gathering being brought to a close about 9 o'clock.

Thanks were accorded Mr. W. Edge, the towerkeeper, for having everything in readiness and for the splendid 'go' of the bells.

## MINISTERS IN BELFRIES.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—During the past forty years I have rung out the old year in towers up and down the country, and across the water, and never on any such occasion have I seen a minister in the tower to greet the ringers. Are they, I wonder, too busy letting the new year in at their own homes, or what?

I wonder what the ministers would say if the ringers waited outside the tower until the arrival of the minister to wish them a happy new year?

P. CROSS.

Hale.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELL ROPES MUFFLES, &c.


## BELFRY GOSSIP.

A number of letters on the Minor Question are unavoidably held over until next week.

Ranmoor bells, which have been restored, and to which two trebles have been added as a memorial to the late Mr. Sam Thomas, are to be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Sheffield on Saturday, March 31st.

The announcement in this column last week that the reproductions of the photograph of the late Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn would be on sale at 2d. was an error. The price is 3d., and the profits will be devoted to the memorial which it is proposed to raise to the memory of the late Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

There was a happy—and noisy—party at the Grosvenor Hotel, Bristol, last Saturday night, and not all the noise was created by the young men of the company, although they did their share.

One of the visitors found it necessary to do a good deal of furniture moving when he got to his bedroom at 2 a.m. Incidentally in the process he disturbed the rest of the occupant of the room beneath, who had retired at a respectable hour.

Certain other gentlemen would like to know who was responsible for their 'apple pie' beds. Surely not the ladies in the party?

## WHAT THE EDITOR MISSES.

A remark passed at breakfast time last Friday morning in the home of two well-known ringers:—

'I think the Editor misses a lot of enjoyment in ringing.'

'Why?'

'Well, he doesn't have "The Ringing World" to look forward to on Fridays.'

## SOLD OUT!

The first edition of the Central Council's illustrated booklet on 'Hints to Instructors and Beginners,' which is published at 2d., is practically sold out.

Another edition is in the press, and those who have not already obtained copies should order at once from the hon. librarian (the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, Walsoken Rectory, Wisbech, Cambs).

The booklet is one of the most valuable and practical ever issued by the Council, and its price has been fixed so that it may be placed in the hands of every ringer.

## CLAPPER 'FLIGHTS' AND THEIR EFFECT.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—When first I took an interest in bells there were many old peals about in which there were long flights below the ball of the clapper. I have seen some as long as fourteen inches. Why did the old bell hangers put them there, and why have they now disappeared?

The old bell founders, such as Rudhall and Bilbie, turned out excellent bells that sang out loud and long, and the long flights were necessary to do the same work as dampers in a piano, and prevent the bells from howling.

In the mid-Victorian era bell founding became almost a lost art; that is to say, good bell founding. The bells lost their proper proportions, and were made shorter, and there was very little breath in them. The long flights were no longer necessary, and were very inconvenient to the bell hangers, as they required larger pits for all the bells, so the present short flights were introduced.

In the 'Nineties' I used to ring on a peal which had very long flights, and, in the belfry, we could hear the bells as clearly and distinctly as if one were tapping the changes on a piano. The peal was rehung in a new frame with modern clappers, and now it is difficult to pick out one bell from another—they howl.

I should dearly love to hear one of our new beautiful rings treated in the old-fashioned manner. I believe the result would be glorious.

Seafield Park, E. BANKES JAMES.
Fareham, Hants.

## OUNDLE PARISH CHURCH BELLS.

RESTORATION COMPLETED.

The ring of eight bells at Oundle Parish Church is to be reopened on Wednesday, January 31st, at 7 p.m., with a service of thanksgiving, to which ringers are invited. There will be ringing after the service.

The bells were dismantled by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and taken to their foundry at the beginning of November last. The bell chamber was then thoroughly cleaned, and the timber framework and other beams in the tower thoroughly scraped and treated with creosote. The window openings in the spire were fitted with copper wire guards by Messrs. Furse, of Nottingham, to protect the bell chamber from access by birds, and the leadwork in the tower windows reinstated where necessary.

The bells have been tuned and fitted with new clappers proportioned to each bell. New wheels, cast-iron headstocks, ball bearers, stays and headstocks have been provided, and the timber framework strengthened at the joints with heavy steel angle plates. The total cost of the work will be approximately £380, of which about £345 has been raised up to date. The work of restoration and rehanging was completed last week.

# BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS' DINNER.

## MORE CRITICISM OF THE CLERGY.

### The Davies' Memorial Scheme.

With each passing year, the annual dinner organised by the Bristol United Ringing Guilds grows in interest and importance, and on Saturday it achieved a new distinction in having as the principal guest the Lord Bishop of Bristol, who has been newly appointed to the diocese, and who had this first opportunity of coming among the ringers. The event drew a considerable number of visitors to Bristol, more than a dozen making the journey from Birmingham, and there were parties also from London, Sheffield and elsewhere. The chief attraction of the afternoon was a visit to the restored church of St. Mary Redcliffe, where the fine ring of twelve bells were available, and there was a conducted tour of the magnificent building, which ranks as one of the finest examples of perpendicular architecture in the country. 'Tea and bun' at St. Thomas' Parish Room provided opportunity for social intercourse, after which ringing on the ten bells at St. Nicholas' Church occupied the time until the party assembled at the Grand Hotel, where a large company sat down to dinner under the presidency of Mr. Frank Skidmore, this year's chairman of the United Guilds. He was supported by the Lord Bishop of Bristol (Dr. Woodward), Mrs. Skidmore, Mr. E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council), Mr. G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary of the Central Council), Mrs. Fletcher (hon. secretary of the Ladies' Guild), Mr. E. Alex Young (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths), Canon G. R. Wood (Cold Ashton), Mr. S. H. Wood, the Rev. G. W. L. Wynne (Holy Nativity, Bristol), the Rev. J. E. Staley (Stapleton), the Rev. Wells (Mangotsfield); the Rev. M. Paterson (St. Thomas'), Canon E. J. and Mrs. Phillips (Coalpit Heath), the Rev. W. G. Heber-Thomas (St. Stephen's), Dr. Alexander, the Rev. and Mrs. Beddoe (St. Werburgh's), the Rev. F. S. Lee (St. Ambrose), the Rev. J. Lloyd (Henbury), Mr. S. G. Riches (vice-chairman) and Mr. A. J. Blackwell (pro-vice-chairman). Among those present were Mr. A. Walker (Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham) and Mrs. Walker, Mr. J. T. Dyke (hon. secretary, Bath and Wells Diocesan Association), Mr. J. W. Jones (hon. secretary, Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association), Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (hon. secretary, Guildford Diocesan Guild), Mr. W. H. Shuker (hon. secretary, Lancashire Association) and Mrs. Shuker, Messrs. S. J. Palmer, L. Charlesworth and J. Holman (Sheffield Cathedral Society), J. Hawkins and W. R. Dennis (St. Andrew's Guild, Holborn), Mr. and Mrs. J. Preston, Mr. G. F. Swann and Miss O. Sanders (Erdington), Messrs. H. Fearn, G. Fearn (Birmingham), C. Hemus, W. R. Cartwright, Mrs. Belfield and Miss E. Foster (Solihull), Messrs. A. A. Hughes, J. Tyler (London), S. Briggs (Rotherham), Mr. and Mrs. F. Pervin (Coventry), Messrs. S. Roper (Croydon), J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), J. Austin (Gloucester), G. Naylor (Castle Carey), F. Setter (Yeovil), Miss I. Hastie (Weston-super-Mare), Miss L. Williams, Mr. T. F. King and Mr. J. Prescott (Bath), and ringers from the Bristol towers and other churches in Gloucestershire and Somerset. The excellent arrangements for the gathering had been carried out by a committee, consisting of the officers of the Guild with the stewards, Messrs. W. Knight, F. G. Leaker, J. G. Jeffries, W. H. Thomas, H. Way, Mrs. F. G. Leaker and Mrs. F. Skidmore, Mr. P. C. Williams (hon. treasurer) and Mr. Edgar Guise (hon. secretary), and Messrs. J. A. Burford, J. Gould, H. Pring, F. T. Jewell, D. J. Marsh, B. Jones and W. S. Emery.

During dinner instrumental music was contributed by Miss B. Plummer, Miss J. Brown and Miss E. Haskins.

### MORE CLERICAL INTEREST WANTED.

The Chairman prefaced his speech in proposing the toast of 'Church and State' by remarking that it was a very great honour to preside over such a gathering as that. They all met with one intent, with that most important idea of 'brotherhood,' and he trusted that those gatherings from time to time might be the means of making new and lasting friendships and renewing old acquaintances. The activities of the B.U.R.G. had culminated annually in that splendid gathering, and the entire success was due to the organising powers of their secretary, Mr. E. Guise, backed, of course, by the enthusiasm of numerous supporters from all over the country. It was very pleasing, he added, to see so many of their clerical friends there that night. Continuing, he said that all sections of the Church and State were to-day looking for some solution of the many problems they have continuously to tackle. The chief amongst these was, of course, 'world peace,' without which we could not follow the teaching of Christ. It was in this direction that the Church could do so much to help the State; but to enable her to be some force she had to get the full support of the people nationally and parochially. It is not an atom of good to talk to an empty church. They must encourage the people to come by offering something which appealed. The thing which to his mind would do so much toward filling the churches was to give the people something modern. The old ways were undoubtedly having to 'take a back seat.' For confirmation of this they only had to look at churches which broadcast services, and they found them full.

With reference to bellringers and the Church, he did not think there was sufficient interest taken by the clergy in the activities of their ringers generally. He could tell them of more than one exception to this, and in these cases the band of ringers was more keen and in consequence more efficient than where that indifference was shown. The parson really owed a debt of gratitude to his ringers, and if he realised it there would be better bands and more likelihood of obtaining fresh material to help fill the empty belfries.

In conclusion, the Chairman said he felt that they in Bristol were very fortunate in having such a man as their recently appointed Bishop as leader in Church matters, and he sincerely hoped that the Bishop would support in his official capacity the ringers' service to the Church whenever the occasion arose. One thing he (the speaker) would like to see was that an efficient practical person should be elected to the Diocesan Advisory Committee, to give his advice on matters of bellhanging and bell restoration, which, he was sure, would ofttimes be the means of saving time and money to parochial church councils. The present system often spelt disaster through lack of practical knowledge (applause).

### RINGERS' GRUDGE AGAINST THE CLERGY.

The Bishop of Bristol, in replying to the toast, took the opportunity of saying on behalf of the Church how really grateful they were to the ringers—although he confessed they did not often show it—for the very real service which they rendered to church work. As one who had been an incumbent, he felt that what their chairman had said was not entirely undeserved. He was afraid they were rather apt to forget that little body of faithful servants who climbed the stairs into the tower and rang the bells which summoned people to church. In a parish in which the clergy took a real and live interest in their ringers they got far more faithful service than they would otherwise do. He hoped he might be able to do something to encourage those clergy who have peals of bells in their church towers to think a little bit more than they sometimes did of the work which the ringers were performing. He could imagine that the ringers sometimes felt a little grudge against the clergy who, when the ringers had spent their time in summoning the people to church, spent half an hour or more in driving them out (laughter). That was not entirely the fault of the clergy. It was not given to everyone to have the eloquence of Demosthenes or the attractiveness of, say, Mr. Lloyd George, but they did their best and did it wholeheartedly. The Bishop continued that they must adapt their message to the new age. They could not expect young people to be satisfied with the message of fifty or a hundred years ago and which had so little relation to the vastly altered conditions of our own time. He hoped the clergy would do their best, by reading and thinking, to keep abreast of the times and do what they could to help people to see how, out of the welter and confusion of these days, something better might come. That was their task. The Bishop went on to acknowledge that he had no practical knowledge of bellringing, his only experience, he remarked amid laughter, being when as a small boy he unobtrusively rang a door bell and ran round the corner to escape the irate householder. He added that he shared with the Bishop of Gloucester the honour of being joint president of the Diocesan Guild. He did not know whether they could have a duet on the bells, but he thought it would be an interesting occasion to see the Bishop of Gloucester and the Bishop of Bristol ringing together a peal on the bells or as many of a peal of bells as two people could ring (laughter). It might perhaps attract a crowd (laughter). In conclusion, his Lordship congratulated the ringers on the obvious signs of life which that gathering displayed. He was glad to feel that in this department of church work as in other departments of church work in Bristol there was far more life than he used to find in London (applause).

MR. FRANK SKIDMORE, Chairman.

### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL'S LEAD.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, in submitting 'The Gloucester and Bristol Association,' reminded the company that the association was the first to adopt a diocesan title and thus become closely identified in their

(Continued on next page.)

## BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS' DINNER

(Continued from previous page.)

work with the Church. Since that time, just over 50 years ago, many others had followed the example in the choice of name, and all the associations and guilds had emulated the example of Gloucester and Bristol in drawing closer to the Church in their work. He thought the time would eventually come when this alliance would be general and that throughout the country all their important ringing organisations would be on a diocesan basis. That might mean the eventual breaking up of some of the larger county associations, but he felt that anything which brought about the greater realisation of the diocesan spirit in their ringing affairs was much to be desired. The Dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol were fortunate in the possession of a wealth of peals of bells, for there were no fewer than 207 rings in the area, including, with the completion of Tewkesbury, five rings of twelve, a number possessed only by London and Yorkshire. This large number of towers gave them great opportunities, but it also involved responsibilities. He believed they had about 140 towers in which there were ringers who were members of their association; that was a result with which they might well be gratified, but he hoped they were not satisfied, for there were some areas which were not yet fully tapped. Nevertheless, they had achieved a great result in the work begun by the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies. He congratulated the association on having carried to a triumphant issue the scheme for raising a national memorial to Mr. Davies. Such schemes were always a venture of faith, but the association had successfully achieved its aim. Mr. Goldsmith referred to the Bristol United Ringing Guilds as the centre and core of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, and spoke of the work which had been done by the officials of the two organisations. He paid a tribute to the great energy which Mr. Guise had for many years displayed as hon. secretary of both, and to the deserved honour which had been paid to Mr. Gould in his election as Master after long and loyal service to the association.

### CO-OPERATION OF CLERGY NEEDED.

Mr. J. Gould replied to the toast and stated that the new bells for the Davies Memorial had arrived at Tewkesbury. The association had raised the sum of £271 18s. 6d. towards the memorial, of which £75 had already been paid to the Abbey authorities towards the chapel. There were, said Mr. Gould, a number of towers in the diocese which had no ringers who were members of the association, and there were some towers without ringers at all, while there were other towers where the bells were in bad going order or not safe to ring at all. As to the remedy, they must have the co-operation of the clergy and the church councils. They must stir up the interest of parishioners to have their bells put in order and then to get young men interested enough to learn ringing, while, where they had ringers, they should use their influence to persuade them to join the association. It should be the aim of every band to keep its numbers up to strength, although he knew it was difficult for a tower captain in a country village to keep up a band of ringers. If he wanted regular Sunday service ringing, he had to be constantly teaching young pupils to handle a bell and to hold the rope in the right way—and then, perhaps, after weeks or months of endeavour, one, two or perhaps all the learners would take up something else for a pastime and a fresh start had to be made. Mr. Gould went on to ask the members to support the branch officers by giving them every encouragement and assistance by attending the branch meetings and by sending in their contributions regularly. In conclusion, Mr. Gould expressed the association's gratitude to Mr. Guise for his untiring work and interest in the association.

Mr. S. Riches proposed the toast of 'The Central Council, its Affiliated Societies and the Visitors.' He spoke of the advantages which ringers got through the work of the Council, particularly from its publications. It was also doing good work in connection with the B.B.C., one result of which had been that they had got English bells introduced into the New Year's Eve programme. The Central Council deserved the unanimous support of every ringing organisation in the country (applause). Mr. Riches went on to refer to the work of the associations and guilds throughout the country and the importance of developing the social aspect of their activities. They had a big task before them in encouraging the provision of ringers in all the towers, and especially was the task difficult in the big cities. It was, however, a work which they ought to tackle, and as associations they should do all they could to stimulate the interest of young men in the art of ringing. Mr. Riches welcomed the visitors, who had come among them from many parts of the country, and welcomed the clergy who had joined them on that occasion.

(To be continued.)

## DEATH OF MR. R. E. GROVE.

We much regret to record the death of Mr. Richard E. Grove, of Kidderminster, a pioneer of change ringing in Worcestershire, who died on January 18th, at the age of 74 years. It was under his leadership that the celebrated Kidderminster company entered the realm of Surprise ringing in 1892, and became one of the finest bands of ringers in the country.

## A MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION 'FAMILY PARTY.'

### RINGERS FRATERNISE AT HOUNSLOW.

It was with some trepidation that the responsible officers of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association embarked upon the plans for a supper and social last year. Their anxiety was unnecessary, however, for a successful function was the result. At their second venture the chief problem appeared to be whether similar support could be given again. The answer was that the accommodation secured was insufficient! Next time it would appear that this will be the vexed question. The attendance of over a hundred was an increase of one-third on the previous venture.

The bells of Heston and Hounslow ringing merrily on the 13th of this month gave the public notice of something unusual. The reason, of course, was the bellringers' beanfeast. 'Instead of a monthly meeting, let's all go drinking and eating!' So after the bells were finally set up, the ringers turned their steps to the Red Lion at Hounslow. After the company had been sorted out by the hon. secretary (no easy task in the crowded circumstances), supper was served (and we did not have to wait for our liquid refreshment while the errand boy found his lamp wick, as on a previous occasion!).

The Vicar of Heston (the Rev. G. Craggs), who took the chair at short notice, gave the loyal toast. He then proposed 'Continued Prosperity to the Middlesex County Association' in a brief and witty speech. In appreciative remarks about his own ringers, he humorously referred to those nice little places where he was taken when he accompanied them on their outings. He thanked members of the association for their labours and wished them every success in their work.

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.

Mr. C. T. Coles, joint hon. secretary, replied, prefacing his remarks with a brief but interesting history of the association and of those societies from which it grew. He apologised for the absence of the president (the Rev. W. P. Cole Sheane), who was ill and unable to leave his bed, but who sent his good wishes for a happy evening. Their chairman, who had filled that position at the last minute, was to be thanked most heartily for his remarks about the work of the association. Mr. Coles said that when they reviewed their past history and present position, they could fairly say that they had done as much for ringing in and around London as anyone. He congratulated the South and West District on their enterprise in holding this function. That it was appreciated was shown by the attendance that evening. He thanked the Supper Committee, viz., Messrs. Chandler, Gladman and Goodfellow, for their work in organising the supper, and Mr. Lewis, of Heston, who had presented a cake. This and a basket of fruit were to be drawn for to help defray expenses.

Incidentally, when the draw was made later in the evening, Mr. Coles had both winning tickets! He refused to be greedy, however, and a member of the fair sex was eventually possessor of the cake.

Mr. F. W. Goodfellow, joint hon. secretary of the South and West District, apologised for the somewhat cramped conditions, but hoped that all enjoyed the supper and would enjoy the programme to follow. He read letters of apology from the president and Mr. Goodship, of the North and East District.

The tables were then cleared and proceedings commenced with a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples on handbells. Mr. Joe Herbert then led some very enthusiastic community singing. Miss Bradford and Mr. Bray, the latter accompanied by Miss G. Craven, gave instrumental items on the pianoforte and violin respectively. Mr. Tom Collins sang one of his famous songs about 'the small trunk, the large trunk, etc.,' while Mrs. Humphries, Miss Bradford and Mr. Herbert all contributed vocal items. Messrs. W. H. Coles and Goodfellow sang a duet, and not one catcall was heard! An excellent touch of Stedman Triples was rung on handbells as well as some popular tunes. The change ringers were Messrs. Barker, Belcher, Herbert, Roberts, Turner and Wilson, and the 'musicians' Messrs. Barker, Goddard and Herbert. The various items were all well received, and Miss Bradford helped in no small measure in her duties as accompanist. Dancing was indulged in at intervals, and several games, under the leadership of Mr. Gladman, were very popular. Altogether the evening passed too quickly, and what could be described as a jolly family party concluded with 'Auld Lang Syne' soon after 11 p.m.

## SHROPSHIRE RINGER'S DEATH.

On Thursday, January 11th, the death took place of Mr. Edward Woodvine, a regular ringer of Malins Lee, who was also churchwarden for the past three years. Deceased was a member of the Shropshire Association and passed away at the early age of 40 years, leaving in bereavement a widow and four children.

The funeral took place on Monday, January 14th, a fully choral service being conducted by the Rev. E. Parry, assisted by Mr. F. Harris, lay reader. The 'Dead March' was rendered on the organ by Mr. I. Morris, organist, and the handbells were rung over the coffin. Two 720's of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the church bells as the mourners were leaving the graveside.

In the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles 10½ six-scores, each called differently (arranged by Jasper Snowden), was rung with the bells muffled in memory of the deceased by the following ringers: A. H. Whalley 1, W. Saunders (conductor) 2, A. E. Buttery 3, A. Woodvine 4, C. H. Watts, sen., 5, G. L. Talbot 6.

# WOODBRIDGE BELLS RESTORED.

## TRANSFORMATION IN A SUFFOLK TOWER.

On the road to Yarmouth, some eighty miles from London, lies the ancient market town of Woodbridge, which is built on the side of a hill. Towards the summit stands the historic Parish Church of St. Mary, with its magnificent tower rising to a height of 103ft. and dominating the town.

The church itself is reputed to have been built by Lord John Seagrave in the reign of Edward III., and the tower was erected probably in the middle of the fifteenth century.

For many years the eight bells had been on the 'sick list,' or, at any rate, the frame and ringing gear were all confirmed invalids, and the day arrived when Messrs. Gillett and Johnston were instructed to attend the patients and restore them to ringing order.

A new massive frame of low side A castings on a heavy grillage of steel girders now replaces the unstable wood frame, and a drastic alteration in the level of the bells has been brought about by fixing them 17ft. lower in the tower.

THE TOWER OF WOODBRIDGE CHURCH.

The fittings are the last word in modern improvements, such as cast-iron headstocks, ball bearings, and all those accessories which transform ringing from hard work to a labour of love and light duty.

The bells themselves have been skilfully tuned, thereby producing a remarkable improvement in the peal, which is in the key of D. The tenor weighs 25¼ cwt., and the total weight is 97¼ cwt.

The inscription on No. 3 runs, 'Strike me and I'll sound sweetly,' whilst all the bells were cast in 1799 by Thomas Osborn, of Downham Market. It is interesting to note that this ring of eight, together with the ring of 10 at St. Mary's, Bury St. Edmunds, where the tenor is of a similar weight, are the only two complete peals in the county of Suffolk by this founder.

Four of the Woodbridge bells were cracked in the crown, and for the sake of their unique history it was decided to repair them by the Barimar welding process.

Under the old conditions a too lofty ringing room was disfigured by sundry weight shafts from the clock and old chiming machine. It was desirable to remove these intruders—but where! for the clock and chime machine room was about to disappear owing to the lowering of the bells, and a mere space of 4ft. to be created in its stead between the belfry and the ringers. On the other hand the ringing room would seem to be in danger of invasion by the clock and the chimes!

Ingenuity, however, solved this problem of 'multum in parvo.' The clock has been fixed on joists in the ringing room well clear of the heads and arms of the ringers, and the chime machine has been hoisted on high to take a bearing on the old bell frame which has not been disturbed. A new floor has been inserted to form a ceiling to the ringing room at a convenient height, and all the weight shafts but one have disappeared.

The cost of rehanging the bells has been defrayed by an anonymous donor, whilst the Rector has borne the expense of restoring the old machine to render tunes familiar to the older inhabitants of Woodbridge as a thankoffering for the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination.

The bells were rededicated on Sunday, Jan. 14th. The Rector (Rev. R. B. Dand) preached an interesting sermon at morning service dealing mainly with the story of the restoration of the bells. The text was 1 Corinthians xiv., 10, 'There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification.' There were certain experiences, the Rector said, that predominated in the memory of a man's life. It might be the sound of a brook or some scene associated with his childhood. The sound of a peal of bells might well leave an indelible impression, and so it was with their own bells at Woodbridge, whose absence had meant such a void in the daily life of the parish. They were going to celebrate that day their rededication, and he could not express fervently enough his deep appreciation of the bounty of that anonymous donor who had so readily responded to his appeal to have their fine old peal rehung and restored to the parish once more.

In the afternoon, even the porch of the church was crowded, for so many people attended the service of dedication. The fine tower had been mute for over a year, until that day, when the sound of celebration swept out from its belfry on a boisterous wind.

The Right Rev. M. H. Maxwell-Gumbleton, Assistant Bishop of the diocese, the Rector (the Rev. R. B. Dand), Canon H. R. Wilkinson, and the Rev. H. Drake (Rector of Ufford, and hon. secretary of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers), took part in the service, and the congregation included a number of old ringers, among them Mr. W. King, from Tattingstone, who used to ring the tenor bell at Woodbridge 40 years ago, Mr. C. King (late of Hasketon and now of Great Bealings), and Mr. Newson, of Woodbridge.

Bishop Maxwell-Gumbleton spoke of the influence of bells—how they inculcate habits of punctuality; how in mediæval times church bells were supposed to have the power to dispel evil spirits, as represented by the grotesque figures and gargoyles on a church. Years ago, said the Bishop, a wayfarer was lost in the Fen country near Cambridge. His position was dangerous, but he was saved by the church bells, the sound of which enabled him to reach Cambridge. He was so grateful that he gave a sum of money on condition that every night at nine o'clock the bell of Great St. Mary's Church, Cambridge, should be rung to guide persons who might be in a similar predicament.

The dedicatory rounds were rung on the bells by Messrs. G. N. Blake, G. A. Freeman, A. S. Woodard, T. S. Edwards, G. Warner, W. J. Woodruffe, and F. G. Woodruffe, conducted by Mr. C. J. Trotman.

The lament in some places that youth is not stepping into the breach to carry on the art of change ringing does not apply to Woodbridge, for most of the ringers at St. Mary's are very young men, and the way in which they acquitted themselves at the inaugural ceremony after a year and a half's lapse of ringing in the tower is a fine testimony to the leadership of their captain.

In olden times ringing was apparently not the only pursuit of the belfry, for a tablet announces that 'W. Fosdike went up and down this steeple seven times in 27 minutes in the 67th year of his age, March the 15th, 1753.'

The oldest peal tablet is for 'A peal of Bob Major on November 23rd, 1789,' and the last peal recorded is one of 'Double Norwich on April 11th, 1896.'

Immediately after the service there was rung a well-struck 672 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. C. J. Sedgley, of Ipswich, the Ringing Master of the Suffolk Guild, by the following: W. Ward (Ufford) 1, G. Blake (Woodbridge) 2, F. Fisher (Ufford) 3, R. Brundle (Ipswich) 4, F. Woodruffe (Woodbridge) 5, C. J. Sedgley (Ipswich) 6, C. Bailey (Leiston) 7, C. Fisher (Ufford) 8.

Visiting ringers were present from Forest Hill, Sproughton, Ipswich, Leiston, Stowmarket and Grundisburgh, also Mr. Cyril Johnston (Messrs. Gillett and Johnston) and Messrs. Adcock and Newsom, of the bellfoundry staff.

The visitors, who subsequently took part in ringing before the evening service, were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Trotman, and the company were welcomed by the Rector and addressed briefly by Mr. Sedgley, Mr. Trotman and Mr. Cyril Johnston in response to the complimentary remarks of the Master of the Guild concerning the bellfounders' work.

Everyone expressed themselves as delighted with the splendid results of the Croydon firm's achievement and their admiration of a first-class engineering piece of work.

The absence of vibration in the tower was very noticeable, and the sound both inside and outside the belfry has been reduced to just those proportions that should suit the convenience of the ringers and the neighbourhood alike.

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## NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

Notices must be received not later than Tuesday.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The first quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Chilvers Coton, near Nuneaton, on Saturday, Jan. 27th (not 20th as previously arranged). Bells (8) available during afternoon and evening. Service in church at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock in the Parish Hall, to be followed by business meeting. The bells of Nuneaton Parish Church (8) available during the evening if required.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., Green Ways, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells from 3. Service at 5. Tea at 5.45, at 1s. each. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. —C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury and District Branch. — The quarterly meeting will be held at Somerton on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea and short business meeting to follow. Subscriptions for 1934 due, and may be paid at this meeting. For tea please notify.—E. Pearson, Hon. Dis. Sec., Deddington, Oxford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — General quarterly meeting at Earl Shilton, Jan. 27th. Bells (8) available. Committee meet 3.15. Tea (1s. per head) 5 p.m. in Schools, followed by general meeting. Frequent buses from Hinckley and Leicester Western Boulevard.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Lympstone on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting at 4.45 p.m. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m.—R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — North-Western District. — The annual district meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Clapham Park, on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service (if possible) 5 p.m. Tea and meeting following. Members are earnestly asked to attend this meeting. Everybody welcomed.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sleaford Branch.—Annual meeting at Heckington, Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 to 9 p.m. Also Great Hale (8) in evening. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., 1s. each.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting and unveiling of peal tablet at 7 p.m. — Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—A meeting will be held at Uppingham (eight bells) on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available 2.30 p.m.—R. W. Daniels, Hon. Sec., 53, St. Martins, Stamford.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District. — The annual meeting will be held at Basingstoke on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting follows.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Sec., Yateley, Hants.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Chippenham Branch.—Annual meeting at St. Andrew's, Chippenham, on Saturday, January 27th. Bells (8) open from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea after service. Ringing about 6.15. Visitors are welcome. Please notify early. —F. W. Merrett, Branch Hon. Sec., The Woodlands, Chippenham, Wilts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The branch annual committee meeting will be held at Cambridge, Wexham, on Saturday, January 27th, at 3 p.m., when all branch towers should be represented. Stoke Poges bells (6) will be available for all ringers at 6 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Elm, near Wisbech, on Saturday afternoon, January 27th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5. Subscriptions for 1934 are now due. All ringers cordially invited.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Cary Deanery.—The annual meeting will be held at Evercreech on Saturday, January 27th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5 p.m. For tea please notify me early.—E. F. Creed, Dimmer Farm, Castle Cary.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, on Saturday, January 27th. Bells (8) available from 2.45 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—G. Preston, Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Lewisham, on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Ringing until 8.30 p.m. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid at this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Shrewsbury, Saturday, January 27th. St. Chad's bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m.—R. R. Pole, Asst. Hon. Sec., 88, North Street, Shrewsbury.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. James' Parish Church, Benwell, Newcastle, on Saturday, January 27th. The bells (6) will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m., and tea will be served in the Parish Hall at 5 p.m., at the charge of one shilling per head.—K. A. Nicholson, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Nuns Moor Crescent, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 4.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—To-morrow (Saturday, January 27th) a meeting will be held at Stevenage. The bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Short service 4.30. Tea at the Bowling Green Cafe, north end of the town, at 5.30. Please make this meeting a success.—Don Mears, Fritton, Moormead Close, Hitchin.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at St. Albans on Saturday, January 27th. St. Peter's bells (10) from 2.30 until 5 p.m. The Cathedral bells (8) will be available after tea. A short service will be held in St. Peter's Church. Tea and business meeting at the Clarendon Hotel. All ringers welcome.—W. Nash, Dis. Sec., North Mimms, Hatfield.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Larkhall, on Saturday, January 27th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15.—Theo. Grant, Hon. Sec., Swainswick, Bath.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ripon Cathedral on January 27th. Bells (10) available from 12.30 p.m. to 4 p.m., and again after the meeting until 9 p.m. Evensong in the Cathedral at 4 p.m. Tea (1s.) will be provided at 5 p.m. for all who notify Mr. F. Tingle, 31, North Street, Ripon, not later than first post on Friday, the 26th inst. A very cordial welcome will be extended to all visitors who are able to attend this meeting.—J. E. Cawser, Hon. Gen. Sec., Grange Villas, Ravenfield Common, Rotherham.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Annual meeting of the Guildford District at Guildford on Sat., January 27th. Cathedral and S. Nicolas' bells available from 3. Service 5 p.m at S. Nicolas' Church. Tea and business meeting at Abbot's Kitchen Restaurant 6 p.m.—G. L. Grover, East Clandon, Guildford.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. —Oundle Parish Church. A service of thanksgiving for the restoration and rehanging of the peal of eight bells will be held on Wednesday, January 31st, at 7 p.m. Preacher, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Norman Lang, D.D. The tower will be open for ringing after the service.

OUNDLE, NORTHANTS.—At 7 p.m., on Wednesday, January 31st, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Lang, D.D., will dedicate the heavy ring of eight bells restored by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which enables members who have not made 20 attendances to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on February 1st (8 p.m.), *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 6th, St. Magnus' on the 8th and 22nd, Southwark Cathedral on the 15th, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 20th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District will be held at Marden on Saturday, February 3rd. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea (free) followed by business meeting after service. Members requiring tea must notify the district secretary not later than Tuesday, January 30th. Subscriptions are now due, and can be paid at this meeting or sent to the district secretary.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Annual meeting will be held at Chertsey, February 3rd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Numbers for tea to me by January 31st. All ringers welcome, and the presence of members of the Guild from other branches will be particularly appreciated.—K. Eastes, Hon. Sec., 5a, Moring Road, Tooting Bec., S.W.17.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, February 3rd. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Service, by request of Vicar, at 5.15 p.m. Tea for members 5.45. Business meeting in Vestry Hall 7 p.m. Please notify me for tea not later than Tuesday, January 30th.—G. A. Card, Hon. Sec., 7, Gilstead Road, Fulham, S.W.6.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Haddenham on February 3rd. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service and tea 5 p.m. Please notify Mr. H. Collins, Local Sec., Haddenham, Cambs, for tea by February 1st. All ringers welcome.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Over, Cambs.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. All those requiring tea, please notify Mrs. G. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, not later than Wednesday, January 31st.—N. L. Cross, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division. — A meeting will be held at Witham on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30, tea and business meeting to follow. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday morning, 31st inst.?—F. Ridgwell, Dis. Sec., Queen's Road, Earls Colne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Benington on Saturday, February 3rd, when the unveiling of the tablet, recording the record length of Bob Major, rung there on Whit Monday last, will take place. The band will be present. Tea will be at the Bell Inn, the old ringers' house. Buses from Hertford 1.50 and 3.45, Ware 2 and 3.55. Return from Benington to Hertford 6.43 and 9.33. From Stevenage to Benington 2.23 and 4.18; return 6.30 and 9 o'clock. All will be heartily welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Munden.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Arlesey on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Please come. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Grimsby District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James', Grimsby, on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells (8) ready 2.15 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., in Church House. Business meeting afterwards. Those requiring tea please notify Mrs. A. Long, Church House, Bull Ring, Grimsby, by the Wednesday previous. Subscriptions are due and can be paid at this meeting.—H. I. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 3rd, at Boston. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at Scala Cafe. Business meeting afterwards. All requiring tea must notify me by January 31st.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, Norfolk Street, Boston.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Market Lavington on Saturday, February 3rd. Ringing commences 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea 5 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—The postponed meeting will be held at Feniton on Saturday, February 3rd. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5. Bells available 2 p.m. All are welcome. Application to ring at other towers in the district to be made to John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Beighton (six bells) on Saturday, February 3rd. For tea, please notify Mr. G. Fewkes, 1, Byron Road, Beighton. All are welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield, 3.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, February 3rd. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—H. Hamer, Hon. Sec., 4, Nall Street, Milnrow.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—Annual meeting at Whitchurch, Saturday, February 3rd. Bells from 2.30. Service in Parish Church 4.30. Tea in Church Hall 5. Business meeting follows. Those requiring tea place notify Mr. H. Clarke, London Street, Whitchurch.—Rev. F. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec., Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hythe on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells ready 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Subscriptions may be paid at this meeting. Please notify me as early as possible.—F. Conley, Dis. Hon. Sec., 11, Park Road, Ashford, Kent.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ledbury District.—The annual meeting will be held at Colwall on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Please notify me regarding tea not later than February 1st. All ringers welcome.—A. Jones, Dis. Hon. Sec., The Reddings, Colwall, Malvern.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bridgnorth Branch.—The next annual meeting will be held at Bridgnorth on Saturday, February 3rd. Ringing at three o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5, followed by meeting. Will those requiring tea please notify the undersigned? Tea 1s. each, members 6d. All ringers welcome.—George Case, Hon. Sec., 22, Severn Street, Bridgnorth.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—The next annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Mary's Church, Torquay. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea, etc., 5 p.m. Babbacombe bells (8) also available after 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome. Those intending coming please advise me by previous Wednesday.—H. J. Hole, Hon. Sec., Tauntonia, Church Street, Paignton.

PASTON, NORWICH.—Ring of five (tenor 10¾ cwt.) rehung in a new frame with new fittings, and tenor recast by Gillett and Johnston. Rededication by the Rev. C. W. Kershaw, M.A., Rural Dean, on Thursday, February 8th, at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome. Refreshments will be provided at the Vicarage from 6 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. to those notifying the Vicar, the Rev. R. E. V. Prichard, M.A., by Monday, February 5th.

COTTESMORE, RUTLAND.—At 7 p.m., on Thursday, February 8th, the Rev. Canon E. E. Law, B.A., H.C.F., Rector of Empingham, will rededicate the ring of five bells restored by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society).—The annual general meeting will take place on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Ringing at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East (8), Idol Lane, E.C., and St. Magnus the Martyr (10), London Bridge, 2.15 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., also at St. Clement Danes, Strand, 3.15 to 4.15 p.m. and after tea from 6 to 7 p.m. Service in St. Clement Danes 4.15 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tea in Willow Restaurant, Essex Street, at 5 p.m. Business meeting and handbell contest in St. Clement's Parish Hall 7.15 p.m. We are endeavouring to make all the above arrangements to be as bright and cheery as possible, and hope that all members will make a special effort to be there. — Chas. O. Moore, Hon. Sec., 7, Camberwell Station Road, S.E.5.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 10th, at St. Mary's Church, Brecon. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Tea kindly provided by the Vicar.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec., Belle Vue, Brecon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Preston, on Saturday, February 10th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea arranged for all who notify Mr. F. Patchell, 3, Goodier Street, Preston, no later than Wednesday, February 7th. Next combined practice Whittle, Tuesday, February 6th, 7.30 p.m.—J. Charnock, Branch Sec., Carwood Lane, Whittle-le-Woods.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Broomfield on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please notify me by February 7th.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., Brooklea, Danbury.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—A meeting will be held at Crediton, on February 10th. Service 4.30. Tea 5, 1s. each. Bands and visitors attending please notify me by February 4th. — W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, St. Thomas, Exeter.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at All Saints', Gosforth, on Saturday, February 10th. The bells (10, tenor 22 cwt.) will be available after 2.30. Committee meeting at 3.30. Service, with address by the

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Vicar, at 4 o'clock. Tea (1s. per head) in the Parish Hall at 4.30. Will members requiring tea please advise me not later than the 7th? After tea Mr. C. L. Routledge will give a lecture, assisted by handbell ringers, on 'The Art of Change Ringing.' The congregation is invited, as well as the association members, and we hope for a good attendance.—Geo. S. Taylor, Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Barking on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in St. Margaret's Hall 5.30 p.m. Meeting to follow. Will all those intending to be present and requiring tea kindly notify me by Wednesday, the 7th, without fail. Subscriptions for 1934 are now due.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford, Essex.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at Thornaby-on-Tees on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8, tenor 10 cwt.) will be available for ringing during the afternoon. Tea will be provided in the Parish Hall to those who apply to the secretary not later than Wednesday, February 7th. Members 1s., non-members 1s. 3d. It is hoped that members and friends will make a special effort to attend this meeting.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., Hewick House, Ormesby Road, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan and Bolton Branches.—A special joint meeting of the above branches will be held at St. Peter's Church, Hindley, on Saturday, February 10th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Preacher, the Rev. Canon Elsee, M.A. Tea at 5.15 p.m. at 1s. per head. Please send names to Mr. Wm. Blackledge, 37, Platt Lane, Hindley, not later than Wednesday, February 7th. A special invitation is issued to all ringers and friends to this meeting.—William O. Farrimond and Peter Crook, Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch. The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, on Saturday, February 10th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. Bracewell, Hon. Sec., 8, Regent Street, Bacup.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. Wilfred Williams is now 4, Kingsway, Luton, Beds.

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**WOODBRIDGE BELLS**—Continued from page 59.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I was glad to see, in the article in your issue of Jan. 12th on Woodbridge bells, that you carefully refused responsibility for the accuracy, or otherwise, of it. On three occasions recently I have been told by non-ringing friends of the marvels in Woodbridge tower, and, after questionings, I found that a letter in the 'East Anglian Daily Times,' written by the hon. secretary of the Suffolk Guild, was the source of this wonderful news.

Mr. Drake tells his readers that Woodbridge eight, Coventry ten and Bury St. Edmunds ten were 'three rings of super-eminent excellency left us'; that Woodbridge is 'still the proud possessor of the finest old ring of eight bells in existence,' and that after they were cast (1799) apparently a period of desolation set in, and nothing to boast of came out of a bellfoundry for a hundred years.

I think all this requires a good deal of salt. How many rings—old or otherwise—are the 'best in England'? I have heard of many, and so has everyone else. And age—Colchester and Thetford, comparatively nearby, beat Woodbridge easily, and should have been mentioned if such a point as age was being stressed. Mr. Drake's letter gives the layman the impression that Woodbridge possesses an exceedingly venerable ring of bells, when really it has nothing of the sort.

But the 'lost art' is the last straw! How does Mr. Drake explain away, for instance, the ring at Diss—cast in the same foundry as Woodbridge, but 33 years after the 'desolation period' had set in? If Mr. Drake thinks Woodbridge the better ring of the two, he is welcome to his opinion! 'OLD RINGER.'

## SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

COCKERMOUTH, CUMBERLAND.—On Sunday, January 21st, for evening service at All Saints' Church, 720 London Surprise Minor: S. Cooper 1, J. Smithson 2, J. Casson 3, W. Bowe 4, F. Tickle 5, Wm. T. Holmes (conductor) 6. First 720 of London by all, who are service ringers at the above church.

BARKING, ESSEX.—On Sunday, January 21st, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. S. Lacey (first quarter-peal and first attempt) 1, R. Fenn 2, E. C. Faulkner 3, W. Easter 4, C. Fenn (conductor) 5, G. W. Faulkner 6, E. G. Cottis 7, E. G. Moore 8.

IDLE, YORKS.—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on Sunday, January 7th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1,280 changes: M. Ryder (first quarter-peal) 1, R. Umpleby 2, F. Davison 3, H. Davison 4, T. Hill 5, F. Kibshall 6, W. Feather 7, E. H. Simpson (conductor), Shipley 8.

TUNSTALL, KENT.—A quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, on Sunday evening, January 7th: Mrs. G. H. Spice 1, G. Kenward 2, J. W. Unwin 3, G. H. Spice 4, G. Webb (first quarter of Stedman) 5, J. Webb 6, W. Spice, sen. (conductor) 7, W. Gorman 8. All are local ringers except J. W. Unwin, from Canterbury.

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