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A FIRST YEAR REVIEWED

Closely watched by the whole Exercise has been the division of the Midland Counties Association into four separate associations, viz.: Burton, Derby, Leicester and Nottingham. The Derby Association has completed its first year, issued its first printed annual report (a comprehensive volume giving details of its 30 towers and a complete list of its membership), and forwarded to 'The Ringing World' a comprehensive survey of the year's work.

'We were entirely opposed to the idea of dissolution of the M.C.A.,' writes Mr. W. Lancaster, the first secretary of the new association, 'as we at Derby were having very good meetings and ringing was, generally speaking, in a healthy condition. After a year's hard work and splendid co-operation from all sides, we can say it was worth while, as it gives those in the districts more scope to go out and organise those in the more remote towers, which have to be neglected by a larger organisation. As all district officers are on the General Committee, it ensures all districts being conversant with each other's activities and generally good attendances at all meetings. Peals are easily arranged and a very good atmosphere maintained.'

Another benefit arising from the new Association is that the clergy are showing a much greater interest in meetings and their co-operation is appreciated. At the last meeting held at Ilkeston, the Vicar and the Rural Dean both became honorary members, and were very interested to know where recruits could best be obtained. It was suggested that choirboys and scouts were often induced to take up bellringing with every success, and the Rural Dean promised to assist the Association in this matter during his travels around the Deanery.

A new association is able to build upon the experience of the past. In planning the Derby Association it was felt that it would be an advantage to have several districts so that each tower could be visited annually, thereby maintaining interest and, from a secretary's point of view, collecting subscriptions and contacting members. Accordingly, three separate districts were formed — Derby, embracing the city and its environs; Peak, the towers in the district, including such well known names as Bakewell, Matlock and Darley Dale, and Ilkeston, consisting of the towers ceded by Nottingham outside the Southwell Diocese and a few others adjacent. Membership for the first year was 114 ring-

ing and 22 honorary members, but a substantial increase is expected during 1947.

While the number of peals rung during the year was confined to eight, the standard of ringing can be regarded as good. At meetings, which were very well attended, methods rung included Cambridge and Superlative, Double Norwich, Duffield, Little Bob and the standard methods. The programme planned for this year includes the scoring of first peals for the Association of Cambridge and Superlative. In a new Association there is such a wide field open for making ringing history that keen peal ringers have every inducement. The Derby Association can truly look back with pride on their inaugural year.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

TROWBRIDGE, WILTSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

SAMUEL J. HECTOR ... Treble	RONALD G. BECK ... 7
WM. J. PRESCOTT ... 2	FREDERICK A. TARGETT ... 8
JOHN THOMAS ... 3	*WILLIAM H. COLES ... 9
ARTHUR H. REED ... 4	HENRY J. SANGER ... 10
GILBERT H. HARDING ... 5	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... 11
WALTER H. TRUEMAN ... 6	WILLIAM R. BAXTER ... Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

* First peal on twelve bells. A birthday compliment to S. J. Hector and to celebrate over 50 years' change ringing, 50 peals in St. James' tower and 250 peals rung by him.

TEN BELL PEALS

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Mar. 12, 1947, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 35 cwt.

*RICHARD E. ELSON ... Treble	FRANK BRADLEY ... 6
T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. ... 2	FRANK W. BROWN ... 7
GEORGE E. PADGETT ... 3	J. ALFRED BARRATT ... 8
†REV. R. F. WILKINSON ... 4	T. VERNON JENNISON ... 9
J. KENNETH WAGSTAFF ... 5	WALTER NICHOLS ... Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

* First peal. † First peal of Caters. Rung half-muffled following a memorial service to Professor Wartley, principal of Nottingham University College.

WATFORD, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

PHILIP H. AVEY ... Treble	*PERCY H. WATTS ... 6
WALTER G. PAUL ... 2	FREDERICK W. ELLIOTT ... 7
DR. F. STEDMAN POOLE ... 3	STEPHEN H. HOARE ... 8
ALFRED R. DAWES ... 4	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ... 9
*HARRY G. TIMMS ... 5	RICHARD G. BELL ... Tenor

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

* First peal. First peal on the augmented ring.

LEEDS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

PERCY PAGE ... Treble	†ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD ... 6
THOMAS E. SONE ... 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 7
*WILFRED W. RING ... 3	†MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... 8
†FREDK. G. HUCKSTEPP ... 4	ALFRED W. DURHAM ... 9
†WM. A. OLDFIELD ... 5	ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by THOS. E. SONE.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Kent Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

LAMBETH, LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH

SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 8, 1947, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in E flat.

CHARLES W. OTTLEY ... Treble	THOS. W. TAFFENDER ... 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	JAMES BULLOCK ... 6
WILLIAM J. ELLIS ... 3	HAROLD W. ROGERS ... 7
ERNEST W. FURBANK ... 4	EDWARD D. SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by EDWARD D. SMITH.

MELKSHAM, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Mar. 14, 1947, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

CHAS. F. ANDREWS ... Treble	ARTHUR W. ANGEL ... 5
STANLEY R. COCKELL ... 2	HAROLD SMITH ... 6
HARRY PROUT ... 3	WILLIAM C. WEST ... 7
JOSEPH S. WEEKS ... 4	CYRIL GIBBONS ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. WEST.

Rung as a welcome to the Rev. C. L. B. Howe, inducted Vicar of Melksham on March 12th, 1947.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Mar. 14, 1947, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

STEPHEN LLOYD PARRY ... Treble	JAMES FERNLEY ... 5
W. W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 2	FRED DUNKERLEY ... 6
REV. F. F. RIGBY ... 3	REV. R. D. ST. JN. SMITH ... 7
*BASIL JONES ... 4	DAVID VINCENT ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by J. FERNLEY.

* First touch in method. First in the method as conductor. First in the method by the Guild. Rung as a farewell peal to Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wolstencroft.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Mar. 14, 1947, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BELVEDERE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDK. A. COLEY ... Treble	EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 6
LUCILE M. HUBBERT ... 3	FREDK. J. CULLUM ... 7
HARRY HOVERD ... 4	*PHILIP A. CORBY ... Tenor

Arranged by A. G. DRIVER.

Conducted by FREDK. J. CULLUM.

* 250th peal. First peal in the method by all the band, on the bell and for the association. A birthday peal for the conductor.



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NORTHFLEET, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Washbrook's Variation.	Tenor 16½ cwt.
Mrs. E. E. DAVIS Treble	*ALFRED G. WILLIAMS ... 5
Mrs. C. J. MATTHEWS ... 2	JAMES E. BAILEY ... 6
GEORGE H. CROSS ... 3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER ... 7
DR. W. R. WINTERTON ... 4	CECIL J. MATTHEWS ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.

* First peal in the method. Rung to mark the bi-centenary year of the society.

CHISWICK, LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb.

WALTER LEE Treble	Mrs. PHYLLIS MAYNE ... 5
*JOHN R. MAYNE ... 2	CECIL C. MAYNE ... 6
*Miss D. E. LIDBETTER ... 3	WILLIAM J. PAICE ... 7
CHARLES W. OTTLEY ... 4	ARTHUR HARDING ... Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. PAICE.

* First peal in the method.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

THOMAS G. FOX Treble	FRANK I. HAIRS ... 5
FREDK. E. COLLINS ... 2	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 6
GEORGE W. CECIL ... 3	ALFRED B. PECK ... 7
ALBERT E. LAKER ... 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

LIVERPOOL.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, WOOLTON,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

LESTER L. GRAY Treble	*ERIC J. GILBERT ... 5
*ERNEST CARVELL ... 2	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... 6
*GEORGE H. HESKETH ... 3	GEORGE LEDSHAM ... 7
THOMAS W. HESKETH ... 4	RALPH G. EDWARDS ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (322 revised).

Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major in the method. Rung half-muffled in memory of Philip Hodson, for many years organist at St. Peter's.

HARMSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Northern Branch.)

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, EASTCOTE, LINCOLNSHIRE, LINDUM, NEW GLOUCESTER, NORFOLK, PUDSEY, RUTLAND, SUPERLATIVE, WEMBLEY, WORDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE, UXBRIDGE AND WATFORD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

H. LESLIE PASK Treble	WALTER TOMLINSON ... 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 2	*JOHN FREEMAN ... 6
FREDERICK W. STOKES ... 3	JOHN WALDEN ... 7
JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... 4	JOHN A. FREEMAN ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

* 100th peal. This composition contains 640 London, 320 each of Bristol, Cambridge, Eastcote, Lincolnshire, Lindum, New Gloucester, Norfolk, Pudsey, Rutland, Superlative, Wembley, Wordsworth and Yorkshire, and 160 each of Uxbridge and Watford with 139 changes of method. This is the greatest number of Surprise Major methods yet rung in a peal.

BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS.—On Feb. 10th, 1260 Minor, 360 Kent and 900 Plain Bob: A. Everett (first quarter) 1, Miss E. Walklate (first inside) 2, Miss M. J. Saddington 3, G. E. Watson 4, H. Turner 5, B. J. Saddington (conductor) 6. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss M. J. Saddington.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES Treble	*DENIS A. BAYLES ... 5
HENRY HODGETTS ... 2	ERIC B. HARTLEY ... 6
*FRANCIS KIRK ... 3	*MAURICE F. R. HIRBERT ... 7
FRED. W. BRINKLOW ... 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

* 100th peal together. † First peal in the method and 50th peal. To celebrate the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. F. Kirk.

PARBOLD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

JAMES MARSH Treble	ARTHUR MAWDSLEY ... 5
*WILLIAM RIMMER ... 2	THOMAS HORRIDGE ... 6
JOHN LUNHAM ... 3	*HARRY LEYLAND ... 7
JOHN GARTSIDE ... 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (429).

Conducted by J. RIDYARD.

* First peal in the method. This composition is now rung for the first time. In honour of the 70th birthday of Mrs. H. Marshall, donor of the second bell.

ELY, CAMBS.

THE UNIVERSITIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JOHN B. ROWSELL Treble	STANLEY E. DARMON ... 5
JOHN F. MOORE ... 2	GEOFFREY DODDS ... 6
*EDWIN J. LINDLEY ... 3	VERNON J. BENNING ... 7
FRANCES A. EDGAR ... 4	*RICHARD F. B. SPEED ... Tenor

Composed by REV. E. B. JAMES.

Conducted by R. F. B. SPEED.

* 25th peal together.

CHURCH STRETTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part (7th the observation). Tenor 11 cwt. 5 lb.

FREDK. G. BEDDOW Treble	WILLIAM A. FARMER ... 5
*TREVOR JONES ... 2	THOMAS PRICE ... 6
JOHN F. BUTLER ... 3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... 7
E. V. RODENHURST ... 4	*CLIFFORD BARRON ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-CANTERBURY.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

ERNEST A. JURD Treble	PETER N. BOND ... 5
JOSIAH D. HARRIS ... 2	HAROLD A. NOBES ... 6
AUBREY D. MILLS ... 3	EDWIN S. SMITH ... 7
HENRY C. WEAVER ... 4	FREDK. W. BURNETT ... Tenor

Composed by Rev. EARLE BULWER. Conducted by F. W. BURNETT.

HILGAY, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

STANLEY G. ELSEY Treble	ARTHUR ROLFE ... 5
ERNEST H. MASTIN ... 2	EDWARD BARKER ... 6
WALTER JARVIS ... 3	WILLIAM BUCKENHAM ... 7
WALLACE W. COUSINS ... 4	CLAUDE COUSINS ... Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by ERNEST H. MASTIN.

First peal of Bob Major as conductor.

CHIPPING NORTON, OXON. — On March 13th at St. Mary's Church for Confirmation service. 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Francis 1, H. Cook 2, M. Sindon 3, I. Harria 4, F. Perry 5, J. Jarvis 6, R. Jarvis (conductor) 7, O. Tompkins 8.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM SLAUGHTER Treble	GEORGE OLLIVER 5
C. ERNEST SMITH 2	KENNETH SNELLING 6
EDWARD J. CHARMAN 3	ALFRED J. BULL 7
WILLIAM T. BEESON 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 34 cwt.

VERNON SYKES Treble	SELWYN DEARDEN 5
W. W. WOLSTENCROFT 2	STEPHEN L. PARRY 6
HAROLD ARMSTEAD 3	FRED DUNKERLEY 7
JOAN HOULDSWORTH 4	ISAAC GARTSIDE Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by F. DUNKERLEY.

First peal of Major on the back eight and first peal of Double Norwich on the bells. A birthday compliment to Mr. Ivan Kay.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

WIGTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Eastern Branch.)

On Sat., Mar. 8, 1947, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 18 six-scores of Grandsire and 12 six-scores each of St. Simon's and Plain Bob.

THOMAS CUMMINS Treble	JOHN R. KEMP 3
MISS RHODA BROWN 2	ALBERT E. FLATERS 4

WILLIAM E. CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM E. CLARKE.

First peal of Doubles by all except the conductor. First peal on the bells.

WEAVERHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Mar. 12, 1947, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*WM. HORNBY Treble	S. HOUGH, JUN. 4
ERIC HORNBY 2	HARRY W. HOWARD 5
REGINALD W. WORRALL 3	A. GORDON LAWRENCE Tenor

Conducted by A. G. LAWRENCE.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor. A birthday compliment to the ringers of the 2nd and tenor.

NETHER WINCHENDON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Mar. 13, 1947, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents each of Antelope, Grandsire, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Clifford Pleasure, Southrepps Pleasure, St. Nicholas', St. Simon's, St. Martin's, Plain Bob, Old, Norfolk and April Day; and two extents each of Stedman, Northrepps Pleasure and Oxford Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

GILBERT WRIGHT Treble	CECIL G. CALCUTT 3
HARRY P. FLOYD 2	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG 4

ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

First peal in 15 methods by all the band and the first peal on the bells. The greatest number of Doubles methods yet rung to a peal by the Guild.

BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Mar. 14, 1947, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ARTHUR TOMLINSON Treble	EVEREST FORD 4
*HARRY ELLEL 2	PETER CROOK 5
WILLIAM MILLER 3	ALBERT MORLEY Tenor

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

* First peal. In affectionate remembrance of Mr. James Houldsworth, late of Oswaldtwistle, who was interred at Carleton the previous day.

CADOXTON, NEAR NEATH.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Sat., Mar. 15, 1947, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATWIG,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Beverley, York, London and Cambridge Surprise, one 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and two 720's of Kent Treble Bob.

ALFRED HANNINGTON Treble	ARTHUR HOARE 4
HARRY BOYCE 2	ERNEST STITCH 5
TREVOR M. RODERICK 3	GWYN I. LEWIS Tenor

Conducted by G. I. LEWIS.

In memoriam Albert Devonald, ringer at the above church for years.

WALBERTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Mar. 16, 1947, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*WILLIAM E. BOOKER Treble	LEONARD STILWELL 4
EDGAR R. RAPLEY 2	PETER R. BLACKMAN 5
+PATRICIA SMEE 3	PETER N. BOND Tenor

Conducted by P. R. BLACKMAN.

* First peal apart from covering. + First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd.

SHIRLEY, BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Mon., Mar. 17, 1947, in 2 Hours and 19 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

THOMAS ABBOTTS Treble	VINCENT A. HEMMING 4
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 2	EDWARD T. LLOYD 5
ARTHUR D. COOK 3	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Conducted by EDGAR C. SHEPHERD.

First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Minor by all and by the Guild.

HANDBELL PEALS

WICKHAM ST. PAUL, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Feb. 27, 1947, in 1 Hour and 59 Minutes,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's.

THOMAS BIRD 1-2	ERNEST W. PYE 3-4
OLAVE BROYD 5-6	

Conducted by E. W. PYE.

First peal of Minor as conductor.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Mar. 4, 1947, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS 1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE 5-6
CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY 3-4	FREDK. W. BRINKLOW 7-8

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Thurs., Mar. 13, 1947, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT 19, HOLYWELL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

*PETER C. WRIGHT 1-2	WILFRID F. MORETON 3-4
BETTY SPICE 3-4	*M. WILLIAM H. GRAY 5-6

*C. JOHN DICKINSON 9-10

Composed by G. HAYWARD (C.C.C. No. 15).

Conducted by BETTY SPICE.

* First peal on ten bells.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Fri., Mar. 14, 1947, in 2 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*KATHLEEN HIGGINS 1-2	WILFRID F. MORETON 3-4
BETTY SPICE 3-4	*M. WILLIAM H. GRAY 5-6

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Triples and in the method. First peal of Triples in hand as conductor.

ALVERSTOKE.—On March 16th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. G. W. Tamplin 1, F. W. Burnett 2, L. P. Cook 3, C. W. Philpott 4, H. A. Nobes 5, E. A. Jurd 6, J. H. Hunt (conductor) 7, F. G. Barron 8.

AMBLESIDE, WESTMORLAND.—On March 15th at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. B. Newton 1, J. Tebay 2, D. Dunlop 3, J. Bagnall 4, G. Robinson 5, J. Sewell 6, J. E. Burles (conductor) 7, F. Wilson 8.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—On March 16th, 1,280 Bristol Surprise Major: Jill Brittain 1, Elizabeth Layton 2, Margaret Pitstow 3, Winifred Adams 4, H. Cheesman 5, M. H. Pitstow 6, D. N. Layton (conductor) 7, A. E. Cheesman 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all except 8th. First quarter-peal of Surprise as conductor.

BATTERSEA.—On March 16th at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss E. Cropley (aged 14, first quarter) 1, R. Cropley 2, F. Bush 3, W. Coe 4, E. Dodds 5, A. Williams 6, S. Hart (conductor) 7, E. Howard 8.

BATH.—On March 16th, at the Abbey, 1,277 Grandsire Caters as a farewell to Archdeacon Selwyn: A. E. Baverstock 1, W. J. Prescott 2, Mrs. D. Evans 3, G. J. Hawkins 4, T. F. King 5, W. Hurford 6, J. Hallett 7, S. S. Woodburn 8, R. O. Fry (conductor) 9, K. Medway 10. First quarter of Grandsire Caters by 1, 6, 9 and 10.

BOSTON, Lincs.—On Friday, Jan. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss L. Briggs 1, R. Brown 2, S. Jessop 3, D. White 4, W. E. Clarke (conductor) 5, F. Dewey 6, F. Leggott 7, J. Pitch 8. In memoriam Mr. R. Richardson. Also on Jan. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss L. Briggs 1, R. Brown 2, D. White 3, A. Freeston 4, W. E. Clarke (conductor) 5, F. Dewey 6, J. Pitch 7, B. Jackson 8. A birthday compliment to J. Pitch.

QUARTER PEALS

CLAPHAM COMMON.—At St. Mary's R.C. Church on March 16th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: L. Bullock 1, Miss Anne Dixon 2, T. H. Tafender (conductor) 3, S. Croft 4, E. Miles 5, J. Chapman 6, R. Sanders 7, C. Otley 8.

CAMBRIDGE.—On March 15th at Great St. Mary's, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Lord Wrenbury 1, K. S. B. Croft 2, Miss F. R. Edgar 3, J. F. Moor 4, E. J. Lindley 5, S. E. Darmon (conductor) 6, C. A. Smith 7, T. R. Dennis 8, R. F. B. Speed 9, H. L. Martin 10.

DERBY.—On March 19th, at the Church of St. Andrew, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. E. Thompson 1, A. H. Ward 2, H. Waterfield 3, G. Freebrey (conductor) 4, C. Walklate 5, S. Walklate 6, R. Jackson 7, S. Barsby 8. First quarter-peal for 1, 5, 7 and 8.

DEVIZES, WILTS.—At St. James' Church on March 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Flinders 1, I. M. Taylor (conductor) 2, A. T. Weeks 3, E. J. Potter 4, J. S. Weeks 5, D. J. Lye 6.

EGERTON, KENT.—On March 9th, at St. James' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. A. Pope (first quarter) 1, Miss G. Smith (first quarter) 2, S. V. Field 3, A. Waddington (conductor) 4, C. F. Good 5, Miss M. Smith (first quarter) 6. Ringers of 1, 2, 5 and 6 belong to the Charing company.

FELPHAM, SUSSEX.—On March 16th, 1,260 Doubles (900 Grandsire, 360 Plain Bob): J. Peskett 1, H. J. Peskett 2, Miss E. Lonnen 3, E. Horner 4, E. Treagus (conductor) 5, W. Bristow 6. First quarter by ringers of 1, 3 and 6.

FOLKESTONE, KENT.—On March 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples for the institution of the Rev. Ian Hugh White-Thompson, M.A., as Vicar of Folkestone: F. Orris 1, P. Crook 2, Miss Godderidge 3, A. Kedwell (conductor) 4, J. Willis 5, T. Anderson 6, T. Farley 7, W. Knight 8.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.—On March 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original: D. Callard 1, Miss E. Lomas 2, Miss Q. Pring 3, Rev. E. V. Cox 4, E. E. Retter 5, J. Salway 6, G. E. Retter (conductor) 7, A. J. C. Holway 8.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On March 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Cox 1, K. Biggs 2, R. P. Newton 3, D. Cox 4, A. Heywood 5, R. Blaby 6, P. Newton (conductor) 7, V. Evans 8.

LONDON.—At the Imperial College on March 14, 1,344 Bob Major: P. R. Blackman (first in hand and as conductor in the method) 1-2, G. Dodds (first in method in hand) 3-4, P. M. J. Gray (first inside in hand) 5-6, P. R. Layton (first quarter) 7-8.

MORTIMER, BERKS.—At the Church of St. John on March 8th, a quarter-peal of Minor, being 240 each of Wells, London, Cambridge, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and 120 each Double Court and Plain Bob: F. Huggins 1, Miss J. Baby 2, Miss O. Osler 3, Mrs. M. Miles 4, W. Clift (conductor) 5, C. Herridge 6. All the ringers are from Bramley, Hants, and this was their first attempt for a quarter-peal in seven methods.

PADBURY, BUCKS.—On March 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Whitehead (first quarter) 1, D. Vickers (first quarter inside) 2, W. Yates, jun. 3, C. Gough 4, E. Nicholls (conductor) 5, W. Yates, sen. 6.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—At St. Michael's on March 9th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Frank Kirk 1, A. B. Halsey 2, S. Farmer 3, A. E. Halsey 4, R. Bedford 5, Francis Kirk (conductor) 6. Rung as a compliment to the conductor and Mrs. Kirk on the birth of a daughter.

STROUD, GLOS.—On March 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, half-muffled to the memory of Edward Paul: T. Pritchard 1, W. Staite 2, G. Latham 3, R. Watts 4, T. Witts 5, P. Allen 6, L. Barry (conductor) 7, R. Sharpe 8.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

*The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers*

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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

The third session of the nineteenth
Council (50th annual meeting) will be
held on Whitsun Tuesday, May 27th,
in the ancient Guildhall, Exeter (by
kind permission of the Mayor).

Notices of motion should be in the
hands of the hon. secretary not less
than two calendar months previous to
the meeting.

Secretaries are reminded that affilia-
tion fees became due on January 1st,
but up to the moment only thirteen
have been received.

G. W. FLETCHER, Hon. Sec.

The White House,
Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.

New facts concerning
the Kington peal are pub-
lished in our correspond-
ence columns, including a letter from the
conductor. The best item of this 'most un-
fortunate affair' is that the captain, Mr.
Trevor Jones, has agreed to carry on and that
he will have an opportunity of scoring the
first peal when the bells are rehung.

Other letters on this topic are held over
until next week.

The first peal to mark the bicentenary year
of the Royal Cumberland Youths was rung at
Northfleet on March 15th.

Flood stories are now reaching us. For the
Ladies' Guild meeting at Beccles, flood water
was 6 inches over the railway lines. From the
tower there was a wonderful view of miles of
water. Sufficient ringers were present to man
the 10 bells, the Ladies' Guild being in a
minority.

The Exercise will receive with regret the
news of the passing of four noted ringers this
week, viz., William B. Johnson (Worcester),
James Houldsworth (Oswaldtwistle), John
Nixon Oxborrow (secretary, Westminster
Abbey band) and Walter Chibnall (Aspley
Guise). They were all stalwarts in their day
and generation.

Some new 'Parkerised' peals of Grandsire
Triples have been printed by Mr. A. J.
Corrigan, of Le Coteau, Ryedown Lane, Bitton,
near Bristol. As opportunity presents itself,
we hope to publish the same.

Market Drayton, Shropshire, have a local
Surprise band. They rang their first quarter
of Cambridge Major on March 16th.

Six brothers ring the six bells of Necton
Parish Church, Norfolk, and their surname is
Bell! At Ashill, also in Norfolk, there are
three old ringers by the name of Ringer!

BELFRY GOSSIP

Surprise experts of the
Oxford Diocesan Guild will
have to rise early to get
band. Their latest peal at Harnston con-
tained 16 methods and was the greatest number
of Surprise Major methods yet rung.

Oxford Diocesan Guild, however, are in the
news this week with a peal of 15 methods of
Doubles, the greatest number yet rung to a
peal by the Guild.

Welcome to the Exercise's latest centenarian!
The peal of five Spliced Surprise at St. Ebbe's,
Oxford, on March 11th, was the 100th peal on
tower bells by Miss Betty Spice, Master of the
Oxford University Society.

Mr. Charles Sedgley has undergone a second
operation at the Borough and General Hos-
pital, Ipswich, and is not too well. He would
welcome letters from his friends.

A pointer to progress in 1946 comes from
St. Peter's, Nottingham, where 17 peals were
attempted with nine successes, viz.: 1 Kent
Royal, 2 Bob Royal, 1 Stedman Caters and 5
Grandsire Caters. In these were two 'first
peals,' eight 'firsts' of Grandsire Caters, four
of Stedman, six of Bob Royal and five of Kent
Royal, making 25 firsts in nine peals!

A peal that will go down in the annals of
the College Youths was that of Stedman
Cinques at Trowbridge on March 15th, which
was a birthday compliment to Mr. Sam Hector
and to celebrate his over 50 years' change
ringing. After the peal the ringers were the
guest of Sam to a birthday feast at a local
hotel. The Vicar came and in his welcome
mentioned his association with the College
Youths when he was the incumbent at St.
Leonard's, Shoreditch. It was only by the
goodness of several of the band coming in at
short notice to take the place of some who
had declined that the band was 12 strong.

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MACCLESFIELD BELLS REHUNG And Augmented to Ten

Chester Diocesan Guild has been enriched by the dedication of two new bells and the re-hanging of the original eight bells some 30ft. lower at Christ Church, Macclesfield, in an effort to combat the great oscillation caused when the bells were rung in their old position at the top of the tower. The dedication was performed by the Lord Bishop of Chester (Dr. Douglas Crick) on March 15th.

Macclesfield bells were originally installed in 1777. At that time there were eleven bells—a sanctus bell and a peal of 10. In 1815 the ninth bell cracked whilst being tolled for a funeral service. This bell was recast by William Dobson, of Downham, Norfolk, at the expense of Mr. William Roe, but only eight of the original peal were replaced, possibly in the hope that a decrease in the weight of bell metal would combat the swaying of the tower. The original treble and second bell were placed in Peover Church and Sankey Street Chapel, Warrington, respectively, possibly to help defray expenses.

SILENT FOR 60 YEARS.

Notwithstanding the re-hanging and decreased weight, the trouble was just as bad as ever, and in 1834 the bells at Christ Church ceased to be rung and remained silent until 1902, when during the vicariate of the Rev. St. Clare Hick and chiefly owing to the energies of the then curate, the Rev. Sandford Woods, the bells were rehung, the money being raised by public subscription. An extract from 'The Bell News' dated January, 1903, states:

'The bells of Christ Church, Macclesfield, were rung for the first time after a long sleep of over sixty years at the midnight service on December 31st, 1902. The bells, eight in number, have just been retuned and rehung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The tenor, weighing some 23 cwt., having been recast. The tower is being restored and a new clock put in.'

Unfortunately the bells were put back in the original unsatisfactory position in the tower as before, but despite the greatest difficulty experienced in ringing the bells, they were rung for service the whole time up to last year, when the work of lowering the bells commenced, except for the period during the war years when a ban was placed on such activities.

From time to time various experts have been called upon to give their views on how best to cure the trouble. During the Vicariate of the Rev. S. J. F. Sharples, Mr. E. H. Lewis, reputed to be the cleverest expert of that time on 'rocking towers,' made an inspection, and recommended that the bells be lowered at least 25ft., which would reduce the oscillation considerably.

This recommendation, however, could not be undertaken, and it was not until 1938 that a subscription list was opened by the ringers themselves, who agreed to forgo the fees due to them, providing the money was utilised towards the Bell Fund.

TWO GIFT BELLS.

In 1943, during the vicariate of the present Vicar, the Rev. A. Clarke, the Bell Fund was officially opened. The licence was obtained in 1946 for the work to be carried out, and was entrusted to Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. After the work of lowering the bells had commenced, the Christ Church Old Boys' Association generously offered to provide two new bells to serve as a memorial to their comrades who had served in the Great Wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45, and these are the treble and second bells of the present peal of ten, cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co.

The inscriptions on the bells are as follows: Treble and second.—'The gift of Christ Church Lay School Association.'

Third.—'Thos. Rudhall, Gloucester. 1777.'



CHRIST CHURCH, MACCLESFIELD

Fourth.—'We were cast at the expense of Wm. Roe, Esq. 1777.'

Fifth.—'Success to trade.' 1777.

Sixth.—'Prosperity to this Town. 1777.'

Seventh.—'Peace and Good Neighbourhood. 1777.'

Eighth.—'T.R. 1777.'

Ninth.—'This bell was recast at the expense of Wm. Roe, Esq., by Wm. Dobson, of Downham, Norfolk, 1815. Rejoice in the Lord.'

Tenor.—'I to the church the living call, and to the grave do summon all. Recast 1902.'

For the dedication ceremony the ringing chamber had been decorated by a member of the local company. The service was attended by the Mayor and members of Macclesfield Town Council, and many visiting ringers from as far afield as Yorkshire and Staffordshire. The Lancashire Association was represented by the Rev. F. F. Rigby (president) and Mr. Shaker (secretary), and the Chester Diocesan Guild by Mr. J. W. Clarke (Master) and the Rev. J. D. Pearson (secretary), and the North Staffordshire Association by Mr. R. S. Anderson (Master). After the service the Bishop visited the ringing chamber and had a few words with the ringers.

Tea was served in Christ Church School, after which short speeches were made by the Mayor, the Bishop and the Vicar (the Rev. A. Clarke). The tower was open to all in the evening, and methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Treble Bob Royal and Surprise Royal.

Messrs. Taylor and Co. are to be congratulated on a splendid job, the blending of the new bells to the old eight being perfect, and there is a great improvement in the 'go' of the whole peal as a result of the lowering of the bells.

The bells being lower than the louvres has had the effect of mellowing the sound, which although softened to the immediate vicinity, is diffused to a greater area, and the musical qualities can be much more appreciated.

Of the estimated cost of £1,500, the sum of £1,350 has now been raised, and there is thus still a deficit of £150. Further subscriptions will be gratefully received by the Vicar or wardens.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Wolstencroft

FAREWELL TO ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

As briefly recorded in our last issue, Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. Wolstencroft are severing their long connection with St. Peter's Church, Ashton-under-Lyne and are going to live in Buckinghamshire.

In their honour a farewell peal was rung at St. Peter's Church, where Mr. Wolstencroft had been a ringer and conductor for 55 years and Mrs. Wolstencroft for 21 years. This is the second tower Mr. Wolstencroft has circled to eight different methods.

The peal, Superlative Surprise Major, was the first in the method to be rung by the Chester Diocesan Guild and was the 60th peal together for Stephen Lloyd Parry and Fred Dunkerley.

Only two peals of Superlative have been rung at Ashton. A previous attempt was made on the 40th anniversary of the first peal, which was lost owing to the electric light being switched off accidentally after 2½ hours' ringing, and was to have been a memorial peal to Charles Jackson 1, Rev. A. T. Beeston 2, Bertram Prewett 3, George Dent 4, Isaac Shade 5, Gabriel Lindoff 6, William Pye 7, Ernest Pye 8, which was rung on September 12th, 1905.

CHESTER GUILD'S REGRET.

The Chester Guild said farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Wolstencroft at a practice meeting at Bowdon on March 8th, which was attended by some 60 members and friends.

Mr. A. R. Elkins, branch chairman, expressed the regret of the Guild that two of their friends and staunch supporters of the branch, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wolstencroft, were leaving Ashton for Buckinghamshire. His remarks were endorsed by a number of members, and suggestions were made that this was hardly the time to move South in view of the infinitely worse weather which they were experiencing than the North!

Mr. Wolstencroft thanked the meeting for their good wishes and for the many happy years he had had amongst them. It was not easy to move after so many years, but he had finally brought himself to do it.

Mrs. Wolstencroft, who has been connected with St. Peter's, Ashton, for over 70 years as scholar, Sunday School teacher and superintendent, in a witty speech urged all young people present to take an active part in the corporate life of their church.

The branch and the Church of St. Peter, Ashton, will be the poorer by their removal, but what is their loss will, it is hoped, be Buckinghamshire's gain. It is expected that another county will enter into the sphere of multi-method Minor ringing.

A new feature introduced at the Bowdon meeting was a short talk on some of the difficulties encountered by learners and how to overcome them in order that newcomers to change ringing might be spared some of the drudgery which the older members were compelled to go through to acquire their knowledge.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. D. P. Lowe), there was a bountiful tea and the ringing was mainly in methods of the elementary type with plenty of rounds for the learners. To those who suggest that change ringing is a dying art the ages at this meeting ranged from 12 to 75 with the accent on the younger generation. Verb sap.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER.

Quarterly subscribers are reminded that remittances should be sent without delay to Mr. H. J. Eldred, 26, Springfield Road, Corleston, Great Yarmouth.

OBITUARIES OF THE WEEK

MR. JAMES HOULDSWORTH.

For many years the conductor of the talented band of ringers at Oswaldtwistle, who were pioneers of Surprise ringing in the Blackburn Branch, Mr. James Houldsworth, of Accrington, Lancs. (late of Oswaldtwistle), died on March 9th. He was cremated at Carleton on March 13th.

His Surprise peals included Palatine Surprise, Lancashire Surprise and Northampton Surprise, which were the first peals in these methods for the Lancashire Association. He was also a member of the band which rang a peal in seven Surprise Minor methods non-conducted which was also the first for the association. He will, however, be best remembered for the assistance and instruction he so readily gave to beginners.

He possessed that great asset of being able to impart his knowledge to others, and many ringers in the surrounding districts (including the writer) are very grateful and appreciative of the help and instruction he so willingly gave.

Mr. Houldsworth rang in all about 70 peals, a goodly proportion being Surprise, for most of which he acted as conductor. A.T.

MR. J. N. OXBORROW.

The death of Mr. John Nixon Oxborrow on February 14th marks the passing of another notable College Youth. He was the secretary of the St. Stephen's, Westminster, band from its formation, and when the band at Westminster Abbey was inaugurated he was elected secretary, and held this position until the ban was placed on ringing during the war.

Mr. Oxborrow was a native of Helmingham, Suffolk, and before coming to London rang at least one peal, Grandsire Triples, at Coddham, which he conducted, on December 26th, 1879.

Although he was not a prolific peal ringer, he was an excellent striker and very safe on all numbers of bells. As far as can be ascertained, he rang about 170 peals, among these three Surprise peals in one day—London, Cambridge and Superlative—non-conducted London and Cambridge Major and Stedman Cinques, and a 'John' peal of Stedman Cinques at Cripplegate. He was 86 years of age and had been a member of the College Youths for 60 years.

At the funeral at Streatham Park Cemetery on February 24th, the society was represented by Mr. W. H. Pasmore. A.B.P.

MR. EDWARD PAUL.

Mr. Edward Paul, of Stroud, Glos., who died on March 8th, aged 83, was a regular Sunday ringer for over 60 years. He was not a peal ringer, having rung only two peals, but he was always found in his place for service ringing and was always on time. Mr. Paul was instrumental in introducing several young men to the tower, of whom the writer was one. L.B.

MR. A. E. W. SMITH, SWINDON.

After a short illness, Mr. A. E. W. Smith, of Swindon, has died, aged 78. A native of Longcot, Berks, he learned to ring at Christ Church, Swindon, about 1900 and had been a member of that band since that date. He never mastered an 'inside' bell, but had rung the tenor to peals of Doubles, Triples, Caters and Cinques, and was an expert at tune ringing with handbells. Many a meeting or outing finished in a merry mood with William and partner performing with the handbells.

The funeral took place at Christ Church on March 14th, and was attended by members of the local and Rodbourne Cheney towers. A half-muffled touch of Grandsire Triples was rung. W.B.K.

MR. W. H. JOHNSON, WORCESTER.

Mr. William H. Johnson (Bill Johnson to his many ringing friends in Worcestershire) died on March 15th in his 83rd year. He was a very active member of Worcester Cathedral band until a few years ago, when his doctor forbade him making the arduous climb to the ringing chamber.

He was not a prolific ringer—probably having not more than 50 peals to his credit, and several of these were rung on the Cathedral bells upon occasions of national rejoicings and sorrow—but he was a regular attendant for Sunday service ringing.

Mr. Johnson first entered into the life of the Cathedral 60 years ago, when he joined the voluntary choir, and he was for 50 years secretary of the Cathedral Guild and treasurer of the Worcestershire Association of Ringers for 40 years—a fine example of continuity and devotion to his fellow ringers.

In June, 1943, recognition was paid to his services when at a social gathering in the College Hall he was presented with a handsome gift of War Saving Certificates by Guild members and friends of the Worcestershire Association.

He was a well-known business man in Worcester, being a partner in the building firm of Messrs. Phelps and Johnson. He leaves two sons, who are members of the firm. His wife died in 1939.

The funeral service, held in the Cathedral on March 15th, was attended by many of his ringing friends. The Dean (the Very Rev. Arthur Davies) officiated. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the graveside by T. W. Lewis 1-2, S. T. Holt 3-4, G. J. Lewis 5-6, J. J. Jeffries 7-8.

MR. WALTER CHIBNALL.

A stalwart of the Bedfordshire Association died on March 9th in the person of Mr. Walter Chibnall, of Aspley Guise, aged 82. His funeral took place on March 12th.

By trade, Mr. Chibnall was a bookbinder and for 50 years he was employed by the Powage Press, Ltd. His ringing career extended over 63 years, he having joined the Bedfordshire Association at the end of 1883, the second year after its formation. Throughout the whole of that period he rang regularly for services on the handy ring of six at the Parish Church of St. Botolph, where he was foreman of the company. He instructed recruits and kept the band at full strength.

It was his boast that from the time the Aspley bells were rehung over 40 years ago to the present time their upkeep had not cost the church authorities a penny piece. An accomplished amateur carpenter, he lined the walls of the ringing chamber with boarding at his own expense and saw to it that it was kept clean and in good condition at all times. He was capable of rehanging a bell and fitting new bearings, etc., when required.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.

Despite the inclement weather, 19 ringers met at Rodbourne Cheney on March 8th for the quarterly meeting of the Swindon Branch, and methods up to Kent Minor were rung.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. R. Hassett), and tea was served in the Sunday School by wives of the local ringers.

The secretary announced that a tour of outlying towers was being arranged in place of the May meeting, and it was decided to visit Blunsdon and Bishopstone in April and June respectively. Three juvenile lady members of Rodbourne Cheney tower were elected members of the association.

Ringers were present from Swindon, Blunsdon, Lydiard Millicent, Rodbourne Cheney, Faringdon and Stratton St. Margaret.

Selby and District Society

BRAYTON BELLS—A DISAPPOINTMENT.

A successful meeting was held at Howden on March 15th, when nearly 30 members were present from Barnby Don, Carlton, Goole, Hemingbrough, Selby, Thorne and the local company.

The Vicar of Howden (the Rev. A. Waring), being unfortunately indisposed, was not able to preside at the meeting, but sent his greetings to the members. The Vicar of Carlton (the Rev. E. Lawson-Brewis), who is a vice-president, presided, and 19 new ringing members were elected.

The secretary reported that owing to difficulties which were not anticipated, there would not be a ring of bells at Brayton and the fund was closed. A proposal that the whole of the year's collection should now go to the Carlton Fund was referred to an extraordinary general meeting of members, as the original resolution was adopted at the society's ordinary general meeting.

The next meeting is to be held at East-rington, subject to local approval, and there are to be joint meetings with the Yorkshire Association (Eastern District) and Doncaster and District Society, also with Beverley and District Society.

The Chairman announced that Carlton bells are to be dedicated on May 10th by the Bishop of Sheffield and all were invited to be present.

Thanks were expressed to the Vicar of Howden for the use of the bells, also to the local company for their arrangements, which included an excellent tea.

An unfortunate occurrence at the start of ringing nearly deprived members of the opportunity to ring this fine peal. The clapper bolt of the sixth bell had worked loose at the headstock and could not be tightened. Thanks to the ingenuity of the Howden ringers, however, temporary repairs were effected which enabled the bells to be rung.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

NORTHERN DISTRICT AT WETHERSFIELD

Call changes to London Surprise Major was the all embracing programme supervised by the District Master (Miss H. Snowden) for the Northern District meeting at Wethersfield on March 15th.

The following towers were represented: Halstead, Finchamfield, Bocking, Black Notley, Pebmarsh, Shimpling, Braintree, Brentwood, Romford, Great Bardfield, Dunmow, Sible Hedingham, Stansted, Sudbury, Leverstock Green and the local company.

The service in the church was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. L. B. Shepherd), who gave a helpful address. The collection for the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to £1 1s. 9d. Tea was served in the schoolroom.

A cordial welcome to the visitors was extended by the Ringing Master and two new members were elected. Earls Colne was selected for the next meeting on June 7th. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and Mr. B. Redgwell for making the meeting such a success. Handbells were also rung in various methods.

SOUTH-EAST DIVISION AT RETTENDON.

Thirty-two members and friends attended the meeting of the S.E. Division at Rettendon on March 8th, when the association's service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. R. P. Flute). Tea was served in the Village Hall by Mrs. and Miss Jay and Miss Cardy.

The Rector presided at the business meeting, at which seven new members were elected, and the next meeting was arranged for April 26th at Wiford. The thanks of the Association to all who had assisted in arranging for such an enjoyable meeting were voiced by Mr. H. Shadrack. Ringing extended from rounds to Cambridge Minor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Kington Peal

CONDUCTOR'S EXPLANATION.

Dear Sir,—As the ringer responsible for the Kington peal, I had not thought it necessary to answer your correspondents' letters, but your leading article of March 21st forces me to say:—

(1) Much has been made of the idea that local sentiment was hurt because the first peal on rehung bells was rung by outsiders. The bells of Kington were not rehung by the date of our peal, and, as far as I know, are still untouched.

(2) There was not the slightest intention of ignoring the ringing captain. I am sorry that he has felt annoyance, but I fail to see why any annoyance with outsiders should make him sever his connection with the local band. The facts are simply these: We attempted the peal on Friday, January 10th, but failed. We then intended to try again at Eardisland on the following Monday, only to discover on the Sunday that these bells were not available. The possibility of Kington was thought of, and the Vicar gave permission by telephone for the peal to be attempted.

Such are the simple facts which need not have created a 'mountain out of a molehill.' On my many visits to churches it has been my invariable custom to ask permission from the incumbent, unless I personally know a local ringer, in which case I should assume that he himself would contact the incumbent. This is the first occasion when difficulties have arisen.

In conclusion, I may say that the peal was first reported less than a week after it was rung.—Yours faithfully,

W. F. MORETON.

The Close, Hereford.

A NEW BELFRY RULE.

Dear Sir,—Further light having been thrown on the Kington episode, your readers are now able to sum up.

(1) The Vicar is not to blame. Only a ringing parson can weigh up the susceptibilities and feelings of a ringer and his unwritten code of honour.

(2) Mr. Trevor Jones has had his feelings deeply hurt and an apology is due to him. 'Blessed are the peace makers.'

(3) The sterling qualities of the Kington ringers in raising money for the new bells, under the leadership of their captain, is brought into view.

(4) I have always found captains or foremen occupy their position on account of their skill, mental alertness, kindness and acknowledged leadership. They are fine specimens of English character and we can ill afford to lose them.

(5) I have had a hand in drawing up belfry rules with the unanimous agreement of incumbent, churchwardens, foreman and all the ringers. If I did this again I would add one more, viz:—

'That incumbent and foreman consult together if outside application is made to ring the bells.'

This would strengthen the unwritten code of etiquette, would not infringe the incumbent's rights, would put an end to peal snatching and convince the ringers that the parson was their friend.—Yours sincerely,

J. M. TURNER.

Washfield Rectory, Tiverton, Devon.

LADIES' GUILD'S SYMPATHY

Dear Sir,—I would like, on behalf of the Northern District, Ladies' Guild, to convey my utmost sympathy for those of our members and their fellow ringers who are flooded out, particularly those in the Doncaster area. I sincerely hope that their present unhappy circumstances will soon be overcome.

E. DORICE KELLY, Hon. Sec.

164, Richmond Road, Sheffield 9.

Captain Agrees to Return

Dear Sir,—I am an unattached member of the Kington district, but I would like to point out that there has been a misunderstanding over the peal of Hereward Bob Minor.

The bells have not yet been rehung, the £186 raised is towards the cost of rehanging the present six and adding two new trebles to complete the octave.

The peal in question was the first of Minor on the bells. I understand it had always been the ambition of the captain to conduct the first peal of Minor on the bells with a local band, and one can well imagine his disappointment. He has, however, agreed to return to the tower as captain.

The whole affair has been most unfortunate.

—Yours faithfully,

(Mrs.) ELSIE C. CHANDLER.

Beechgrove, Kington.

INFORMATION FROM CANADA
WANTED

Dear Sir,—Your issue of February 14th contained an interesting letter from Mr. A. C. Limpus, of Vancouver, B.C., in which he mentions the peal rung there in 1911 for the Coronation of King George V. I have always had a particular interest in this peal, as I knew well and rang quite a bit with the conductor, Mr. G. W. Forster, in my young days. He came from Borden, Kent, and was an active member of the K.C.A. before he emigrated.

This peal (Holt's Original) appealed to me as a remarkably fine performance, especially on the part of Mr. Forster, who, I believe, came several hundred miles to conduct it.

It has always been a pleasure to see an occasional reference to him in 'The Ringing World,' and the last, several years ago, mentioned that he was seriously ill. I have often wondered whether or not he recovered. Perhaps Mr. Limpus can tell us so that his part in this historic peal can be placed on record in the report of the Kent County Association, of which he was a valued member.—Yours,

Crayford, Kent.

E. BARNETT.

BROADCAST NOTICES

Dear Sir,—When broadcasts of bells are announced, would it be possible to give the wave-length?

The last issue of 'The Ringing World' mentioned a broadcast of the bells of St. Mary's, Ulverston, on March 16th, in the Home Service, but our programme in the Home Service at this hour was a service from Newton Abbot Congregational Church!

Whimble, Devon.

E. LOMAS (Miss).

A DATE TOUCH FOR 1947

Dear Sir,—The enclosed 21 leads of Treble Bob may be of interest to those who like to ring a date touch.

At the treble's snap lead at the start of the 22nd lead the change is 123546, and the bells can be brought round at hand the next change giving a touch of 507 changes, which, with two 720's, will give the 1,947 changes.—Yours faithfully,

A. RELFE.

507 TREBLE BOB.

23456	3
56423	1
45623	3
23645	2
56234	1
25634	3
34625	2
56342	1
35642	4
54263	1

P.L. 25346

215364
123546
123456

Irish Association 'Cleared'

Dear Sir,—With reference to the letter by Mr. Harold Poole in 'The Ringing World' dated 14th inst., when he suggested that I should say if there was ever a Frank Haslett having been a member of this Association.

I have perused all the records possible and I can find no trace of any person of this name amongst them (nor was there ever a Michael Mulcahy a member either), and certainly no peals by the Irish Association included any person bearing either of the names.

There have been a number of peals of Grand-sire and Stedman Triples rung by members of this Association, but never any of London Surprise Minor.

According to records, there has not been any person of the name who was a member of the Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, Society. I will, however, make inquiries from their secretary, and should my information be incorrect, I will not hesitate to write again.

Trusting that this information will 'clear the air' as far as this man's statements regarding this Association are concerned.—Yours faithfully,

FRED. E. DUKES,

Irish Association of Change Ringers.

ST. MARGARET'S RECORD

Dear Sir,—The ringers of St. Margaret's, Westminster, do not need anyone to defend them against what was an unwarrantable attack upon their ringing, yet I feel bound to answer Mr. Burgess.

I am not in a position to judge the recording that he mentions, but I can say that bad striking would not be tolerated, for it has been a pleasure for me to ring with them on many occasions prior to 1939 when the bells were going badly.

As for the B.B.C. recording, it is quite possible that some of St. Margaret's ringers took part in it, in any case neither they nor Mr. Burgess can teach them anything about striking.

Hatfield is no great distance from London, and Mr. Burgess could profit by a visit there some time, when he would, I am sure, receive a very warm welcome, and at the same time enjoy some ringing which may be equalled but certainly not surpassed.—Yours faithfully,

Maidstone.

WILLIAM T. GRICE.

RINGERS' NAMES ON BELLS

Dear Sir,—Re St. Peter's (Nottingham) 10 bells. The two trebles have the following inscription: 'To the Greater Glory of God. H. R. Cobbin gave me. Thanking God. 1919.' The donor (D.V.) hopes to complete 50 years' ringing service at St. Peter's on June 22nd next.

In your issue of March 7th, Mr. G. E. Symonds, of Ipswich, gave particulars of the 9th bell in Beccles (Suffolk) tower, saying amongst the inscriptions on the bell was the name of Henry Hopson. Mr. Henry Hopson was the grandfather of H. R. Cobbin.

Nottingham.

H. A. COBBIN.

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Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

BIRTH

POWELL.—On Mar. 10th, 1947, at Victoria Cottage, Coombe Street, Lyme Regis, to Laura (née Keeley), wife of Cuthbert W. H. Powell, a son (Christopher). 1121

DEATH

PYE.—On March 17th, 1947, at Porters Castle, Hedingham, Maud Alice Pye, widow of the late William Pye, aged 68 years. 1140

FOR SALE

SET of Handbells (octave); £15.—Grater, 9, Franklyn Drive, Cowick Lane, Exeter. 1120

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. E. W. Pye is now 2, Victoria Villas, Alexandra Road, Sible Hedingham, Essex. 1141

ESSEX ASSN.—South-Western Division.—Meeting Bentley (5), Saturday, Mar. 29th. Bells from 3. Service 4.30. Tea to follow.—J. H. Crampion, 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath. 1065

SURREY ASSN.—Annual general meeting, Reigate, Saturday, Mar. 29th. Bells 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Parish Hall, Lesbourne Road.—C. de Ste. C. Parks, Asst. Hon. Sec. 1067

KENT COUNTY ASSN.—Maidstone District.—Harrietsham (8), Mar. 29th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, London Road, Ditton, near Maidstone. 1066

SUSSEX ASSN.—Eastern Division.—Practice, Bexhill, Saturday, Mar. 29th, 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. Notify Rev. P. J. Boulsover, Chantry Croft, Barrack Road, Bexhill.—John Downing, Hon. Sec. 1101

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting at St. Michael's, Aughton, Saturday, Mar. 29th, at 2.30. 6 bells. Note change in tower. All welcome.—N. Heaps, Branch Sec. 1132

ELY ASSN.—Wisbech District.—Levington (6), Saturday, Mar. 29th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Please bring food.—W. Buckenham, Marham. 1106

KENT COUNTY ASSN.—Ashford District.—Biddenden, Mar. 29th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—P. Page, 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent. 1108

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—Evening meeting at St. John's, Miles Platting, on Monday, Mar. 31st, at 7.30 p.m.—Frank Reynolds, Branch Sec. 1134

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSN.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting, Horsham, Apr. 5th, 3 p.m. Tea; names to G. T. Jennings, 5, Malt House Road, Crawley. 1093

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Marden (8), Apr. 5th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea not later than Apr. 3rd to R. A. Whitehead, Leigh, near Tonbridge, Kent. 1113

DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield Branch.—Next meeting, Dronfield (8), Apr. 5th. Bring own food.—Sam Scattergood, Hon. Dis. Sec. 1139

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSN.—Annual general meeting, Norwich, Easter Monday, April 7th. Bells of Mancroft, St. Giles' and St. Miles' available 10 to 11.45 and after 3 p.m.; St. John de Sepulchre also, after 3. Service Mancroft, 12; preacher, Rev. J. A. H. Waddington. Lunch, Bedford Grill, Bedford Street, 1 (4s.), followed by business meeting. Accommodation at lunch must be restricted to the first 70 who notify me.—A. G. G. Thurlow, Gen. Sec., 52, The Close, Norwich. 1011

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, at Ipswich. St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret's (8), St. Clement's (6), St. Matthew's (6). Meeting St. Mary-le-Tower 9.30. Photograph taken 11.45. Service 12 o'clock. Lunch 12.45 at Nightingale's, Upper Brook Street. Business meeting after. Those requiring lunch must notify me by April 3rd. All ringers welcome.—Cecil W. Pipe, Grundisburgh, Woodbridge. 1038

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSN.—Annual meeting Penarth, Easter Monday. Bells available 2 p.m. Service 4. Business to follow. Bring own food; cups of tea provided.—F. J. Hannington. 1094

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSN.—Annual general meeting, Worcester, Easter Monday, Apr. 7th. Service in All Saints', 11 a.m. Business meeting in College Hall, 12 noon prompt. Bells available: All Saints' (10) and St. Swithin's (6), from 10 a.m.; Cathedral (12), 5-6.30 p.m.; St. John's (8), 3-5 p.m.; Claines (10), from 2 p.m. No arrangements have yet been possible for meals.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Hon. Sec., Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham. 1103

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Canterbury, Easter Monday. Arrangements for service, luncheon and towers as previously advertised. Additional towers: Chilham and Wickhambreaux.—G. H. Spice, 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne. 1129

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Wisbech, Easter Monday, Apr. 7th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5. Bells available: Wisbech (10), 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and after tea; Elm (6), Leverington (6), 11 a.m. to 3.30, and after tea.—W. W. Cousins, Terrington St. John, Wisbech. 1131

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Bath, Easter Monday. Service, St. Michael's, 12 noon. Lunch, Christopher Hotel 12.50 prompt. Business meeting, St. James Church Room, 2 p.m. Bells available: Abbey (10), 3 to 5.30; St. Michael's (8), 11 to 12, 6 till dark; St. Matthew's (6), 5 to 6, St. Mark's (6), 6 to 7; St. Mary's (8), 3 to 4; Twerton (8), 3.30 to 5, 6 to 8; Cors-ton (8), 3.30 to 6; Newton St. Loe, any time. Make own arrangements for tea. Restaurants closed. About 20 seats left for lunch. Apply at once.—J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton, Bath. 1115

EAST DERBY AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Annual, Easter Monday. Clay Cross (6). Bells 2 p.m. Business meeting, Parochial Schools, 2.45 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Please send names, not later than Tuesday, Apr. 1st, to J. W. Price, 1, Bertrand Avenue, Clay Cross, near Chesterfield. 1124

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Seaton, Easter Monday. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business at Axe Vale Cafe. Names by Mar. 29th.—J. Arbury, 2, Paternoster Row, Ottery St. Mary. 1114

SURREY ASSN.—North-Western District.—Meeting Ewell, Easter Monday. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Notice for tea, please, to J. E. Beams, 4, Cottage Road, West Ewell, by Apr. 2nd.—R. Lathbury, Hon. Dis. Sec., 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames. 1092

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Annual meeting, Bedford, Easter Monday, Apr. 7th. St. Paul's (10) available 10.30; St. Peter's (6) available during afternoon and evening. A meat tea has been arranged at the Lion Hotel, High Street, for 4 p.m., at 3s. 6d. per head. Names for tea, please, to the secretary by Wednesday, Apr. 2nd. The business meeting will be held in the lounge of the Lion Hotel at 5 p.m.—Mr. F. Plummer, Romaine Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. 1125

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, at Ipswich. St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret's (8), St. Clement's (6), St. Matthew's (6). Meet St. Mary-le-Tower 9.30. Photograph taken 11.45. Service 12 o'clock. Lunch 12.45 at Nightingale's, Upper Brook Street. Business meeting after. Those requiring lunch must notify me by April 3rd. All ringers welcome.—Cecil W. Pipe, Grundisburgh, Woodbridge. 1038

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Easter Monday meeting, Burton Parish Church. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5. Bring food. Cups of tea only.—J. W. Cotton. 1135

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSN.—Annual general meeting, St. Albans, Saturday, April 12th. Bells: Hatfield (10), available in morning; Abbey (12), St. Peter's (10), 2-3.45 and in evening; St. Michael's (6) and St. Stephen's (6), 2-3.40. Service in the Abbey 4 p.m. Tea, Water End Barn 5.30, for those whose notify me by Tuesday, Apr. 8th. Alteration of Rule V.: That the portion of Rule V. relating to the day fixed for the annual meeting be amended as follows: 'That the Annual Meeting of the Association be held on the Saturday after Easter or any other date selected by the Committee.'—W. Ayre, Gen. Sec., Leverstock Green. 1099

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be at St. James', Milnrow, Saturday, Apr. 12th. Bells 3 p.m. Business meeting 6.30. Tea 5.15, to those who send names before Apr. 4th to Mr. A. Buesill, 3, Cornfield Street, Milnrow. 1123

SOUTHWELL DIO. GUILD.—Annual general, Newark, Saturday, Apr. 12th. Bells (10) 2.30. Committee meeting 3.30. Tea at Barnbygate Restaurant 5. Business meeting in belfry afterwards. Ringing till 8. Will all members please make a special effort to attend.—T. Groombridge, jun. 1105

ELLAND, YORKS.—Meeting at Elland on Saturday, Apr. 12th. All ringers invited. A tea will be provided.—F. Linfoot. 1122

OXFORD GUILD.—Banbury and Bicester Branches.—Joint meeting at Lower Heyford on Saturday, Apr. 12th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea. Names for tea to F. Pritchett, Lower Heyford, Oxford. Rousham (6) and Steeple Aston (6) available in evening.—E. C. Pearson and F. Sharpe. 1118

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCH-DEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting, Brewood, Apr. 12th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.45. Cups of tea 5.30. Please bring food. Bus leaves North Street (bottom Market Square), Wolverhampton, 2.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton. 1119

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Bristol City Branch.—Monthly, Apr. 12th, St. Thomas. Usual arrangements. Cups of tea only, 5.15. Bring own food.—C. H. Wood. 1126

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Cheltenham Branch.—Quarterly, Charlton Kings (8), Apr. 12th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—Charles Rouse, Westdene, Bouncers Lane, Prestbury, Glos. 1117

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Meeting at Burnham, Bucks, on Saturday, Apr. 12th. Bells from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 in Church Hall. Business to follow. Names for tea must reach Mr. G. Gilbert, Pontresina, Milner Road, Burnham, by Wednesday, Apr. 9th.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec. 1133

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Guilsborough Branch.—Ringing meeting at East Haddon on Saturday, Apr. 12th, at 3 p.m. 6 bells. Tea available.—F. H. Loakes, Branch Sec. 1128

SALISBURY DIOCESEAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Quarterly, Warminster, Apr. 12th. Usual arrangements. Advise for tea by 9th April.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham. Phone 297. 1127

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery.—Quarterly, Seavington St. Mary, Apr. 12th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Meeting follows. 6 bells. Notify by Apr. 8th for tea.—J. T. Locke, Hon. Sec., School Street, Dayton. 1116

LADIES' GUILD.—Meeting of special interest to all lady ringers in Kent and Sussex at Tunbridge Wells on Saturday, Apr. 19th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Important meeting to follow. Names for tea to Mr. B. Collison, 169, Queen's Road, Tunbridge Wells, by Apr. 15th. Gentlemen cordially invited. 1110

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will take place at Brighton on Saturday, May 3rd.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec. 1138

VISITORS TO BOURNEMOUTH.—Visiting ringers are always welcome at the various towers. Christchurch Priory (12): Sunday ringing, 5.30 p.m. Practice night, Mondays, 7.30 (verify).—Mr. George Preston, 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch. Bournemouth St. Peter (8): S.R., 9.30 and 11 a.m., 5.50. P.N., Thursdays, 7.30.—Arthur V. Davis, 116, Alma Road. Bournemouth St. John, Surrey Road (8): S.R., 10 a.m. and 5.30. P.N., Tuesdays, 7.30.—H. A. Mitchell, 107, Kinson Road, Wallisdown. Handbells: Tuesdays, St. Peter's Hall, 6. 1137

DEVON GUILD OF RINGERS

MID-DEVON BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.—Preb. E. V. Cox, president of the Guild, presided at the 25th annual meeting of the Mid-Devon Branch at Teignmouth on March 15th, when the local ringers were joined with visitors from Exeter, Tedbury St. Mary, Newton Abbot, Paignton, Ashburton, Buckfastleigh and Plymouth. An apology was received from Mr. Harvey (Totnes).

The sub-committee reported on the memorial to the late Mr. C. R. Walter, and submitted three estimates for the work. These were referred back to the sub-committee.

The secretary's annual report stated that five meetings had been held and membership had increased. An increase in the general fund balance was reported by the treasurer, but a decrease on the Instructional Fund balance. The reports were adopted.

Officers elected were: Chairman, the Rev. W. R. D. Mills; secretary, treasurer and ringing master, Mr. A. L. Bennett; auditor, Mr. B. H. Cooper; general committee, Miss L. E. Cload, Mr. C. F. Austin and Mr. W. C. Wakley. An honorary member and an associate member were also elected.

Meetings suggested (subject to permission) were Totnes, April 26th, and Buckfast Abbey with the South-West Branch in June.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar (the Rev. S. W. Phillips) for conducting the service and use of the bells, the Rev. I. W. Watson for his address and those who contributed to the catering. Methods rung were Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Stedman Triples and Plain Bob Major.

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