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A VINTAGE YEAR

LAST October in one of our national dailies there appeared an article headed: 'There really is a boom in bells.' The view was there advanced by one spokesman that the young men in towns as well as the country were getting a bit tired of the pictures and turning to bellringing as a new hobby with plenty of interest and physical effort.

Relatively few young people have forsaken the silver screen for pictures, but this we know, that 1949 was a year of great progress, and that where keen bands exist there has been a steady flow of young people into the ranks of ringers.

It is, however, in the realm of achievement that the Exercise has had an unprecedented 12 months. Never before have so many peals been rung, and the total of 2,895 has never been surpassed in the history of change ringing. The monthly totals for the past three years are a striking commentary on the progress:—

	1949	1948	1947
January	242	207	140
February	234	193	101
March	199	188	138
April	232	253	180
May	214	234	201
June	209	177	161
July	199	184	137
August	249	231	170
September	238	177	167
October	270	236	184
November	251	334	349
December	368	225	246
Totals	2,905	2,639	2,174
Tower bells	2,527	2,365	1,953
Handbells	378	274	221

While the amazing performance of Mr. Harold Poole in ringing 143 peals in a year and the enthusiasm of the Bournemouth ringers in bringing round 118 peals 'in hand' accounts for a substantial number of the increase of 256, it cannot be said that peal ringing was confined to a relatively few ringers. A large number of ringers

regard themselves as lucky if they can maintain an average of one peal a month. Very few bands can look back on the year with 100 per cent. success; in fact, it was a striking feature of the peal tours of 1949 that only one company had the satisfaction of securing a maximum success. There is no means of checking peal failures, and we have no desire to compile such a list, but we know of cases of men who have gone well into double figures before securing their first peal of Stedman or a particular Surprise peal.

It is the many factors that have to be taken into account for the scoring of a true peal that add zest and interest to the Exercise. Success in peal ringing is dependent on others besides the individual—the conductor, the rest of the company, the mechanism of the bells and outside interference. While many young ringers feel justly proud of being able to say, 'I rang my first peal at my first attempt,' the many other influences outside the control of the individual lessen the glory of the performance. We know of ringers who, having rung their first peal, have had the mortification of being told the peal was false!

In analysing the record for 1949, tribute must also be paid to the skill and development of the mechanical side of ringing in the work of our bell foundries. There is no comparison between the modern bells of to-day with those of 50 years ago; still less with those of 100 years. It was then a case of 'By sweat of thy brow . . .' We know of ringers who search for bells typical of past generations and glory in their endurance. Ball bearings and other contrivances have added to the pleasure of peal ringing and the popularity of the Exercise.

Another factor of 1949 ringing was that there was no special occasion for national rejoicings. The high November figures of 1947 were on account of the wedding of Princess Elizabeth, and those of 1948 were due to the birth of Prince Charles. The absence of any great occasion makes the peal record of the year more meritorious.

Later we shall have available the records of the different Guilds and Associations. There is no question however, that the place of honour as regards numbers has been secured by the Leicester Diocesan Guild. They and their president will receive the congratulations of the peal ringing fraternity. It will be many years before the ringing of 100 peals in six months by an individual will be surpassed.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

SOUTHWARK, LONDON.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 3 Hours and 58 Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. Saviour,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

JOHN E. CHILCOTT ... Treble	JOHN PHILLIPS ... 7
CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 2	JOHN H. CRAMPION ... 8
THOMAS J. LOCK ... 3	ALFRED J. HOUSE ... 9
PHILIP A. CORBY ... 4	REUBEN SANDERS ... 10
ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 5	FREDK. E. COLLINS ... 11
RICHARD F. DEAL ... 6	TONY PRICE ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Jan. 23, 1950, in 3 Hours and 41 Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

*TERENCE A. THORNER Treble	ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 7
JILL POOLE ... 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 8
†DOROTHY M. UDALE ... 3	SIDNEY O. CHENEY ... 9
†ANNE B. STOCKDALE ... 4	JOHN R. SMITH ... 10
SHIRLEY BURTON ... 5	HAROLD J. POOLE ... 11
§GEOFFREY DODDS ... 6	WILLIAM J. ROOT ... Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal on 12 tower bells. † 50th peal. ‡ First peal of Surprise and on twelve bells. § First peal of Maximus.

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 28, 1950, in 3 Hours and 50 Minutes,

At the Town Hall,

A PEAL OF PLAIN ROB MAXIMUS, 5018 CHANGES;

Tenor 42½ cwt.

FREDERICK R. WILLIAMS Treble	FREDERICK E. DUKES ... 7
ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... 2	PETER CROOK, SEN. ... 8
THOMAS WILSON ... 3	EDWARD IDDON ... 9
DAVID VINCENT ... 4	PETER CROOK, JUN. ... 10
ALBERT FORD ... 5	JOHN WORTH ... 11
NORMAN HEAPS ... 6	THOMAS ROGERS ... Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

All are Master Masons, and it was rung to celebrate the installation of the treble ringer as W.M. of his lodge.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Jan. 28, 1950, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes,

At the Collegiate Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt.

HOWARD HOWELL (St. Matthew's, Walsall) ... Treble
EDGAR MARLOW (St. Paul's, Wood Green) ... 2
RICHARD J. WARRILOW (St. Mary's, Stafford) ... 3
*GEORGE E. OLIVER (Lichfield Cathedral) ... 4
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER (St. Giles', Willenhall) ... 5
J. DENNIS HOLDEN (Christ Church, Coaley) ... 6
FRANCIS BROTHERTON (St. Peter's, Wolverhampton) ... 7
ALBERT D. COLLINS (St. Luke's, Blakenhall) ... 8
P. GEORGE GOLDER (St. Mary's, Aldridge) ... 9
KENNETH W. KNOWLES (St. Bartholomew's, Wednesbury) ... 10
BARNABAS G. KEY (St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent) ... 11
†WALTER J. COPE (St. Mary's, Lichfield) ... Tenor

Composed by FREDK. H. DEXTER. Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* 100th peal. † First peal on twelve bells. The band represents twelve towers from the archdeaconry of Stafford.

TEN BELL PEALS

BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Jan. 19, 1950, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... Treble	HARRY ANDERTON ... 6
*JAMES SKEATS ... 2	*JOSEPH E. WILSON ... 7
*JOSEPH A. TOMLINSON ... 3	THOMAS WILSON ... 8
*FRANK HEYES ... 4	*LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... 9
†ARTHUR SWINDLEHURST ... 5	*ERNEST J. GOWER ... Tenor

Composed by W. HUDSON.

Conducted by THOMAS WILSON.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. † First peal. First peal on the bells since recasting.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 28, 1950, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

*RICHARD HYDE ... Treble	FREDK. H. DALLAWAY ... 6
ALBERT W. BOND ... 2	FRANK BENNETT ... 7
†GEORGE P. ELPHICK ... 3	CHARLES E. J. NORRIS ... 8
*MAURICE THOMAS ... 4	ROBERT E. W. DAWE ... 9
†HERBERT S. JAMES ... 5	HENRY STALHAM ... Tenor

Composed by EDGAR C. SHEPPARD. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. † First peal of Caters with 'inside' bell. ‡ First peal. First peal on the bells since being rehung by Mears and Stainbank.

EIGHT BELI PEALS

NORTHOWRAM, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 7, 1950, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

At the Church of St. Matthew,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr.

*NORMA BICKERDIKE ... Treble	*ALEXANDER E. MARSH ... 5
ALFRED SMITH ... 2	*ROY BETTLEY-COOKE ... 6
*WILLIAM WARD ... 3	*JOHN W. GIBSON ... 7
MOLLY AMBLER ... 4	EDWARD JENKINS ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by ALFRED SMITH.

* First peal of Cambridge.

ASH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 22½ cwt. in E flat.

*PETER NEWING ... Treble	*ALAN BUTLER ... 5
EILEEN S. WYLES ... 2	WILLIAM BOTTRILL ... 6
WILFRED S. PALIN ... 3	EDWARD J. WELLS ... 7
*THOMAS H. HOLMES ... 4	E. THOMAS FLENDER ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM BOTTRILL.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. The conductor's 25th peal for the Association and 25th tower in Kent.

DODDERHILL, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Augustine.

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Comprising 1,856 Superlative, 1,440 Cambridge, 992 London and 768 of Bristol, with 111 changes of methods. Tenor 18½ cwt.

JOHN BASS ... Treble	GEORGE E. LARGE ... 5
THOMAS HEMMING ... 2	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 6
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... 3	REGINALD WOODYATT ... 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT ... 4	THOMAS W. LEWIS ... Tenor

Composed by HAROLD G. CASHMORE. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.



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EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;
J. W. Washbrook's Six-part. Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

*HENRY L. BISHOP ... Treble	*ROBERT B. BLOND ... 5
MARGARET L. TUTT ... 2	FREDK. A. H. WILKINS ... 6
NOEL J. DISERENS ... 3	*BERTRAM L. J. BROWN ... 7
*JAMES GORDON ... 4	WALTER F. JUDGE ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal in the method.

ILKLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5182 CHANCES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr.

*WILLIAM DIXON ... Treble	*HARRY WILDE ... 5
*HARRY DAVISON ... 2	*VERNON BOTTOMLEY ... 6
EDWARD JENKINS ... 3	*FRED HODGSON ... 7
*ERNEST B. BETTS ... 4	ALFRED SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by W. BARTON.

Conducted by EDWARD JENKINS.

* First peal of Pudsey. First peal of Pudsey on the bells.

LYMM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 3 Hours and 41 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF ROCHESTER SURPRISE MAJOR 5058 CHANCES;

Tenor 29 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

ALEXANDER J. WEBSTER Treble	RALPH G. EDWARDS ... 5
CYRIL VALENTINE ... 2	JOHN E. BIBBY ... 6
WALTER ALLMAN ... 3	ERIC J. GILBERT ... 7
*FRANK VARTY ... 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JAMES C. E. SIMPSON.

* First touch of Rochester. First peal in the method on the bells.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MICHAEL AND MARY,

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

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.

DENIS R. CARLISLE ... Treble	WILFRED H. BUXTON ... 5
*JOHN F. WILKINSON ... 2	FRANCIS R. LOWE ... 6
R. ALLEN HICKTON ... 3	HAROLD TAYLOR ... 7
WILLIAM LANCASTER ... 4	WILLIAM A. PARSONS ... Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by W. A. PARSONS.

* First peal in the method 'inside.'

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

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

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

J. Washbrook's.	
HELEN GORRINGE ... Treble	*LESLIE W. JARVIS ... 5
WILLIAM GORRINGE ... 2	*WM. A. KITCHENSIDE ... 6
ARTHUR J. LEWRY ... 3	FRANK H. HICKS ... 7
FREDK. J. LAMBERT ... 4	*LAWRENCE T. POPE ... Tenor

Conducted by LAWRENCE T. POPE.

* 50th peal together. † First peal 'inside' in the method. ‡ Peal in the method.

SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT.

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 6½ cwt. in B flat.

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... Treble	*JOHN SCOTT ... 5
EDWARD T. LLOYD ... 2	*GEORGE BAILEY ... 6
JAMES F. HARVEY ... 3	*THOMAS ABBOTTS ... 7
LEONARD TUFFREY ... 4	VINCENT A. HEMMING ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by VINCENT A. HEMMING.

* First peal of Major other than on treble. † First peal of Major. First peal of Major as conductor.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

BARBARA M. HARRIS ... Treble	H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... 5
PEGGY G. KITCHEN ... 2	GEORGE C. GOODMAN ... 6
CHAS. W. R. GRIMWOOD ... 3	RICHARD F. B. SPEED ... 7
HERBERT J. ELDRED ... 4	HERBERT G. ANDREWS ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by HERBERT G. ANDREWS.

First peal as conductor.

WICKEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST;

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

Heywood's Transposition of Thurstans' Four-part.

*K. MARY COWLEY (15) Treble	GEORGE W. HOLLAND ... 5
WILLIAM YATES ... 2	GEORGE F. BURTON ... 6
THOMAS E. ROBERTS ... 3	JOHN A. GREEN ... 7
FREDK. C. CASE ... 4	*PETER COWLEY (16) ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN A. GREEN.

* First peal.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Jan. 16, 1950, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 23 lb. in D.

STANLEY T. A. RUSSELL Treble	WM. A. KITCHENSIDE ... 5
*REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 2	*THOMAS E. SONE ... 6
ARTHUR F. LEWRY ... 3	*ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... 7
ERNEST J. LADD ... 4	† WILLIAM ROGERS ... Tenor

Composed by DANIEL WOODS. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* 75th peal together. † First peal of Major in the method. To celebrate the 61st wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. E. Bishop. Also a 75th birthday compliment to Mr. C. Brasier and a birthday compliment to Miss V. Lambert, sister of 2nd and 7th ringers.

KIRKBY-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Jan. 17, 1950, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Pritchard's Four-part. Tenor 9 cwt.

URBAN W. WILDNEY ... Treble	*GORDON CLARKE ... 5
FRED ORRIS ... 2	EDWARD B. SMITH ... 6
WILLIAM A. ROUSE ... 3	EDWARD E. DAVEY ... 7
WALTER A. SOUTHGATE ... 4	RONALD G. BUGG ... Tenor

Conducted by RONALD G. BUGG.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. For the 10th anniversary of Rev. J. W. Thomas as Vicar of the parish.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Wed., Jan. 18, 1950, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

*JOHN SCOTT ... Treble	*SIDNEY O C. HOLLOWAY ... 5
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ... 2	JOHN PINFOLD ... 6
*TERRY R. HAMPTON ... 3	*ARTHUR V. PEARSON ... 7
HENRY H. FEARN ... 4	GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor

Composed by THOS. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by G. W. CRITCHLEY.

* First peal in the method.

QUORN, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Jan. 18, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

G. STANLEY BREWIN ... Treble	SHIRLEY BURTON ... 5
PAUL L. TAYLOR ... 2	PETER J. STANFORTH ... 6
DOROTHY M. UDAL ... 3	ALAN JACQUES ... 7
JOHN R. SMITH ... 4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... Tenor

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

First peal in the method as conductor. A farewell to the ringer of the 7th on leaving to join H.M. Forces.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Jan. 20, 1950, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BELGRAVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr.

*PAUL BIRKETT Treble	HARRY WILDE 5
*SAM LONGBOTTOM 2	VERNON BOTTOMLEY 6
EDWARD JENKINS 3	FRED HODGSON 7
MOLLY AMBLER 4	FRED DUNKERLEY ... Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDS. Conducted by FRED DUNKERLEY.

*First peal of Belgrave. First peal of Belgrave as conductor.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Jan. 20, 1950, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS ... Treble	MAURICE BENNETT 5
JOHN S. ALLEN 2	CYRIL WANDER 6
MRS. A. RICHARDSON 3	JOHN G. AMES 7
FRANK I. HAIRS 4	STANLEY E. BENNETT ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by STAN. E. BENNETT.
In memoriam Rupert Richardson.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BANSTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 21½ cwt.

HARRY J. SMERDON ... Treble	NORMAN HOBDEN 5
JILL R. BRITTAIN 2	ALBERT J. ADAMS 6
DENIS N. LAYTON 3	ALBERT E. CHEESMAN ... 7
DAVID E. PARSONS 4	HAROLD N. PITSTOW ... Tenor

Composed by D. N. LAYTON. Conducted by HAROLD N. PITSTOW.
The first peal to be rung in this method. A birthday compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. Canon F. N. Skene, M.A.

BEAMINSTER, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 28½ cwt.

Heywood's Transposition.		
ROGER KEELEY ... Treble	HENRY G. KEELEY 5	
CUTHBERT W. H. POWELL ... 2	†JOSEPH T. BARRETT 6	
*ARTHUR J. SCOTT 3	G. STEDMAN MORRIS 7	
GEORGE H. WHITEMORE ... 4	*CECIL POOLE Tenor	

Conducted by G. STEDMAN MORRIS.

*First peal of Triples. †First peal of Stedman Triples on a working bell.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat.

CHARLES B. PEMBERTON Treble	ERNEST L. HUMPHRIES ... 5
ALEXANDER J. MARTIN ... 2	†DEREK PARRY 6
ROBERT S. F. P. HARRIS ... 3	JOSEPH GODDARD 7
*H. STEWART BAILEY 4	FRANK T. PARRY Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by FRANK T. PARRY.
*First peal away from the treble. †First peal of Major. First peal of Major as conductor. A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. D. Parry on their first wedding anniversary. Also a birthday compliment to Mary Parry and Mrs. D. Parry.

COLESHILL, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. (approx.).

KEITH T. TAYLOR ... Treble	HENRY H. FEARN 5
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ... 2	ARTHUR V. PEARSON 6
JOHN PINFOLD 3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD 7
FRANK E. HAYNES 4	GEORGE E. FEARN ... Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

FLIXTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

*ALLAN G. CLARKE ... Treble	IVAN KAY 5
MARY WALSHAW 2	†ROGER LEIGH 6
†ARTHUR HIBBERT 3	STEPHEN LL. PARRY ... 7
CHARLES CLEGG 4	*JACK CLEGG Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by JACK CLEGG.

*First peal of Major. †First peal in the method. ‡100th peal. §50th peal. First peal in the method as conductor.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

LESTER L. GRAY ... Treble	FRANK VARTY 5
JULIA M. PRESTON 2	RALPH G. EDWARDS 6
WALTER ALLMAN 3	ERIC J. GILBERT 7
JOHN E. BIBBY 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by JAMES C. E. SIMPSON.
First peal in the method on the bells.

MORECAMBE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

*DOROTHY SCHOFIELD ... Treble	GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE ... 5
†FRED SCHOFIELD 2	HERBERT S. PALMER 6
BETTY SCHOFIELD 3	*REV. ALFRED HODGSON ... 7
JOHN BAGNALL 4	JAMES E. BURLS Tenor

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS. Conducted by JAMES E. BURLS.
*First peal. †First peal 'inside.' A 70th birthday compliment to Mr. Herbert S. Palmer.

MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt 1 qr. 14 lb.

JOHN WALMSLEY ... Treble	†FRED PRITCHARD 5
*GERALD DARE 2	VERNON SYKES 6
DEREK OGDEN 3	SELWYN DEARDEN 7
HAROLD ARMSTEAD 4	PHILIP TOCOCK Tenor

Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by PHILIP TOCOCK.
*25th peal. †First peal. Contains all 7.6.4.8's and 7.4.6.8's at course-ends.

NORTON-LE-MOORS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

*WILLIAM CORFIELD ... Treble	*WILLIAM C. LAWRENCE ... 5
*SAMUEL B. BAILEY 2	CHARLES S. RYLES 6
†FRANK TRINER 3	ALBAN J. JACK 7
*†OWEN WILLIAMS 4	*JAMES WALLEY Tenor

Composed by T. DAY. Conducted by CHARLES S. RYLES.
*First peal on eight bells. †First peal of Major 'inside.' ‡First peal with an 'inside' bell. First peal of Major as conductor. First peal on the bells since being augmented to eight.

BARTHOMLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Jan. 22, 1950, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BERTOLINE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in E.

Grove's Variation.		
*BERYL SKERRATT ... Treble	†GEORGE ASTBURY 5	
JOHN BRASSINGTON 2	JOHN TIMMS 6	
ERIC B. ALLMAN 3	ARTHUR ALLMAN 7	
REGINALD ROWLEY 4	GEORGE MEADE Tenor	

Conducted by ARTHUR ALLMAN.

*First peal. †First peal 'inside.' A birthday compliment to Mrs. A. Allman, wife of the conductor.

SIX BELL PEALS

ALDRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Jan. 7, 1950, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, four callings.

Tenor 8 cwt.

BARRY J. PERKINS (14)... <i>Treble</i>	P. GEORGE GOLDEN ... 4
WILLIAM A. HUMPHREYS ... 2	JOHN A. BUCKLEY ... 5
JOHN F. HUMPHREYS ... 3	WILLIAM F. PERKINS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by P. GEORGE GOLDEN.

First peal by all the band except the conductor. First peal of Bob Doubles as conductor. First peal on the bells by a local band.

BUCKNALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 7, 1950, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Ipswich and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*RONALD BARLOW <i>Treble</i>	*FREDK. E. WILSHAW... 4
*ARTHUR PEAKE 2	*CHARLES H. PAGE ... 5
†MARGARET FLACKETT ... 3	FREDK. WM. GROCOTT... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by FREDERICK WILLIAM GROCOTT.

* First peal in seven methods. † First peal in seven methods 'inside.'

EASTWELL, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising one extent each of Durham Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Plain Bob and Double Bob, each called differently.

Tenor 13 cwt.

PERCY PAGE <i>Treble</i>	FREDK. G. HUCKSTEPP ... 4
*WILFRED W. RING ... 2	THOS. CULLINGWORTH ... 5
*PETER D. HUCKSTEPP ... 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal in seven methods.

RIPPLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, with ten different callings.

Tenor 13 cwt.

ERNEST WILSON <i>Treble</i>	CYRIL TANSELL ... 4
CHARLES HAYLINGS ... 2	JENNIS R. MORRIS ... 5
*GEORGE AMBLER ... 3	WILLIAM RANFORD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by CYRIL TANSELL.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles. First peal of Grandsire Doubles as conductor.

HELMDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Jan. 18, 1950, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

CECH. HINTON <i>Treble</i>	MONTAGUE SAUNDERS ... 4
*GEORGE F. BURTON ... 2	ERNEST LINES ... 5
WILLIAM J. CHESTER ... 3	WILLIAM YATES <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by WILLIAM YATES.

* First peal of Surprise. First peal in the method by all the band. First peal of Surprise on the bells. Believed to be the first peal of London Minor to be rung in the Peterborough Diocese.

SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 19, 1950, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in A.

*JOAN WRIGHT <i>Treble</i>	*HENRY P. COLLIN ... 4
*MARY SMITH 2	DENIS FRITH ... 5
*JAMES W. HAW ... 3	*JAMES H. MUSSON ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

* First peal of Plain Bob.

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DUNHOLME, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Jan. 20, 1950, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents of Plain Bob and two each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

GEOFFREY R. PARKER ... <i>Treble</i>	ROBERT W. PARKER ... 4
*MARGARET A. SWANN ... 2	OWEN A. NEEDHAM ... 5
JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... 3	JOHN E. COOK ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEOFFREY R. PARKER.

* First peal of Minor 'inside.' First peal as conductor.

BENHALL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob, each 720 called differently.

A. G. LING, JUN. ... <i>Treble</i>	A. SMITH ... 4
F. SHAW ... 2	A. S. PIPE ... 5
A. A. LING ... 3	*E. STEWARD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by A. G. LING, JUN.

* First peal of Minor.

CHIPSTABLE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob.

Tenor 8 cwt.

ALBERT TURNER ... <i>Treble</i>	CLAUDE TARR ... 4
SYDNEY SMITH ... 2	GEORGE SPARKES ... 5
HARRY PURCHASE ... 3	EDGAR QUICKE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by EDGAR QUICKE.

A farewell to the Rev. W. F. Brimson.

COPT OAK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SPLICED MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising 720's of (1) Plain Bob, Double Bob, Reverse Bob, St. Clement's, Childwall, Double Oxford, Thelwall, College, Wavertree, London Bob, Lytham, Canterbury and Fulbeck, (2) Hereward, Single Oxford, Single Court and Double Court, (3) London Surprise, (4) Chester and Munden Surprise, (5) Surfleet and Beverley Surprise, (6) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (7) Cambridge Surprise.

Tenor 10 cwt.

STANLEY R. GARDNER ... <i>Treble</i>	JOHN A. UNDERWOOD ... 4
SAMUEL A. MARTIN ... 2	JAMES W. BOWLEY ... 5
C. WILLIAM HALL ... 3	ROLAND BENISTON ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

First peal in 25 Minor methods by all the band and for the Guild.

GOSBERTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.

*FRED PAYNE ... <i>Treble</i>	†C. HAROLD WHITTON ... 4
G. DULCIE ROBINSON ... 2	CYRIL WANDER ... 5
W. ALLEN RICHARDSON ... 3	HORACE BENNETT ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by CYRIL WANDER.

* First peal in three methods. † First peal of Minor.

KIRKBY MALLORY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different callings. Tenor 7½ cwt.

HECTOR A. KNIGHTS ... <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM A. WOOD ... 4
E. CHARLES TURNER ... 2	ALFRED BALLARD ... 5
EDGAR VAHLANCE ... 3	EDWARD SOWMAN ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by EDWARD SOWMAN.

First peal as conductor.

LEIGH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents, 226 singles. Tenor 8½ cwt.

BERNARD V. COLLISON <i>Treble</i>	BERNARD W. PANKHURST 4
*GORDON D. WHITEHEAD 2	DORIS E. COLGATE ... 5
ERNEST J. LADD ... 3	ROBERT COLLINS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ROBERT COLLINS.

* First peal and a 21st birthday compliment. Also a birthday compliment to Bernard Pankhurst.

LLANFRECHFA, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

ROBERT E. R. SMITH ... <i>Treble</i>	REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS 4
MRS. LESLIE BAINHAM ... 2	LESLIE F. G. BAINHAM ... 5
GEORGE LARGE ... 3	ALFRED W. HEATH ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ROBERT E. R. SMITH.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. W. J. Powell, former leader of the band.

MAVESYN RIDWARE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

*PETER BERESFORD ... <i>Treble</i>	*DENNIS BERESFORD ... 4
*JOAN BERESFORD ... 2	*WALTER J. COPE ... 5
*KENNETH L. BROWN ... 3	GEORGE E. OLIVER ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

* First peal in three Minor methods. First as conductor in three Minor methods.

STANTON HARCOURT, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's Bob, Double Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS W. BOND ... <i>Treble</i>	DOUGLAS O. WILKS ... 4
*M. ANGELA CARTER ... 2	HARRY P. FLOYD ... 5
*AUDREY J. WEST ... 3	ALAN R. PINK ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in seven Minor methods. First seven-method peal on the bells.

WARSOP, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE DERRYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 2,160's and one 720. Tenor 15 cwt.

WALTER ALLWOOD ... <i>Treble</i>	*CYRIL WRIGHT ... 4
*WILLIAM DICKENSON ... 2	FREDERICK FLINT ... 5
HERBERT T. ROOKE ... 3	GORDON C. BRIGGS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GORDON C. BRIGGS.

* First peal of Surprise. First peal of Surprise as conductor. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the fourth.

WELLAND, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 21, 1950, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

REGINALD WOODYATT ... <i>Treble</i>	CLAUDIA A. HARDING ... 4
R. GEORGE MORRIS ... 2	ALLEN MORGAN ... 5
GEORGE E. LARGE ... 3	THOMAS W. LEWIS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

150th peal as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS**LEICESTER.****THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Fri., Jan. 13, 1950, in 3 Hours,**At THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,***A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;***A Variation and Transposition of J. Reeves' Two-part.**Tenor size 18 in G.*

BRIAN G. WARWICK ... 1-2	ALFRED BALLARD ... 7-8
PETER J. STANFORTH ... 3-4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... 9-10
JILL POOLE ... 5-6	TERENCE A. THORNER ... 11-12

Arranged and Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

First peal as conductor on 12 bells. In memoriam Lay Canon Sydney Frank Herbert, a member of Leicester Cathedral College of Lay Canons since its constitution, who died on January 6th.

DUBLIN.**THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.***On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 12 Minutes,**IN THE BELFREY OF ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,***A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;***Consisting of eight extents each of April Day and Plain Bob and 260 of Grandsire.**Tenor size 8 in C.*

*ADA C. DUKES ... 1-2	FREDERICK E. DUKES ... 3-4
*JOAN M. ROWE ... 5-6	

Conducted by FREDERICK E. DUKES.

*First peal in three methods. Rung in honour of Miss Rowe's engagement to Mr. Stanley Baldwin, who witnessed the peal.

BOURNEMOUTH.**THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,**At 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;***No. 37. Tenor size 17 in A.*

WILLIAM G. YOUNG ... 1-2	*DANIEL T. MATKIN ... 5-6
*MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ... 3-4	JAMES E. DANIELS ... 7-8
MICHAEL J. E. BEST ... 9-10	

Composed by M. J. MORRIS. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

*150th peal together on handbells.

BOURNEMOUTH.**THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Sat., Jan. 14, 1950, in 2 Hours and 11 Minutes,**At 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,***A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;***No. 82. Tenor size 17 in A.*

JAMES E. DANIELS ... 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN ... 5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ... 3-4	*GEORGE E. EVENDEN ... 7-8

Composed by M. J. MORRIS. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

*First peal of Major 'in hand.'

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.**THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Mon., Jan. 16, 1950, in 2 Hours and 19 Minutes,**At 13, PEVREL ROAD,***A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;***Tenor size 16½ in B flat.*

*WILFRED L. ROBINSON ... 1-2	G. GORDON GRAHAM ... 5-6
GORDON C. BRIGGS ... 3-4	*†BARRY COPE ... 7-8

Arranged and Conducted by GORDON C. BRIGGS.

*First peal 'in hand.' †First peal on eight bells. First peal of Major 'in hand' as conductor. First handbell peal for the Association.

WALLASEY, CHESHIRE.**THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Mon., Jan. 16, 1950, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,**At No. 12A, ROWSON STREET,***A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

*ALEX. J. WEBSTER ... 1-2	*ERIC J. GILBERT ... 3-4
†FRANK VARTY ... 5-6	

Conducted by FRANK VARTY.

*First peal on handbells. †First peal of Minor 'in hand.' First peal as conductor 'in hand.'

LEICESTER.**THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Tues., Jan. 17, 1950, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,**At THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,***A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;***Tenor size 18 in G.*

PETER J. STANFORTH ... 1-2	JILL POOLE ... 5-6
HAROLD J. POOLE ... 3-4	ALFRED BALLARD ... 7-8
BRIAN G. WARWICK ... 9-10	

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH

First peal of Stedman Caters as conductor.

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'THE RINGING WORLD'

*The Official Journal of the Central
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*'The Ringing World' was founded in the
year 1911 by John Sparkes Goldsmith, who
remained its proprietor and editor until his
death in 1942.*

The Universities Association will hold their week this year at Lincoln from August 18th to 26th. Through the good services of Mr. J. A. Freeman, Master of the Guild, Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher has arranged accommodation at the Lincoln Training College. A true Lincoln welcome awaits the visitors.

Congratulations to Mr. Roger Leigh on his 100th peal.

J. Frederick Milner makes a welcome re-appearance in the peal columns, following his operation, with a peal of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus at Leicester.

The quarter peal of Grandsire Triples at Stratford-on-Avon, reported in our issue of January 20th, was to the memory of Mr. H. Withers. A composition of Mr. Withers was selected for the tribute.

There must be scores of ringers who have been to Morecambe for their holidays and have met Mr. Herbert Palmer. Recently he celebrated his 70th birthday, and to mark the occasion his friends in the area joined with him in a peal of Bob Major.

Mr. Frank V. H. Sinkings, of Slough, attained his 85th birthday on January 30th. He still rings regularly every Sunday, having started 73 years ago. On Saturday he participated in a peal attempt of Stedman Triples in honour of the event. He learnt to ring at St. Mary's, Slough, in company with the late Mr. W. H. Fussell.

Congratulations to Anne B. Stockdale and Geoffrey Dodds on ringing their first peal of Surprise Maximus. They travelled to Leicester on the Sunday and had their preliminary run in the method for evening service. Miss Stockdale had previously only rung three peals on tower bells, being Major and Royal in the plain methods.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Tettenhall Church, Staffordshire, which contains the best ring of eight in the county, in the opinion of many, was destroyed by fire on February 3rd. The greater part of the church was built in the 10th century and was one of the finest examples of its era. The tower and bells, according to our report, have been saved.

Mr. Urban W. Wildney has three times 'circled' Kirby-le-Soken tower, and Mr. H. Purchase that at Chipstable, Somerset, once.

Thieves have stolen the lead from the church roof of Middleton Stoney, Oxfordshire, and water coming through the roof has damaged the organ. The Bicester Deanery Branch at their last meeting expressed their regret at such a dastardly act of sacrilege.

Following the peal at Lancaster Priory on January 28th, the Vicar, the Rt. Rev. B. Pollard, Suffragan Bishop of Lancaster, entertained the band to a sumptuous tea at the Castle Hotel, a gesture which was much appreciated.

Lay interest in ringing seems to be developing in the Southampton area. Recently there was considerable correspondence in the local paper on the subject of the newly-installed ring of ten at St. Mary's and the ringing of them. Now the Rotary Club of Southampton has invited Mr. York-Bramble as a guest to luncheon and to give an address (which is to be illustrated) on 'Campanology.'

The peal of Double Norwich at Melbourne, Derbyshire, was rung in honour of the visit to the town of Miss M. Deans, whose great-grandfather was Vicar there from 1831-1887. When he first came to the parish he was pleased the bells were being rung, as he thought, to welcome him. To his mortification he later discovered that they were rung to celebrate the victory of a local prize-fighter. The Exercise has now made amends.

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SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

Progress Reviewed at Annual Dinner

THE second annual dinner of the Southwell Diocesan Guild was held in the Town Hall, Newark, on January 28th. The Parish Church bells—a noble ring of ten, tenor 32 cwt. 3 qr. 27 lb.—were rung during the afternoon in methods ranging from Surprise Royal to Grandsire.

Canon R. F. Wilkinson (chairman of the Guild) was in the chair and was supported by the officers. The guests of honour were the Mayor of Newark (Councillor B. L. Maule) and the Vicar of Newark (the Rev. G. W. Clarkson).

The close links between the Southwell Guild and her powerful neighbour were further cemented by the presence of the Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, accompanied by a strong party.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Freeman, Mr. John Freeman and friend, Mr. and Mrs. Charles McGuinness, Mr. and Mrs. John Walden, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brown, Mr. Harry Squires and son and Mr. John E. Cook, all of the Lincoln Guild; Mr. Albert Ward (Derby), Mr. Ernest H. Mastin (Downham Market, Norfolk), and Mr. J. P. Fidler (Loughborough). Also Mr. R. V. Appleby (Borough Chamberlain of Newark), Mr. W. C. Woodhouse and Mr. E. C. Thrale.

The dinner itself took place in the ballroom of the Town Hall, which is famed for its wonderful ceiling, the work of the famous Adam brothers. Illuminated by enormous chandeliers and scores of concealed lights, the ballroom made a perfect setting for a function of this nature.

RINGERS TO FIGHT INDIFFERENCE.

The toast of 'The Church,' coupled with that of the Vicar of Newark, was given by Lt.-Col. J. Anderson Smith, O.B.E. He traced briefly the history of church bells in relation to the Church. The speaker spoke of the need of the Church to be openly honoured and to be actively supported. Abroad in many countries the Church was being persecuted as she had not been for many centuries, and at home she was confronted by what might well be a greater danger—that of indifference. The Church, therefore, claimed the active support of all Christians; and bellringers, who were in a special sense servants of the Church, could not lag behind.

In the speaker's view the principal object of bellringing was to summon people to church. To ring for service and then to turn one's back on the whole proceedings was rather a cynical, not to say stultifying, thing to do. It was on par with putting up a large advertisement for somebody's backache pills and writing in slightly smaller print across the face of it, 'Mind you, I have no faith in them myself!'

Moreover, such conduct made for indifferent relations with the Vicar, with whom it was most important they should be cordial. It was at his instance the bells were rung, and indeed it was illegal to do so without his permission.

An ideal arrangement was to have the Vicar as a member of the band, and it was also desirable for ringers to be represented on the Parochial Church Council.

Col. Anderson Smith concluded by saying that it was the wish of all present that night that the Church might ever flourish, that the shadows of her towers might never grow less, nor the sound of her bells ever cease.

A CALL TO LISTEN.

The Rev. G. W. Clarkson, in response, complimented the proposer on the dignity of his words and the skill of his tongue. The Church asked for support. He (the Vicar of Newark) never asked in vain from his ringers. Sunday after Sunday the bells rang out at 9 o'clock.



MR. HAROLD J. POOLE,
President of the Leicester Diocesan Guild, the outstanding peal ringer of 1949, with 143 peals to his credit. He is an honorary lay canon of Leicester Cathedral.

It was a hard job, it called for sacrifice. They did splendid work calling people to worship, and calling those who were too idle to worship, to listen.

Referring to mixed bands of ringers and the long dark staircase at Newark Parish Church, the Vicar slyly remarked (amidst laughter) that he hoped that whatever happened in the dark might be fit to happen in the light!

'The Mayor and Corporation' was admirably proposed by Mr. W. C. Woodhouse, who spoke of the message of the bells. Did they not bid Dick Whittington, the failure, to return, and did he not hearken and make good? So it was with his Worship: he had come to Newark to seek his fortune and become a successful business man. He recalled that the bells were rung to welcome the first Alderman of Newark in 1549, and in 1626 the first Mayor, and for hundred of years the Parish Church bells had proclaimed to townsmen the accession of the new Mayor.

His Worship, Councillor B. L. Maule, made appreciative references to the Guild in his reply.

SOUTHWELL GUILD'S PROGRESS.

In proposing the toast of 'The Southwell Guild,' Mr. F. A. Salter outlined the circumstances giving rise to the formation of the Guild and the progress that had been made since the creation. He also spoke of the formation of the Newark District and likened it to a little landing field midway between two large areas, the Nottingham and North Notts Districts.

In 1947, went on the speaker, the Guild was well established, and the Association had begun to make its influence felt. Meetings were held in towers that had never been visited for years, more and more peals were rung, fresh bands sprang up and new members flowed in.

The year 1948 came in; more advanced methods were being practised, and then in May the Guild suffered its first great loss by the tragic death of Mr. T. Groombridge, jun. His dynamic personality and leadership were suddenly removed from their midst, leaving a void. For a time the Guild was thrown out

of gear, and it was some time before it recovered its momentum. Then Mr. J. W. Raithby was elected general secretary, and in the speaker's opinion he did not think the Guild could have found a better or more hard-working secretary.

By the end of 1948 more peals had been rung than in the previous year and things were beginning to hum again. The year 1949 opened very well. The Guild was expanding in all directions, and one peal by the Guild was rung for the very first time anywhere, namely, Grandsire Triples spliced with Double Grandsire. Now they were well established they were bent on creating a bigger and better Guild.

NEWARK BELLS.

Canon R. F. Wilkinson covered a good deal of ground in his reply, and, amongst other things, mischievously drew the Mayor's attention to the necessity of putting Newark Parish Church bells into a first-class condition. Money was the only stumbling-block, and in other towns had not Mayors opened appeals for similar purposes? covertly questioned the Canon.

The toast of 'The Visitors' was adequately proposed by Mr. H. Pailing and responded to by Mr. John Freeman, of the Lincoln Guild, who referred to the warm ties between the two Guilds and the duty of all members to support such functions. He urged that after peals the band should spend some time together and get to know one another better. John Smith might be an indifferent striker, but he was most likely an excellent fellow in other directions.

Entertainment included handbell ringing, items by a concert party and a poem with a moral, recited by Mr. Clement Glenn, entitled 'The happy discovery' or 'The culprits found out.'

DAVID'S BIRTHDAY

The Christmas season over, our thoughts in Sudbury turn to January 14th (David's birthday). Owing to indisposition, David is unable to come to the belfry this year, so Arthur suggests we all go to David's at Grotton Place.

We arrive dead on time to find our host looking somewhat better. After several minutes being occupied with greetings, all eyes gaze at the magnificent carved oak ceiling which was undoubtedly there in 'Stedman's' time, followed by guesses as to how many cart-loads of logs it takes to make a fire in the old English fireplace.

We start handbell ringing, methods being Plain Major, Stedman, Grandsire Caters, with David handling the two tenors to Double Norwich in that expert manner which is the envy of us all. We sit down to a good old English supper, Mrs. Elliott mothering us all and carefully watching every need.

The time then arrives that we have all been waiting for (our host relating his ringing experiences of nearly 60 years ago). One of the most amusing is that of a party from his local tower who walked some distance to a ring of six where a meeting was being held. The rule was that you paid 1s. for every first 720 in a new method. A good 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung, but one of the party was left with 10d., having bought a pint for 2d. on the way, so the visitors did not 'split,' as they were thinking about a drink on the way home.

Charlie (72) and David get really settled down to swapping yarns when Arthur suggests that the hour is getting late for a sick man, so with a final plain course of Major we prepare to leave, and as we pass out of the hall we take another quick look at the grand old stairs made with solid blocks of oak and arrange to meet on Sunday for a quarter peal in his honour.

So ends the 74th birthday of a great ringer whose efforts in the past have contributed so much to make the Exercise what it is to-day.
L. M.

MANGOTSFIELD — VILLAGE OF HAPPY RINGERS

By F. SKIDMORE.

ABOUT five miles to the north-east of Bristol is situated the village of Mangotsfield, which, although in close proximity of a large city, still retains its old rural aspects. It is about Mangotsfield ringers that I wish to portray some of the things of interest that have occurred during the past few weeks.

On December 28th, Mr. W. Seers celebrated his 90th birthday, and on the evening of that date a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following: W. Seers 1, Miss Brenda Sheppard 2, Miss Betty Poole 3, F. Skidmore 4, C. Jefferies 5, W. Ritchings 6, J. G. Jefferies (conductor) 7, E. Cooksley 8.

Mr. Seers is a regular Sunday service ringer at Mangotsfield, walking two miles every Sunday to ring. We wonder if this is a record. He also attends the Association branch meetings whenever possible.

Mangotsfield has a band of about 22 ringers of all ages, and the success of the Guild is largely due to the genial personality of their captain, Mr. John G. Jefferies. Nothing is too much trouble for him, and his reward is in seeing the young ringers progress. The bells are part of his life. Mr. Jefferies has been a ringer for 50 years and has been captain of Mangotsfield Guild for 28 years (ever since the ring was augmented to eight). He has two sons and two grandsons ringing with him. Three generations in one band, quite a unique occurrence. Can this be equalled or beaten?

Many well-known ringers can recall with pleasant memories the cordial welcome that is extended to all ringers visiting Mangotsfield.

FAREWELL SUPPER.

On January 12th, the Guild met at the Vicarage for a farewell supper to one of their young ringers, Miss Brenda Sheppard (who is leaving this country for Australia early in February), to which Mr. C. R. Harding and myself were invited. After the supper the Vicar, the Rev. W. Beard, made a presentation to Miss Sheppard on behalf of the Mangotsfield ringers in the form of a 'Miniature Belle' brooch. They had tried to get a real bell brooch, but were unsuccessful. In the course of his remarks, the Vicar referred to Brenda as one who had come amongst them, about three years ago, a perfect stranger who wished to learn bellringing; but now she was one of them. Her personality and lovable disposition made her many friends amongst the ringers and the youth movement, and Mangotsfield's loss, undoubtedly, would be someone's gain. Down Under.

Mr. Jefferies also referred to Brenda as one of his large family of ringers whom he would be sorry to lose, but was sure that wherever she went Brenda would find and make a lot of friends, especially amongst ringers; in fact she had already started by getting in touch

with Mr. Bennett, of Melbourne, who had extended to her a very hearty welcome to Australia, on behalf of ringers, and had promised to give her all the assistance possible.

50 YEARS A RINGER.

Mr. Jefferies also referred to the team spirit and cordial atmosphere which always prevailed at Mangotsfield, which was the foundation of their present happy position. He also mentioned that during his 50 years as a ringer there had been four vicars, all of whom had been very helpful and encouraging to the ringers, especially their present one. He was also pleased to say that during the 28 years that he had been captain, Mangotsfield bells had been rung twice every Sunday (with the exception of the ban during the last war), and change ringing up to the capability of the



MANGOTSFIELD RINGERS.—Reading left to right: Back row, Miss J. Maslin, E. Cooksley, R. Beard, A. Rodway, T. James and W. Ritchings. Middle row, T. Jefferies, Miss G. Clark, C. Jefferies, Miss B. Poole, Miss B. Cooksley, Miss N. Gardiner. Front row, C. Beakes, M. Jefferies, Miss B. Sheppard, Rev. W. Beard (Vicar), John G. Jefferies (captain), W. Seers, E. Palmer (secretary) and J. W. Jefferies.

band present had always been their objective. Mr. C. R. Harding also responded, saying that it was largely due to the tuition he had received from Mr. Jefferies that had made him take the keen interest he did in ringing.

In conclusion, I would like to add that there is a great deal to be drawn from these happenings. First, that it is through the efforts of such companies as Mangotsfield that the Exercise has to look for their recruits, and if recruitment is going on all over the country in the same way, and meeting with the same degree of success, bellringing is not one of the dying English arts, but very much alive; and, secondly, the ringers of early 1900 were either short-sighted or jealous, as it is undoubtedly due to their not training someone to take their place that so many of our towers have not a band of their own.

I am pleased to see that associations are now realising this and that some have schools of instruction in bellringing, such as the Gloucester and Bristol have in Bristol.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss M. Page (first quarter) 1. S. A. Page 2, W. Romaine 3, F. E. Manns 4. R. E. Turner (cond.) 5, J. Merrifield 6.

Winchester and Portsmouth

PRESENTATION TO MR. G. PULLINGER.

In recognition of his work as hon. secretary of the Southampton District since 1932, members presented Mr. George Pullinger with an oak barometer at the district's annual meeting at St. Michael's, Southampton, on Jan. 14th.

The meeting was presided over by the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead and there was an attendance of 60, including Mr. Paul Field and three pupils from Buckland Newton, Dorset.

At the conclusion of routine business the chairman announced that as Mr. Pullinger had been elected Master of the Guild, he was not eligible to be elected district secretary, a post he had held with much faithfulness since 1932. He expressed thanks to him.

Mrs. Kippin, before making the presentation of a barometer, said the success of a guild or district depended to a great extent upon the secretary, and they in the Southampton district owed a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Pullinger.

The barometer was inscribed: 'Presented to Mr. Geo. Pullinger, Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers, by members of the Southampton District, in appreciation of his services as secretary, 1932-1950.'

Mr. Pullinger, in reply, said that the presentation came as a complete surprise to him. He appreciated their kind thought. What little he had been able to do was due to his interest in ringing and its advancement.

The following district officers were elected: Chairman, Rev. K. W. H. Felstead; secretary, Mr. M. Butler;

auditor, Mr. H. Higson; representatives on committee, Mr. R. Brown and Mr. R. Faithfull. Meetings were arranged at Eling, Sherfield English and Motisfont, with the annual for 1951 at St. Mary's, Southampton.

Members were kindly entertained to tea by the Rev. and Mrs. Felstead.

SONS WHO CONDUCTED FATHER'S FIRST PEAL

Mr. William R. Birchall, of Huyton, Liverpool, writes:—

I also have had the privilege of conducting my father's first peal on St. George's Day, April 23rd, 1949. It was rung as a compliment to my father (Mr. William Birchall), who had celebrated his 80th birthday ten days previously; it was the first peal for all excepting myself, and the first by a local service band. It was also my first peal as conductor, and was rung at Huyton Parish Church, tenor 19 cwt.

Mr. A. W. Rolfe, of Chevington, Bury St. Edmunds, writes that he conducted his father's first peal about 1916 or 1918 at Chevington. It was a peal of Grandsire Doubles.

THE LATE MR. C. T. COLES

MEMORIAL BELL DEDICATED AT FINCHLEY.

WELL over 100 members and friends of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild attended St. Mary's, Finchley, on January 28th, to take part in a service held to dedicate two new bells. One of these was installed as a memorial to the late Mr. C. T. Coles and bore the following inscription: 'In memoriam Charles T. Coles, 1882-1946, secretary of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild of Change Ringers 1910-1945.'

The service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. M. Ridley, and the Association's president, the Rev. P. Gough. In his address the Rector said how proud they were at last to possess a complete octave. The organist was Mr. A. T. Parker, an unattached member. Immediately following the dedication of the new bells, several whole-pulls of rounds were rung by a representative band.

Among those present were Mrs. L. Coles (widow), Messrs. C. T. W. and A. Coles (sons), Mrs. L. Hurle and Miss D. Coles (daughters), Mr. B. Hurle, Sonia and George Coles (grandchildren), Mr. A. W. Coles (brother), Mrs. A. W. Coles and Peter Coles. Mr. T. Bevan represented the Cumberland Youths.

After the tea the Rector referred more fully to the bell provided locally and stated that the money was collected over many years almost entirely through the efforts and enthusiasm of Mr. B. F. Tubb, the captain of the local ringers.

In his tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Coles, the general secretary (Mr. Ernest C. S. Turner) said: 'Mr. Coles joined the Middlesex Association in 1903 and soon became one of our foremost members. When Mr. A. T. King, who had been secretary of the North and East District, retired from that office in 1910, Mr. Coles was elected in his place. The office of secretary in those days, when the Association was comparatively young, entailed a considerable amount of work, and during the 35 years he held that office many of our bands reached a standard of ringing as high as any in the country.'

'Mr. Coles was an excellent striker, a competent conductor and a superb organiser. He took a great interest in the work of the Central Council, to which he was one of our representatives from 1921 to his death. He soon became one of the more influential members and his opinions commanded the respect of all. During the last few years we have greatly missed his guidance and help.'

'We are all, I am sure, very pleased to see his widow and members of his family here to-day. They already know of our great regard for the late Mr. Coles, and the memorial bell, which has been installed in St. Mary's, Finchley, tower, is a tangible expression of our respect and affection. We considered this to be the most appropriate tower to house this bell, as it was among the original towers to be affiliated to our Association when it was founded. The fact that there was already a frame to take the extra bells was an important consideration, and, due mainly to the efforts of Mr. B. F. Tubb and the local ringers, a fund was already in existence to defray the cost of the other bell.'

Mr. C. T. W. Coles thanked the ringers on behalf of the family for the tribute paid to the memory of his father.

The bellfounders, Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, who were represented by Mr. F. C. W. Stevenson, were congratulated on the quality of the two new bells, which blend so well with the original six.

The bells were rung to the usual variety of methods during the evening under the direction of Mr. A. Cutler, the Ringing Master of the North and East District.



THE LATE MR. C. T. COLES.

HILLINGDON RINGERS' SUPPER

The ringers of St. John's, Hillingdon, held their third annual supper on January 20th at the Windsor Restaurant, Uxbridge. A happy party of 31 sat down, with the new Vicar of Hillingdon (the Rev. F. C. Tyler) in the chair. He and Mrs. Tyler were guests of the Guild, and he expressed his pleasure at being with his ringers, and his belief in the value of bellringing to the Church.

Mr. F. W. Goodfellow, in his reply, referred to the fact that he had recently completed 21 years as secretary of the Guild. He expressed the regret of the company at the absence of Mr. W. Honor, who had been a ringer at Hillingdon for over 60 years, and Mr. Frank Blondell, a frequent visitor to Hillingdon, both of whom were prevented by indisposition from attending. It was reassuring to hear of Mr. Blondell's continued progress after his recent serious illness.

The toast of 'The Middlesex Association' was ably proposed by Mr. W. N. Genna, and replied to by the general secretary, Mr. E. C. S. Turner. 'The Guests' was dealt with by Mr. W. H. Coles in his inimitable way. Handbells were rung in changes and to tunes, while songs and choruses were performed by one of St. John's choir.

A happy evening came to an end all too quickly about 11 o'clock, and it was felt that most cordial relations had been established between ringers and the new incumbent.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION CHEW DEANERY BRANCH.

The monthly practice meeting was held at Easton in Gordano on January 21st. From 30 to 40 members attended.

Wraxall was the venue for the quarterly corporate Communion on January 22nd, and this fine octave was set ringing soon after 7 a.m. The ringers attended parish Communion, at which the Rector, the Rev. H. S. Briggs, celebrated. Twenty ringers then sat down to an excellent breakfast, and afterwards a return was made to the tower to ring for morning service.

Ringings on both occasions was under the direction of the Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Knight.

Shropshire Association

ANNUAL MEETING AT SHREWSBURY.

The Shropshire Association again held their annual meeting in Shrewsbury, on Jan. 28th.

Officers elected were: Ringing Master and peal secretary, Mr. E. V. Rodenhurst; deputy, Mr. F. H. Bennett; secretary, Miss E. A. Carter; treasurer, Mr. W. A. Farmer.

The necessary business proceed very smoothly with Mr. A. Bayley in the chair. Life memberships of Messrs. C. Ingram, G. Turner, H. Parker, A. Peake and F. W. Grocott were confirmed, and Mr. C. Golding was elected a ringing member.

The biennial report being due, the necessary expenditure was authorised, and meetings for the year, subject to the necessary permission, were decided as follows: Oswestry, March; Market Drayton, May 27th; Clive, July; Broseley and Much Wenlock, August; Berrington, September; Bridgnorth, October; Westbury, November. All will be held on second Saturdays except as stated, and after due notice in 'The Ringing World.'

Members and visitors enjoyed the fine ten at St. Mary's during the afternoon, although the original eight were considered superior to the later trebles. Some enthusiasts tried the six at St. Michael's, but as might have been expected, were soon back at St. Mary's for the Association service.

An all too brief period of ringing at St. Chad's closed the events of a successful day with attendance of over forty.

Methods rung included several periods of rounds on ten and twelve for beginners, standard methods up to Cinques and Cambridge and Double Norwich Major.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD SONNING DEANERY.

The annual meeting of the Sonning Deanery Branch was held at Wokingham on January 28th. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m. and the service followed in St. Paul's Church, conducted by the Rector, assisted by the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Master of the Guild). The Rev. C. Sparshott, Rector of Arborfield, preached. About 80 ringers sat down to tea.

At the business meeting, presided over by the branch chairman, the Ven. Thorndike Shaw, the secretary reported an active year with increased membership and well-attended meetings.

All the officers were re-elected and eight new members. Meetings for practice were fixed for the first Saturday in each month, with a summer meeting at Sandhurst. The secretary spoke of the forthcoming four guilds festival, to be held at Wokingham in August, and asked for full support from the branch.

After a few words from the Master of the Guild, the meeting closed, and ringing took place at All Saints' and St. Paul's Churches until 9 p.m.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD LOUGHBOROUGH'S JOINT MEETING WITH LADIES' GUILD.

Approximately 70 ringers and friends were present at a joint meeting of the Loughborough District and the Midland District of the Ladies' Guild on January 28th at Loughborough.

The bells of the Parish Church and the Foundry were rung to various methods, from rounds on ten to Cambridge Surprise Royal.

A short service was conducted by the Ven. Archdeacon Lyons, who was afterwards entertained to tea with the rest of the company in the Fearon Hall.

After votes of thanks had been expressed by Mr. P. L. Taylor (chairman of the Loughborough District) and Miss I. B. Thompson (vice-president of the Midland District), the company divided for their respective Guild meetings.

The next meeting of the Loughborough District is to be held at Ibstock on February 25th, and Melton Mowbray was the place decided upon by the Ladies' Guild for March 25th.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FOUR PEALS IN A DAY

Dear Sir,—As conductor of the peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, rung in 2 hours 25 minutes, may I assure Mr. Andrews that there was nothing wrong with the peal and that the striking was good. Any ringer with experience on the foundry bells will know that fast ringing must be good to succeed at all. The two essentials for good ringing, and particularly good fast ringing, on the bells are (a) recent experience in peal ringing; (b) recent experience in ringing the foundry bells.

In regard to (a), the total number of peals rung in 1949 by the ten ringers exceed 550. In regard to (b), no less than 40 peals were rung during the year on the foundry bells and the majority of the ringers in the Royal rang in most of them. In the light of this wide experience, it is hardly fair, I suggest, for anyone to conclude and much less allege that because the ringing was quick it must be bad striking.

Maybe Mr. Andrews is basing his judgment on tenors of 20 cwt.—the more usual for peals of ten. The tenor at the foundry, as many will know, is only 9 cwt.

A few months ago a young band—average age just under 21 years—rang Cambridge Royal on these bells in 2 hours 29 minutes. The average time for the 18 Surprise peals of Royal rung last year is 2 hours 38 minutes, and some of those peals included visitors unaccustomed to the bells, in which instances the pace obviously had to be slowed up.

I do not wish to say anything unkind to or about Mr. Andrews, but I suggest that remarks such as those in his letter should be confined to personal knowledge of the event and not based on imagination or lack of it whichever the case may be.—Yours truly,

Leicester. HAROLD J. POOLE.

'PERFECT STRIKING'

Dear Sir.—The pace of the peal of Surprise Royal at Loughborough has been criticised. The truth is, of course, that such a performance presupposes a very expert band accustomed to ringing together, and absolutely perfect striking. We may not all want to ring at such a rate and, indeed, many of us have not the skill. But let us not seek, either from ignorance or jealousy, to belittle an outstanding feat of ringing.

There is a tendency for contributors to your columns to give vent to ill-informed criticism and even to snipe. This is all very regrettable and presumably comes from those who will one day be old enough to know better. ('I also knew when I was young.')—Yours,

'FORTY-SIX YEARS A RINGER.'

'CHURCH BELLS OF CORNWALL'

Dear Sir,—Dunkin's 'Church Bells of Cornwall' (1878) gives details of sixty-four 3's, fifteen 4's, forty-two 5's, fifty 6's and seven 8's. At present (I take into account two new sizes in hand and two pending) there are thirty-two 3's, seven 4's, eight 5's, ninety-four 6's and forty-three 8's. The augmentations of the additional thirty-six 8's may be of interest: sixteen have been from rings of six, six from fives, eleven from threes, one from one bell, and two complete 8's in new towers. Something like 38 of the 8's have been in bell-founders' hands this century, so there has been much recasting, and metal frames predominate, whilst ball bearings are common. Much the same story could be told of the sixes, although to a lesser degree.

Th extent to which Dunkin's book needs revising can be judged from the above. It may be possible to produce something in a few years' time, but such a book would be more for the practical ringer than for the antiquarian. This, I believe, would make the book more saleable.—Yours faithfully,

Carbis Bay, Cornwall. A. S. ROBERTS.

CENTRAL COUNCIL AT EASTBOURNE

Dear Sir,—It is proposed to organise motor-coach trip or trips to towers, Lewes, Brighton, etc., on Whitsun Monday for delegates and friends. If any delegates would let me know that they would like to be included I can make the necessary arrangements. I would be glad to have the information as soon as possible.—Yours faithfully,

O. SIPPETTS.

Crawley, Sussex.

DECLINE OF STEDMAN

Sir,—Referring to recent comments and letters in 'The Ringing World' on the subject of the decline in the number of peals of Stedman now being rung, I will quote an incident from my own experience which may throw some light on the matter.

A party of us, including a prominent peal ringer and conductor, was discussing what method should be chosen for a peal attempt on the morrow. Knowing the grand quality of the bells on which the attempt was to be made, I suggested Stedman Triples. The P.P.R. before-mentioned thereupon said, 'No, we don't want to go for Stedman: it is too easily lost.'

As one who seldom stands in a peal attempt, but who follows the activities of the Exercise with very great interest, it does appear to me that at the present time far more stress is laid on the scoring of a peal rather than on the quality of the ringing which goes to make up the attempt. I will even go so far as to suggest that 'The Ringing World' helps to foster this outlook by the undue prominence and adulation which it gives to every sort of peal ringing activity.

I, for one, hope that the Exercise may eventually regain a more balanced outlook on this subject, when the quality of the ringing will count as the first consideration, and the actual scoring of a peal as only incidental.—Yours faithfully,

A. R. POYNTZ.

Goring-on-Thames.

SHIPWAY'S PRINCIPLE

Dear Sir.—It is difficult to understand what Mr. York-Bramble is talking about. If, as I gather, he is endeavouring to imply that, by starting what has become known as Shipway's Principle in a different place, and presenting it with a different name, he has produced some 'new feature,' he is giving your readers the 'generally wrong impressions' of which he accuses Mr. Baker and myself. This, of course, is nothing fresh.

The similarity between Shipway's Principle and Stedman has never been questioned, to my knowledge. I previously quoted some of Shipway's remarks: here they are in more detail: 'This system being nearly allied to Stedman's Principle, it will not require much additional explanation; for as that is founded on the principle of ringing the changes on three bells before, while those above thirds place make double dodging: so this principle is founded on that of working the changes on four bells before, while those above fourths place make treble dodging. . . . It being necessary to give a name to this system, the author has been induced to call it after himself, not merely because it was invented by him, but also for the sake of distinction.'

We would not now say that Shipway 'invented' the principle, but at least he did not reproduce someone else's figures a century late under the heading, 'Something New for the New Year.' Moreover, he was able, in a few sentences intelligible to any ringer, to describe the principle perfectly, whereas Mr. York-Bramble, for all the supposed advantages of his self-invented jargon, was quite unable to do so in one and a half columns.—Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT.

Crayford, Kent.

Inferiority Complex

Dear Sir,—The leading article of 'The Ringing World' of January 20th is most remarkable and outstanding in its significance. It is to be hoped it will be well read and thought about by the Exercise as a whole.

To be confident in all that one attempts is indeed a great blessing. But what of those who lack this self-confidence? It is usually accompanied by that awful obsession, 'inferiority complex,' which is often present at the time a different and difficult task is attempted. Inferiority complex usually takes root during childhood by some form of nervousness: as the child grows so does this obsession until by the time adult stage is reached the person is fighting a battle within himself.

To feel one is not so good as the other person in whatever he attempts, by way of sports, in the factory and, last but not least, in the ringing room, is indeed a great handicap. A ringer enters the ringing room, either the home tower or another, with every intention of enjoying a pleasant ring, but one or more famous ringers may be present. The victim of this obsession is instantly affected, in spite of the fact that all are jolly good friends: there is no 'magnetic' or 'evil' eye. The unfortunate one usually tries to give of his best, but the result, alas, is a lamentable failure. He cannot control the bell properly and makes silly 'method' mistakes.

It is here that the expert can do a great deal of good. It would indeed be kindness itself if these experts would give a word of encouragement, not begin to shout or pass unkind remarks behind the person's back while ringing. Try to make a psychological summing up of the person involved. Fortunately, there are expert ringers who do.

Strange ringing rooms sometimes have a great effect on these sufferers of inferiority complex, more so if the room is small, for claustrophobia (the dread of enclosed places) can at times be linked with inferiority complex. No doubt there are people who will say this kind of people should not take up ringing or social activities, but that would be entirely wrong, for the more active these unfortunate compel themselves to become the better it is for them to overcome their trouble. But it never entirely vanishes.—Yours faithfully,

Holloway, N.7.

R. NEWMAN.

ST. CUTHBERT'S, EDINBURGH

Dear Sir,—With regard to Mr. Gimbert's letter about ringing at St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, I would like to take this opportunity of clarifying the position. In my booklet on Scottish rings of bells the following sentences appear: 'As in other Scottish towers, a silent practice mechanism is provided and is regularly used on practice nights. Peals have been rung on these bells, but the proximity to the most important street in Edinburgh prevents them being rung except on important national occasions.'

The latter sentence was inserted for the benefit of those who may in the future hope to organise peal ringing tours of Scotland and does only refer to peal ringing.

As made clear in the first sentence quoted, there is a regular Sunday service band which is trying hard to keep change ringing going in that part of Scotland.

It is an unfortunate fact that few natives of Scotland are able to appreciate good change ringing, and it is because of the letters of protest received from time to time that a silent practice mechanism is installed in a number of the towers, a device which is very rare in England. So, alas, ringing for as long as three hours continuously is looked on in Scotland as a bad thing, especially when the tower is near a business centre and offices are open. The last word, of course, rests with the Minister and Kirk Session.

RANALD W. M. CLOUSTON.

Yaxley, near Eye, Suffolk.

Letters (continued)

AN EXAMPLE FROM NORTHANTS

Dear Sir,—Behind the report of the peal of London Surprise Minor rung at Helmdon, Northants, on Jan. 18th, lies a story that may be of encouragement to keen bands living in remote country districts.

Helmdon lies in a part of Northamptonshire where change ringing is almost extinct, and where anyone who can knock off a 120 of Grandsire Doubles is considered a very useful ringer. Even this moderate achievement could not be indulged in unless several villages joined to form a band.

Thus it was that in 1945 six keen ringers drawn from five different villages arranged to meet one night a week during the winter months for practice.

Bob Minor was tackled first and a peal in the method was rung in November, 1946. After practising Oxford and Kent, the weather became too bad for the band to meet again until the following winter of 1947-8. These two methods and Stedman Doubles were thoroughly digested then, although no peals were rung. The following season of 1948-49 brought with it a windfall in the shape of a native of the district, who, after having spent some years in Shropshire, returned a polished Surprise ringer, and this fact at a time when Cambridge Minor was being tackled. Consequently rapid progress was made in the method, and a peal was rung in February, 1949. Before the winter ended London had received a fair amount of practice.

The present season has brought with it the flood tide of success, and within the space of ten days, in addition to the peal of London, quarter peals of York, Beverley and Carlisle have been rung, and a peal in seven Surprise methods is in prospect for the near future.—Yours truly, 'PROGRESS.'

HE CAME SECOND!

Dear Sir,—I thought perhaps you might like to pass on to readers of 'The Ringing World' one of the best ringing howlers I've heard.

As the recent quarter peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Faversham was a local effort, it appeared in 'The Faversham News' on the following Friday, given in the usual 'Ringing World' style.

On returning to work the next Monday morning one of the ringers was greeted with, 'See you came 2nd in the bellringing, Harry.'—Faversham. W. S. PALIN.

THE OLDEST BELL

Dear Sir.—Your editorial, 'The Oldest Bell': 'Caversfield has the oldest dated bell in England. . . . While the actual date of its casting is not inscribed on the bell. . . .'

I beg to submit it is not a dated bell, as it does not bear any date. You can't have it both ways. J. R. Nichols in 'Bells Thro' the Ages' states the oldest dated bell is at Cloughton, Lancs, and bears the date 1296. For further details (including Caversfield), see above book. W. B. KYNASTON.

NORTH DEVON RINGING

Dear Sir,—I was interested to read ('Ringing World', Jan. 6th, 1950) of the work of the Combe Martin band. Two deaneries in North Devon have, I believe, only two change ringing towers between them: Combe Martin and Ilfracombe. These gave a very kind welcome to one novice last summer, and sent him back to his own method-ringing county a good deal wiser.

Better for North Devon ringing, and amply rewarding, would be more visits from experienced ringers among the numerous holiday-makers. Combe tower itself is as lovely as its surroundings.

In spite of its situation, Mr. Hayward's outpost has left our six-bell band standing. Both in post-war quarters and in methods.—Yours, Bristol. GRAHAM WATT.

Letters (continued)

ITCHINGFIELD SLOW COURSE

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. C. Hone, the late Mr. Henry Burstow, of Horsham, was the originator of this method and the Itchingfield ringers of his period used to ring it.

I paid a visit to Itchingfield in 1903; there was then no local band. When at Shipley in the same year my attention was not drawn to the book he mentions, but it is highly probable it is the work of Mr. H. Burstow.

Mr. H. Burstow was a most remarkable man, who thought nothing of walking the 10 or 12 miles to Bolney to teach the local ringers. He took part in the record peal of 13,440 Canterbury Pleasure Major at Warnham. He once pricked out the whole 5,040 of Grandsire Triples to satisfy the doubts of a local lady, who thought the number of changes not possible. He could also sing 365 songs.—Yours sincerely, 90, Hall Road, Hull. G. F. WILLIAMS.

A DORSET APPEAL

Dear Sir,—May I, through the courtesy of 'The Ringing World,' make an appeal for Mappowder, a small agricultural parish of about 160 inhabitants in the beautiful Blackmore Vale in Dorset.

Hanging in the tower of the lovely little church are five bells, all cast by Knight about 1735, which have not been rung in living memory. Estimates have been received for re-hanging in a new frame and with all new fittings, recasting at least one bell and augmentation to six, but the task of raising the necessary funds is herculean for so small a parish and will take years to accomplish.

May I appeal to ringers throughout the country to help by sending what they can, however small, to Dr. S. F. Jackson, Mappowder Rectory, Sturminster Newton, Dorset, who will gratefully acknowledge every donation.—Yours fraternally, Dorchester. E. T. PAUL FIELD.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

The annual meeting of the Crewe Branch was held at Christ Church, Crewe, where there is a ring of 10 bells, on January 21st.

The company present numbered over 80, and included the Master of the Chester Guild, Mr. J. W. Clarke, and Mrs. Clarke; the hon. secretary, Rev. J. Kingdon; the Rev. W. Gwynne John, Vicar of Christ Church, Crewe; and ringers from many places in Cheshire, North Staffs and Shropshire. Ringing took place under the guidance of Mr. J. Brough, Nantwich, Ringing Master.

Later, a service was held in Christ Church, the preacher being the Vicar. The company were afterwards entertained to tea as the guests of the Parochial Church Council.

The business meeting followed, the Master of the Guild being in the chair.

The following appointments were made for 1950: Chairman, the Rev. C. Parry-Williams; hon. secretary, Mr. Rich. D. Langford; hon. treasurer, Mr. Wilfred Kerr; member of General Committee, Mr. George Packer; Ringing Master (8 bells), Mr. Jack Brough (Nantwich); Ringing Master (6 bells), Mr. Fred Sutton (Acton); instructor, Mr. George Packer (Crewe).

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The Society's January meeting at Drighlington was very well attended. Ringing started early and various methods were successfully rung when a halt was called for tea. Further ringing took place after tea until 7 p.m., when the business meeting was held in the tower. Mr. T. Hill presided, and a vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the local company, especially naming Mr. Barron, who had arranged the meeting at short notice, was proposed by Mr. J. W. Benton and seconded by Mr. H. Davison. Mr. Barron suitably replied and hoped that all present had enjoyed their visit.

Essex Association

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

Notwithstanding the increase to 2s. 6d. of the annual subscription, the number of paid members had grown to 148. During the year 3 honorary members, 17 ringing and 13 probationers had been elected. This satisfactory statement was contained in the annual report of Mr. A. H. Everett (hon. secretary) at the annual meeting at Great Waltham on January 14th. Forty-five members attended, the service was conducted by the Rev. B. Jukes (Vicar) and Mrs. M. R. French entertained the members to tea.

Other points from the report were that 16 peals, including an officers' peal (Superlative) to mark the 70th anniversary of the Society, were rung; Mr. Peter Eves had joined the ranks of conductors and two members had rung their first peal.

During the past three months, Saturday afternoon and evening practices were arranged for the benefit of the less experienced. The quicker learners were taught to take a real active part in ringing, the less would be the losses amongst pupils, which now probably stood at 75 per cent.

The veterans of the Association continued to give faithful service—Mr. G. Green and Mr. Harry Allen, both with 64 years of membership.

The election of officers was as follows: Master, Mr. H. W. Shadrack; secretary, Mr. A. H. Everett; committee, Mr. R. Thrift and Mr. W. Barrett. The Rev. B. Jukes was elected an honorary member; Messrs. B. Sydenham and R. Sutton, of Great Baddow, ringing members; Messrs. Butcher, Day, Nottidge and Wallace, full ringing members; the Misses S. Bone, D. Forbes, J. Lightfoot and C. James, of Galleywood, probationer members.

Mr. L. J. Clark expressed the thanks of the meeting to Mrs. M. R. French for her generous hospitality, and to the Rev. Jukes. Dr. Spencer-Phillips seconded and also thanked the local ringers for making the arrangements.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD

WINCHESTER DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Winchester District was held at the Audry Tea Rooms, Winchester, on January 7th, the attendance being 47 members, with visitors from Swindon, Bournemouth, Guildford, Newbury and Southampton.

Mr. G. Pullinger, Master of the Guild, presided and paid tributes to two well-known ringers who had passed away during 1949, Mr. W. Andrews, of Winchester Cathedral, and Mr. W. Melville, of Wonston, both of whom had done very good work in teaching new ringers in the Winchester area.

The Rev. J. S. D. Mansel, of Winchester College, was elected chairman for the coming year; Mr. L. A. Tremear (Alresford), secretary; Mr. W. C. Lampard (Winchester Cathedral), treasurer; Mr. R. Smith (Wonston), Master; Mr. H. Newnham (Alresford) and Mr. S. J. Sanders (Twyford), representatives on Central Committee; and Mr. G. Smith, of Twyford, auditor.

Quarterly meetings were arranged for Alresford in April, Micheldever with Wonston in July, and King's Somborne with Stockbridge in October. Good change ringing progress was reported from Twyford, Ropley and Alresford, and new ringers had started in several towers.

After the meeting and tea, the Guild service was held in conjunction with evensong at the Cathedral.

The bells of the Cathedral were rung until seven o'clock, then a move was made by a small party to Twyford, where permission to ring was given by the Vicar, the Rev. Beynon, at very short notice, and this was very much appreciated by all concerned.

QUARTER PEALS

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.

—On Jan. 15th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Miss D. Luke (first of Major) 1, D. Judd 2, J. E. L. Cockey 3, W. Cook 4, W. Ellis 5, A. Cutler 6, J. Birt 7, F. A. Finch (cond.) 8.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCs.—On Jan. 8th, at St. Peter's Church, 1,260 Doubles (600 Plain Bob and 660 Grandsire): W. Bates 1, W. Harrison 2, J. B. Robinson 3, R. H. Wimpenny 4, D. Ogden (cond.) 5, P. R. Harrison 6, E. Redfern 8. The first quarter in two methods for all the band.

BATH, SOMERSET.—At St. Mark's on Jan. 15th, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: W. G. Brown 1, C. S. Knott 2, T. F. King 3, L. Coles 4, R. W. Perry 5, M. Helps (first of Kent as cond.) 6.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Jan. 3rd, at St. Martin's, a quarter peal of Stedman Cinques: J. Scott 1, Miss M. Reay (longest touch of Cinques) 2, E. C. Shepherd 3, W. C. Dowling 4, J. Turner 5, T. Hampton 6, E. T. Lloyd 7, A. W. T. Cleaver 8, A. V. Pearson 9, J. N. Lindon 10, A. Walker (cond.) 11, G. E. Fearn 12. Half-muffled in memoriam Harry Withers.

BRIGHTON.—At St. Peter's, on Jan. 15th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: Miss B. Stephenson 1, E. P. Cox 2, A. W. Bond 3, R. Beale (first 'inside') 4, A. W. Gravett (cond.) 5, H. W. Woolven 6, J. V. Lonsbrough (first in method) 7, W. H. Hargreaves 8. First quarter for 2.

BURBAGE, LEICS.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. C. Turner 1, W. Clough 2, E. Clough 3, E. Campton 4, Miss E. Lawson (first quarter) 5, F. K. Measures 6, R. Mayne (cond.) 7, J. Veasey 8.

CAMBERWELL, LONDON.—On Jan. 15th, 1,272 Stedman Caters: Mrs. O. L. Rogers 1, Sheila E. Harris 2, R. Joyce Pett 3, Mrs. K. Parr 4, Eileen D. Farrell 5, T. Davies 6, F. D. Bishop 7, E. Hynard 8, H. W. Rogers (cond.) 9, C. M. Meyer 10.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKS.—On Jan. 15th, 1,280 London Surprise Major: J. E. S. Moreton 1, L. Trevor (cond.) 2, Miss M. Beamish 3, Mrs. D. E. Beamish 4, A. H. Beamish 5, J. Gibbons (first of London) 6, J. F. Clarke 7, J. A. L. Thompson 8. Rung by the local Sunday service band, and first in the method as such.

CROWCOMBE, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. E. Welsher (first quarter) 1, C. W. J. Lock 2, J. Henson 3, L. T. Richards 4, R. E. Colman (first as cond.) 5, W. Chidley (first quarter) 6.

DINTON, WILTS.—On Jan. 14th, 1,440 London Surprise Minor: J. Hartless 1, H. Abrahams 2, Miss J. M. Brown 3, D. Reed 4, F. Harris (cond.) 5, R. Marlow 6.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Kent Treble Bob Major: A. Jones 1, W. G. Wilson 2, D. R. Judd 3, W. J. Ellis 4, J. E. Lewis Cockey 5, W. T. Cook (first in method) 6, J. C. Birt (first as cond.) 7, E. C. S. Turner 8. A welcome to the Rev. A. C. Heath, chaplain to St. Paul's School.

EAST RETFORD, NOTTS.—On Jan. 15th, 1,278 Grandsire Caters: F. Kaye 1, Miss J. Greasy 2, J. Bartram 3, Mrs. Rowntree 4, W. Coates 5, C. Cook 6, H. Denman 7, W. Norton 8, K. Beardsall (cond.) 9, H. Willows 10.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Smith 1, I. J. Attwater (cond.) 2, S. Scott 3, R. F. Bootman 4, P. J. Coward 5, D. Towers 6, J. Towers 7, J. Dyer 8.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. T. Godfrey 1, W. W. Webb 2, H. C. Chandler 3, A. Jones 4, J. Cobb 5, E. R. Gladman 6, W. A. Lewis (cond.) 7, W. J. Winter 8. An 81st birthday compliment to H. C. Chandler.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: D. C. Mears 1, C. V. Hare 2, A. E. Symonds 3, G. Cherry 4, E. Winters 5, F. W. Croft 6, L. Fidler (cond.) 7, W. P. Todd 8. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. H. W. Elise.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Keith

Biggs (first quarter, age 11) 1, A. E. Cox 2, I. S. Biggs 3, W. Lee 4, N. Cornwall 5, F. D. Boreham (cond.) 6, A. R. Blaby 7, J. D. Kape 8.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 15th, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: E. Grimes 1, J. Muntings 2, D. Crapnell 3, E. Blomfield (cond.) 4, S. Arbon 5, J. Crapnell 6, C. Woodard 7, E. Pye 8. First in method 5 and 6.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,288 Kent Treble Bob Major: M. T. Symonds (cond.) 1, G. S. Smith 2, W. R. J. Poulsom 3, F. Day 4, F. Boreham 5, L. Offord 6, W. Jarvis 7, L. G. Pryke 8.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: G. Marriner 1, G. Peters 2, Alan Smith 3, E. Coward 4, H. V. Young 5, A. H. Winch 6, C. Smart 7, A. Harman 8, W. Newberry 9, A. H. Smith (first on 10 as cond.) 10.

LEICESTER.—At All Saints' on Jan. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Alan Cattell 1 and 2, Mavis Whitehead 3, Arthur Cattell 4, Colin A. Kirk (first as cond.) 5, Joy Whitehead (age 7, first quarter) 6.

LUGWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. Taylor 1, M. P. Moreton 2, J. W. Downes 3, W. T. Rowley (first of Stedman Triples) 4, G. Davis 5, A. T. Wingate 6, A. W. Davis (cond.) 7, F. Arrowsmith 8. For the last service of the Vicar, the Rev. Preb. A. Wynne-Thomas, who is retiring.

OLDHAM, LANCs.—At St. Mark's, Glodwick, on Jan. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Fletcher 1, O. Moores 2, Miss A. T. Seville 3, F. Pritchard (first as cond.) 4, A. F. Taylor 5, Miss M. I. Jaggar 6, R. Edwards 7, E. Casterton 8.

PADWORTH, BERKS.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. E. Dodd 1, Miss E. Knight 2, Miss H. Cane 3, D. Vince (first 'inside') 4, G. K. Dodd (cond.) 5, M. J. Dodd 6. Average age of the band is 15 years.

POPLAR, LONDON.—At All Saints' on Jan. 15th, 1,043 Stedman Caters: Miss O. Wade (longest length) 1, T. H. Taffender (cond.) 2, H. W. Andrews 3, Miss P. Kitchen 4, A. J. N. Boyack 5, J. Goodall 6, C. E. Willmington 7, C. W. Otley 8, J. Bullock 9, C. A. Hughes 10.

POYNTON, CHESHIRE.—On Jan. 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Boardman (first quarter) 1, A. Frost 2, A. G. Clarke 3, E. A. Jackson 4, J. Clegg 5, A. Cairns (first quarter as cond.) 6.

SAWLEY, DERBYS.—On Jan. 15th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: O. J. Cripps 1, Mrs. I. Simpson 2, T. Measures 3, D. J. Marshall (cond. age 15) 4, A. Hickton 5, W. E. Simpson 6.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.—On Jan. 15th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob: E. J. Leversuch 1, T. Clark 2, F. Cattell 3, W. Wenban 4, C. Wenban 5, A. Wenban 6, J. E. Rootes 7, W. J. Nudds 8. A birthday compliment to the ringer of 4.

THORNABY-ON-TEES, YORKS.—At St. Paul's Church, on Jan. 13th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. R. Addison 1, J. Jefferson 2, H. A. Ward 3, E. Sinclair 4, P. Semmens 5, P. Rock 6, T. Cox (cond.) 7, T. Banks 8. Rung for the institution of the Rev. S. F. Gunyon, M.A.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Doubles (2 six-scores Reverse Canterbury, 3 each of April Day and Plain Bob and 2 Grandsire): J. Cannell (first quarter) 1, L. W. G. Skinner 2, Barbara Mitchell (first in four methods) 3, W. A. Hughes 4, A. S. Richards (cond.) 5, Anne Holmes 6.

WISBECH, CAMBS.—On Jan. 8th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: H. Piggins 1, Miss M. Longbottom 2, Miss M. Whitlock 3, W. Jarvis 4, W. Storey 5, T. Bevis (first in method as cond.) 6, H. Means 7, W. Freeman 8.

WOOLTON HILL, HANTS.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. J. Dodd 1, P. F. Dodd (first quarter) 2, A. Braine 3, B. C. Stirland 4, G. K. Dodd (cond.) 5, B. A. Brooks (first quarter) 6.

OBITUARY

MR. W. J. POWELL.

We regret to record the death of Mr. William James Powell, of Llanfrecfha, Monmouthshire, aged 69, after an illness of more than three years' duration, borne with great patience.

On two occasions he had been Master of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, and he and his young band were familiar figures at all association meetings. In all he had taken part in 16 peals, including one of Cambridge Surprise Major.

Mr. Powell had taken an active interest in the welfare of the Church, serving as a chorister at the Parish Church since boyhood, a member of the Parochial Church Council and a sidesman. Parishioners will miss his good-humoured personality at local functions. He was instrumental in augmenting Llanfrecfha bells from six to eight, but was never happier than when ringing on six bells.

A peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung at Llanfrecfha to his memory.

MR. J. A. RANGLES.

Mr. John Arthur Randles, of Coed-y-rae, Gresford, North Wales, passed away on Jan. 25th in his 58th year. He had been a ringer at All Saints' Church, Gresford, since he was 12 years old. For 46 years he had been a most loyal and regular service ringer, and had rung 25 peals of Grandsire and Stedman.

His courtesy and kindly welcome to visitors to the tower, his interest in ringing meetings of the North Wales Association, and the Wrexham and District Branch in particular, will long be remembered by his many ringing friends.

He followed his father, Richard Randles, who had been for many years a ringer on these famous bells. Four of his brothers still ring and his son and daughter are learning. He and his daughter took part in the recent broadcast of Gresford bells.

He was a very loyal churchman and had been a member of the church choir for 49 years.

The funeral took place on January 28th, attended by ringers of neighbouring towers. The service, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Glyn Jones), was fully choral. After the service touches of Grandsire and Stedman were rung with the bells half-muffled.

Sympathy is extended to his wife and two children.

H.M.S. 'Truculent'

The following quarter peals have been rung to the memory of those who lost their lives in H.M.S. 'Truculent'.—

RAINHAM, KENT.—On Jan. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. D. Chantler 1, Miss P. Smith 2, T. A. Cross 3, J. Hale 4, F. J. Cheal (cond.) 5, W. J. Walker 6, E. Naylor 7, G. A. Naylor 8.

CHATHAM, KENT.—1,259 Grandsire Caters: V. Jarrett 1, T. Beaumont 2, Miss G. Jarrett 3, E. A. G. Allen 4, F. J. Cheal 5, C. Jarrett 6, R. Norris 7, C. E. J. Norris 8, W. A. J. Knight (cond.) 9, G. Davis 10. First quarter of Caters for 3, 6 and 10.

DOVER, KENT.—On Jan. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. H. George 1, M. O. Tyler (first of Triples) 2, C. Turner (cond.) 3, A. Binfield 4, C. George 5, E. T. Ellender 6, E. J. Walker 7, F. Dennis 8.

RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Jan. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. White 1, I. Jackson 2, A. R. Ward 3, F. Taylor (cond.) 4, J. Collis (first 'inside') 5, E. Collis (first quarter) 6, A. Jackson 7, P. A. B. Cory (first quarter) 8.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On Jan. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss I. Dearing 1, J. Tomsitt 2, E. Cassell 3, T. Miller 4, A. Miller 5, J. Chapman 6, E. Blake (cond.) 7, F. Wicks 8. Also to the memory of W. Sparks, member of St. Leonard's, Streatham, band.

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is one penny per word, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no change one-half above charge for each insertion. Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.
All notices must be prepaid.
Notices must be received not later than Monday.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

Ringer retiring from concert stage offers for immediate sale wonderful collection of 122 handbells. Five complete octaves (chromatic) from F below middle C, lovely tone and quality. Duplicate bells for 3 complete octaves (chromatic) from Treble G upwards, and many others. Leather handles, large packing case. Inspection and trial by appointment. First £45 secures lot, purchaser to collect.—Wood, 93, Simmondley, Glossop, Derbyshire. 6562

MISCELLANEOUS

PEAL REPORT SHEETS suitable for sending reports to 'The Ringing World' or guild secretaries. Sheets for 6, 8, 10 or 12 bells available at 1s. 6d. for 25, post free, from Powell and Morris, printers, Lyme Regis, Dorset. 6452

PROPOSED YORKSHIRE RINGING WEEK, July 29th to August 5th: accommodation for twenty ringers available at Ilkley: good selection towers; those interested please apply R. H. Dove, 26, Sycamore Avenue, Leeds 8. 6560

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—All Saints' Church, Chilvers Coton. Until further notice the weekly practice will be held on Tuesdays, 7.30 to 9 p.m. All visitors welcome. Hon. Sec., Mrs. D. E. Beamish, 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton. 6555

EXTRA COPIES.—It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies should send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals are submitted.

BACK NUMBERS.—A limited number of back numbers for most issues of 1946 and 1947 are available, post free 4d. per copy.—Apply Editor, 'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittance must be sent with peal report.

PUBLICATIONS

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

'SCOTTISH RINGS OF BELLS,' by Randal Clouston, 2s. post free from the author at The Chalet, Yaxley, near Eye, Suffolk. This book gives full particulars, including weights of all known rings in Scotland. 6412

'CHURCH BELLS OF BUNBURY,' by J. W. Clarke. A history of a Cheshire village ring from the 17th century. Fully illustrated. Price 2s. from Rev. M. H. Ridgway, Bunbury, Cheshire. 6557

No better pen picture of early ringing societies has been published than J. Armiger Trollope's 'COLLEGE YOUTHS,' illustrated, 5s. 6d. post free.—The Ringing World, c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

MEETINGS

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—East Farleigh (6), Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, Ditton, near Maidstone. 6496

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Denver, Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Own food.—J. E. Fox, Dis. Sec. 6516

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Annual meeting, Southover, Lewes (10), Saturday, Feb. 11th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. 6502

OXFORD GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Laurence's, Reading, Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. 6511

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Leigh (6), Feb. 11th. Bells 3. Tea 4.45 at Bat and Ball. Service 6.—C. A. Bassett. 6510

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting, Hull, Feb. 11th. St. Mary's (6) 2 to 4. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Holy Trinity (10) after tea to 9. Tea for those notifying Miss D. Houghton, 10, Derwent Avenue, Alfonso Street, Hull. 6550

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Annual meeting, Leatherhead, Feb. 18th. Bells from 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting the Institute. Numbers for tea to George Marriner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead, by Feb. 15th. 6509

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—North and East District.—Annual meeting at All Hallows', Bruce Castle, Tottenham, on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Bells 2.30 p.m. and evening. Service 4.30 p.m. and tea to follow. Ringing at St. Ann's, Stamford Hill (approach by bus or trolley bus from Manor House to St. Ann's Road Station), 2.30 to 4 p.m.—T. J. Lock, District Sec. 6504

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting, Llantrisant (8), Saturday, Feb. 18th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea and business to follow.—F. J. Hannington. 6515

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Business meeting, Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Saturday, Feb. 18th, 3 p.m. Ringing afterwards at St. Mary Magdalene's, Holloway, from 5 o'clock. The payment of 2s. 6d. to enable members who have not attended the requisite number of meetings to vote on financial matters must be paid by Feb. 28th (Rule 12).—A. B. Peck. 6526

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—Winchcombe, Feb. 18th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea booked at cafe only if notified before 13th. Bus times from Cheltenham on request.—Charles Rouse, 52, St. George's Drive, Cheltenham. 6482

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Joint meeting, Eastern and Western Districts, Saturday, Feb. 18th, 2.30. Chester-le-Street, SS. Mary and Cuthbert's. Tea, Church Institute. Charge approximately 2s. each. Names by Feb. 16th to Mr. J. A. Brown, 7, Finchdale Terrace. 6529

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Annual meeting, Billingshurst, Feb. 18th, 3. Names for tea, please, by 13th, to E. Treagus, 78, Kyoto Court, Bognor Regis. 6530

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at Westhoughton on Saturday, Feb. 18th, not 25th. Bells available 2.30. Business meeting 6.30 p.m. Tea provided. Names to Wm. Smalley, 15, Sunny Garth, Westhoughton.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec. 6533

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury District.—Meeting at Sudbury, Saturday, Feb. 18th. Bells of St. Gregory's (8) and All Saints' (8) 3 to 9 p.m. Tea 5.15. Business follows. Names, please, to A. A. Fitch, Dis. Sec., 7, Croft Road, Sudbury, Suffolk. 6558

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Bridget's, West Kirby, Saturday, Feb. 18th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea provided only for those notifying me on or before 14th.—A. J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 6559

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Bexhill, Feb. 18th. Bells 3. Names: tea by 15th, Rev. P. Boulsover, Chantry Croft, Barrack Road, Bexhill-on-Sea. 6531

COVENTRY GUILD.—Coventry District.—Meeting, Feb. 18th, Keresley. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea by Feb. 15th to Pervin, 68, Newfield Road, Coventry. 6532

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Meeting at Thurnby on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. Names for tea to Mr. H. L. Wykes, Grange Cottage, Grange Lane, by Tuesday, Feb. 14th.—F. Key, Hon. Sec. 6535

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Marlborough Branch.—Meeting, Pewsey, Feb. 18th. Usual arrangements.—T. A. Palmer, Baydon Hill, Aldbourne, Marlborough, Wilts. 6561

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover District.—Practice meeting, Abbots Ann, Feb. 18th. Bells 2.30 to 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Amport (6) after tea. Names by Feb. 15th. J. A. Hill, Anna Valley, Andover. 6556

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, Feb. 18th, Kirkby-in-Ashfield. Bells (5) 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided 5 p.m. Bring own food. 6554

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Monthly meeting at Tilsworth on Feb. 18th. Bells (6) at 3. Cups of tea at 5. Bring own food.—Valerie Willard, Dis. Sec., Church Avenue, Leighton Buzzard. 6553

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Monthly meeting, Eyam (6), Saturday, Feb. 18th, 3. Afternoon tea (2s.). 5. Names for tea to Miss Dunn, Crowstones, Crowstones Road, Darley Dale, before 14th.—D. J. Dunn. 6552

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—South and West District.—Annual meeting at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, Saturday, Feb. 18th. Bells 3 p.m. and evening. Committee 4. Service 4.30. Tea at Regal 5. Business, St. Andrew's Hall, 6. Names for tea Frank Corke, 6, Lynch Close, Uxbridge, by 13th.—F. Finch, District Sec. 6538

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Branch.—Bishop's Hull, Saturday, Feb. 18th, 3. Service 4.15. Names for tea, please.—A. H. Reed, George Street, Taunton. 6536

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Meeting, Chew Stoke, Feb. 18th, 4 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 6537

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Meeting at Cheshunt, Saturday, Feb. 25th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to W. Newnham, Jasmine Cottage, Goffs Oak, Waltham Cross, by 22nd. 6539

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Monthly meeting, Melbourne, Saturday, Feb. 25th, 2.30. Names for tea to Rev. R. J. Morris, The Vicarage, Melbourne, by Wednesday, Feb. 22nd. 6551

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—East Norfolk Branch.—Meeting (annual), Saturday, Feb. 25th, at Gorleston-on-Sea. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., Mather Assembly Room, England's Lane. Names or numbers for tea not later than Wednesday, Feb. 22nd, to J. Harwood, Sec., 189, Palgrave Road, Great Yarmouth. 6534

HELMOND, NORTHANTS.—On Jan. 16th, 1,440 Beverley Surprise Minor: C. Hinton 1, G. Burton 2, W. J. Chester 3, M. Saunders 4, E. Lines 5, W. Yates (cond.) 6. First quarter in the method by all the band.

SHOREHAM-BY-SEA, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,312 Kent Treble Bob Major: R. Congreve-Pridgeon (cond.) 1, F. T. Green 2, R. Challen 3, A. H. Gearing 4, J. V. Lonsbrough 5, F. Howe 6, M. O. Thomas 7, F. Page 8.

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62453	2	2
63254	2	2
23564	2	2

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