THE RINGING WORLD

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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

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## 'FLINTSHIRE AND ITS BELLS'

THE low, sandy coast, with the estuarine flats along the Dee, and the appeal of Rhyl, with its fine beaches, as a holiday resort, have made parts of Flintshire familiar to the large populations of Lancashire. But there is another side of the county, the western half, where the steep limestone escarpment rises to 1,800 feet behind Prestatyn, which escapes the ordinary holiday-maker. 'The Ringing World' has frequent reference to the county, either on account of peals or outings, as Flintshire has five rings of eight bells and nine of six.

For the antiquarian interested in bells, this, the smallest of Welsh counties, is a happy hunting ground, and Mr. Ranald W. M. Clouston has provided the Cambrian Archæological Association with a readable volume. There is still much virgin country in Wales in the matter of bell surveys. This is only the third county to have its bells recorded, previous works being 'The Church Bells of Monmouth' by Mr. A. Wright and in 1947 'The Church Bells of Radnorshire' by Mr. Frederick Sharpe.

Flintshire can trace its Christianity back to the days of the Celtic Christians, as is instanced by the monastery at Bangor Iscoed. A MS. book written by the Rev. D. Maurice tells of the finding on the hill, near the church at Cwm, of three four-cornered bells, and called respectively 'The yellow bell of Cwm.' 'The white bell of Abergele,' and 'The blue bell of Llandulas.' These old bells were handbells, which were taken round with the priest and used to call people to worship, the services generally being in the open air. The bells were probably made of riveted iron plates which, when exposed to the atmosphere, disintegrated, no trace of them now exists. There is, however, a late 14th century priest's bell at Caerwys. From the small Lombardic letters, Mr. Clouston suggests a date of about 1380, but the shape is of a later period, and he gives a word of caution, suggesting that the Lombardic lettering had been handed down.

The idea of the 'bells going to the people' seems to have been carried on in Holywell as recently as 1857. St. Winefride's well is at Holywell, and the town gained the reputation of being the Lourdes of Wales. The original bell of nearly 8½ins. diameter is preserved in the church, although there is a crack right through the waist. Thomas Pennant wrote in 1795: 'The church has only one bell, and that not to be heard at any distance, so that the congregation is assembled by a walking steeple, a man with a small bell, who sounds the notice through every street.' Mr. Clouston explains that the bell was suspended by a strap from the neck of the bell-man, who wore a leather pad on one knee, and who caused the bell to ring on every step. The earliest record of the bell is in 1714. A salary of two guineas a year was in 1758 paid to the bell-man. The churchwarden's accounts also recorded an allowance of clothing to 'the boy who is to carry the bell.'

The second bell in Flintshire, which is of pre-Reformation date, is in the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Ysceifiog. It was cast at the old Nottingham foundry, the shield also appearing on bells at Stoneleigh (Warwickshire) and Muston and Kegworth (Leicestershire), in conjunction with the initials R. K. The Clibury foundry of Wellington (Salop), with a branch establishment at Holt (Denbighshire), some nine miles south of Chester, is responsible for eight bells. As might be expected, the Rudhalls, of Gloucester, are well represented. Abraham Rudhall I. (1679-1735) and Abraham Rudhall II. (1718-1735) have two rings of six at Bangor-on-Dee and at Mold, and Abel Rudhall (1736-60) a ring of six at Hawarden and four at Worthenbury. Thomas Rudhill (1760-83) had a ring of six at Hammer, now recast, and two other bells, and John Rudhall (1785-1830) a ring of six at Overton, except the tenor and the second bell at Bangor-on-Dee.

Coming to more modern times, both Messrs. John Taylor and Co. and the Whitechapel Foundry have made notable contributions to the county's bells. Messrs. John Taylor and Co. have the ring of eight at Rhyl (1876) to their credit, a six at Hammer (1890), a six at Hope (1920), a chime of five at Prestatyn (1949) and a chime of eight at the Roman Catholic Abbey, Talacre (1937).

From Whitechapel came the largest church bell in the county, the 25 cwt. tenor at St. Asaph's Cathedral (Messrs. Taylor and Co. recast the treble here in 1947), and 42 other bells dating from the treble and second at Caerwys in 1787. The octave at Northop and five bells to complete the octave at Bodelwyddan and five bells to make a ring of six at Flint (and later the tenor) were among the bells from this foundry.

[Continued overleaf

Closely related to bells is perhaps the shapeless mass of metal preserved in the Cathedral Church of St. Asaph. This is said to be from the bells destroyed by Owen Glendower in 1402, when he burnt the church.

Mr. Clouston undertook his survey in March and April, 1948. The record is made more interesting by the many illustrations and drawing of founders' marks, and forms a valuable addition to antiquarian bell records.

## TWELVE BELL PEALS

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Thurs., Dec. 11, 1952, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
**A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MAXIMUS**

Consisting of 1,008 Belgrave; 576 each of Leicestershire, Pudsey, Buckinghamshire, Buckingham and Wigston; 432 each of York and Yorkshire; 144 each of Lincolnshire and Lindsey with 96 changes of method. Tenor 25 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MRS. H. J. POOLE | *Treble* | S. ANTHONY JESSON | 7 |
| *HAROLD J. POOLE | 2 | HARRY G. WAYNE | 8 |
| ERNEST W. RAWSON | 3 | SIDNEY O. CHENEY | 9 |
| MRS. P. J. STANIFORTH | 4 | E. ALAN JACQUES | 10 |
| PETER J. STANIFORTH | 5 | †HERRICK B. BOWLEY | 11 |
| JOHN R. SMITH | 6 | WILLIAM J. ROOT | *Tenor* |

Composed by KENNETH A. ROE Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 1,000th peal. † 50th peal of Surprise Maximus. First peal of Spliced Surprise Maximus to be rung in 10 methods. All the ringers are members of the Cathedral service band.

LONDON.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 4 Hours and 5 Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK.
**A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS**

Tenor 48 cwt. 9 lb. in B.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| WILFRED WILLIAMS | *Treble* | WALTER ALLMAN | 7 |
| MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT | 2 | JOHN WORTH | 8 |
| ALAN A. POTTS | 3 | JOHN S. MASON | 9 |
| C. KENNETH LEWIS | 4 | JOHN H. CRAMPION | 10 |
| JOHN E. BIBBY | 5 | FREDERICK E. COLLINS | 11 |
| LESLIE W. G. MORRIS | 6 | EDWARD JENKINS | *Tenor* |

Composed by C. KENNETH LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

## TEN BELL PEAL

EVERCREECH, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
**A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS**

Tenor 19 cwt. 17 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *MRS. H. KIMBER | *Treble* | HENRY J. SANGER | 6 |
| ALFRED E. REEVES | 2 | *ROBERT G. FIELD | 7 |
| GEORGE W. MASSEY | 3 | EDWARD J. CHIVERS | 8 |
| PERCY HULL | 4 | JOSEPH T. DYKE | 9 |
| THOMAS W. KIMBER | 5 | *ARTHUR J. WHITE | *Tenor* |

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by JOSEPH T. DYKE.

* First peal of Caters.

Rung to mark the completion of 30 years as a ringer at this church by the ringer of the 6th, and as a tribute to George Stacey, of Minehead, who this day retired from the office of secretary of the Dunster Branch of this Association after 50 years' service.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec. 6, 1952, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, OLD TOWN,
**A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in F.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *LESLIE J. BALDOCK | *Treble* | FREDERICK H. DALLAWAY | 5 |
| RONALD W. PANKHURST | 2 | FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, JUN. | 6 |
| GEORGE BEENEY | 3 | WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE | 7 |
| HAROLD G. F. REYNOLDS | 4 | FRANK H. HICKS | *Tenor* |

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

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

STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec. 6, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
**A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 11¼ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| THOMAS G. FOX | *Treble* | FRANK V. GANT | 5 |
| MRS. R. F. DEAL | 2 | JOHN F. GROVE | 6 |
| FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN | 3 | FRANK B. LUFKIN | 7 |
| DAVID W. BEARD | 4 | JOHN H. CRAMPION | *Tenor* |

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Mon., Dec. 8, 1952, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,
**A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *NOLAN GOLDEN | *Treble* | GEORGE SAYER | 5 |
| †DAVID HEIGHTON | 2 | BERT GOGLE | 6 |
| VINCENT R. OVENS | 3 | CHARLES H. MOORE | 7 |
| WILLIAM LOVE | 4 | ARTHUR G. BASON | *Tenor* |

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* 100th peal at this tower: 10 times round the 'circle.' † First peal in the method.

LEICESTER.
THE NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.
*On Tues., Dec. 9, 1952, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,*
AT THE ROYAL FOUNDATION CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CASTRO.
**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES**

Dexter's No. 2 Variation. Tenor 16 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EX-DET.-SERGT. E. C. TURNER (Leicester City) | *Treble* | EX-SGT. H. G. JENNEY (Leicester City) | 5 |
| *INSPECTOR H. J. POOLE (Leicester City) | 2 | EX-CONS. F. E. WILSON (Leicester City) | 6 |
| CONS. C. H. F. KNIGHT (Leicester City) | 3 | CONS. E. A. JACQUES (Leicester City) | 7 |
| SGT. J. W. RAWSON (Leicestershire & Rutland) | 4 | CONS. J. O. DANIELS (Leicester City) | *Tenor* |

Conducted by INSPECTOR H. J. POOLE.

*999th peal.

A birthday compliment to John E. Clarke, of the South Wigston band, who celebrated his 84th birthday recently.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION
*On Thurs., Dec. 11, 1952, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 10¾ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *MIRIAM F. PETTITT | *Treble* | *COLIN D. MANN | 5 |
| C. HENRY HARDING | 2 | C. EDWARD JEFFRIES | 6 |
| ANDREW C. SINFIELD | 3 | †BRYAN PATTISON | 7 |
| RONALD J. SHARP | 4 | ‡GEOFFREY KIRBY | *Tenor* |

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal.

A birthday compliment to C. W. Sinfield, 51 years churchwarden.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD
*On Thurs., Dec. 11, 1952, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 9¼ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *ANITA NORRIS | *Treble* | †TOM CHAPMAN | 5 |
| *DENNIS BROWN | 2 | NORMAN HAYES | 6 |
| †MOLLY DENBY | 3 | ‡R. A. REED | 7 |
| †RICHARD M. CURRIE | 4 | *TONY B. WRIGHT | *Tenor* |

Conducted by NORMAN HAYES.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. ‡125th peal. First peal as conductor and of Grandsire Triples.

Rung in honour of St. Nicholas, and of the birthdays of the eldest and youngest members of the local band, Mr. W. Tucker and Miss A. Norris respectively.

SEFTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
*On Thurs., Dec. 11, 1952, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN.
**A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 11 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JACK MCKEE | *Treble* | BRIAN THRELFALL | 5 |
| THOMAS HAMMOND | 2 | THOMAS W. HESKETH | 6 |
| WILLIAM H. DEACON | 3 | EDWIN C. BIRKETT | 7 |
| *ERIC EDMONDSEN | 4 | JOSEPH RIDYARD | *Tenor* |

Composed by E. TIMBRELL. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

* First peal in the method.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
*On Fri., Dec. 12, 1952, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
**A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR**
Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| GEORGE A. FLEMING | *Treble* | †LLEWELLYN ALLUM | 5 |
| FRANK RUFFLES | 2 | ALBERT E. WHITING | 6 |
| *PATRICIA M. CLARKE | 3 | RUSSELL G. PARKER | 7 |
| WALTER W. MILLER | 4 | LESLIE G. BRETT | *Tenor* |

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY (No. 35). Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.
* First peal of Yorkshire. † First peal 'inside.'

ALVERSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
**A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR**
Tenor 13½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *EDWARD A. MARSH | *Treble* | HAROLD A. NOBES | 5 |
| BLANCHE M. BALL | 2 | PATRICK PAGE | 6 |
| †S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT | 3 | JOHN H. HUNT | 7 |
| JOHN W. MEADE | 4 | FREDERICK W. BURNETT | *Tenor* |

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by JOHN H. HUNT.
* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method 'inside.'

AMBROSDEN, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
**A PEAL OF 5056 ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR**
Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in E flat.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *CYRIL H. KINCH | *Treble* | REGINALD W. REX | 5 |
| *HERBERT H. ALEXANDER | 2 | *GEORGE F. BURTON | 6 |
| *EDMUND E. PEARSON | 3 | *EDGAR J. SMITH | 7 |
| FREDK. A. H. WILKINS | 4 | ALAN R. PINK | *Tenor* |

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

CAYTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VINCENT,
**A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**
J. Carter's Twelve-part. Tenor 10¼ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *FREDK. WM. PINCHBECK | *Treble* | HENRY SQUIRES | 5 |
| WILLIAM H. DALE | 2 | H. LESLIE SQUIRES | 6 |
| *FREDK. S. PARSONS | 3 | *H. REGINALD WOODS | 7 |
| JAMES H. MUSSON | 4 | DENIS A. FRITH | *Tenor* |

Conducted by DENIS A. FRITH.
* First peal of Plain Bob Major. First peal of Major as conductor.
Rung as a birthday compliment to two stalwarts of the Guild, Arthur McKears and John Cragg.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENB,
**A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR**
Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *RONALD W. STEWARD | *Treble* | JAMES BENNETT | 5 |
| *GEORGE W. PIPE | 2 | HARRY D. LISTER | 6 |
| ROBERT E. LESTER | 3 | GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL | 7 |
| GEORGE A. FLEMING | 4 | CECIL W. PIPE | *Tenor* |

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY (No. 41). Conducted by GEO. W. PIPE.
* 75th peal together.

ECCLESTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 26 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb. in D.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SAMUEL JONES | *Treble* | HARRY THOMAS | 5 |
| RALPH G. EDWARDS | 2 | SAMUEL JONES, JUN. | 6 |
| HENRY O. BAKER | 3 | J. WILLIAM CLARKE | 7 |
| FREDERICK R. EVANS | 4 | BRIAN D. THRELFALL | *Tenor* |

Conducted by SAMUEL JONES, JUN.
Rung as a compliment to Mr. Samuel Jones on his 84th birthday.

STONY STRATFORD, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
**A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR**
Tenor 12½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EDWIN R. LAMBERT | *Treble* | HERBERT C. EDWARDS | 5 |
| *K. MARY COWLEY | 2 | †REGINALD H. HOWSON | 6 |
| WILLIAM J. CHESTER | 3 | GEORGE W. HOLLAND | 7 |
| WILLIAM H. YATES | 4 | GEORGE E. GREEN | *Tenor* |

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by GEORGE E. GREEN.
* First peal of Cambridge Major 'inside.' † First peal of Cambridge Major. First peal of Cambridge Major on the bells.

WORCESTER.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
**A PEAL OF 5056 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR**
Comprising 2,016 Bristol, 1,920 London, 576 Cambridge and 544 Superlative, with 119 changes of method. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALLEN MORGAN | *Treble* | SIDNEY T. HOLT | 5 |
| CLIFFORD SKIDMORE | 2 | REGINALD WOODYATT | 6 |
| WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT | 3 | *CYRIL TANSELL | 7 |
| GEORGE E. LARGE | 4 | THOMAS W. LEWIS | *Tenor* |

Composed by JAMES TOPP. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.
* First peal of Spliced Surprise. First peal of Spliced Surprise in the city of Worcester.
A welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. Malcolm Richards.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,*
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,
**A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR**
James S. Wilde's Variation of Middleton's. Tenor 25¼ cwt. in D.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CHARLES H. MOORE | *Treble* | WILLIAM CLOVER | 5 |
| H. WILLIAM BARRETT | 2 | GEORGE SAYER | 6 |
| NORMAN V. HARDING | 3 | HENRY TOOKE | 7 |
| ARTHUR G. BASON | 4 | NOLAN GOLDEN | *Tenor* |

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

NORTH ELMHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Sun., Dec. 14, 1952, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
**A PEAL OF 5120 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR**
Tenor 19 cwt. 82 lb. in E.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SIDNEY MARSHALL | *Treble* | GEORGE P. ADAMS | 5 |
| CEDRIC CURSON | 2 | CECIL V. EBBERSON | 6 |
| NOLAN GOLDEN | 3 | GEORGE SAYER | 7 |
| WILLIAM LOVE | 4 | BERT GOGLE | *Tenor* |

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

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# FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

NORTH CREAKE, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Sun., Nov. 30, 1952, in 3 Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven 720's. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FREDERICK H. BEALS | *Treble* | CECIL V. EBBERSON | 4 |
| DAVID EMMERSON | 2 | JOHN COUZENS | 5 |
| ROBERT ALLCOCK | 3 | TONY OWEN | *Tenor* |

Conducted by TONY OWEN.

LODDON, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Mon., Dec. 1, 1952, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Comprising one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *EVELYN KILLINGTON | *Treble* | CHARLES BAILEY | 4 |
| †JAMES W. FORDER | 2 | GODFREY G. WALPOLE | 5 |
| STANLEY W. COPLING | 3 | H. WILLIAM BARRETT | *Tenor* |

Conducted by H. WILLIAM BARRETT.

* First peal. † First peal in seven methods.

The ringer of the 4th last rang a peal of Minor in seven methods in 1913.

BLANKNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Fri., Dec. 5, 1952, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being one extent each of Ipswich, Norwich, Hull, Bourne, Cambridge, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 9¼ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| AMOS INGALL | *Treble* | RONALD APPLEWHITE | 4 |
| BERTIE BEE | 2 | MOSES BILLINGS | 5 |
| PETER MASON | 3 | LOUIS WILLDERS | *Tenor* |

Conducted by MOSES BILLINGS.

Rung to celebrate the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. R. Applewhite and a birthday compliment to the conductor.

BATHAMPTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec. 6, 1952, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *JOYCE S. COWARD | *Treble* | LEONARD COLES | 4 |
| WILLIAM F. J. COPE | 2 | MAURICE HELPS | 5 |
| †KENNETH F. MEDWAY | 3 | ERIC NAYLOR | *Tenor* |

Conducted by ERIC NAYLOR.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor 'inside.'

CHESTER-LE-STREET, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec. 6, 1952, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,*
AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AND ST. CUTHBERT,
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being one extent of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 21 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *ROGER CHICKEN | *Treble* | †CYRIL MORDUE | 4 |
| †ENID I. C. PRESTON | 2 | SAAMUEL C. WALKER | 5 |
| WILLIAM A. SMITH | 3 | DENIS A. BAYLES | *Tenor* |

Conducted by DENIS A. BAYLES.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal. The conductor's 150th peal.

Rung to mark the dedication earlier this day of a rose bed and plaque in the churchyard to the memory of H.M. King George VI.

SOUTH WALSHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec. 6, 1952, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
**A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES**

Being 42 extents: the 15 variations of calling with the normal start. Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NOLAN GOLDEN | *Treble* | *ARTHUR G. BASON | 3 |
| *CEDRIC CURSON | 2 | *H. WILLIAM BARRETT | 4 |
| *GEORGE SAYER | *Tenor* | | |

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Stedman Doubles. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
*On Sat., Dec. 6, 1952, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
**A PEAL OF 5040 ALL SAINTS' DOUBLES**

Being 42 extents (four different callings).
Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. in E flat.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ANN BARR | *Treble* | MICHAEL W. FAIREY | 4 |
| *ALEC G. ISAACSON | 2 | CLIVE M. SMITH | 5 |
| DAVID W. BARR | 3 | BRYAN E. CARSON | *Tenor* |

Conducted by CLIVE M. SMITH.

* First peal 'inside.' First peal in the method.

Rung within the octave of St. Andrew's Day.

TUNSTALL, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
*On Sat., Dec. 6, 1952, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise and Double Court, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and one 720 of Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. G. LING | *Treble* | J. SMY | 4 |
| F. SHAW | 2 | A. SMITH | 5 |
| A. A. LING | 3 | E. STEWARD | *Tenor* |

Conducted by A. G. LING.

First peal on the bells since retuning and rehanging in steel frame.

DUSTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(Northampton Branch.)
*On Tues., Dec. 9, 1952, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes.*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Consisting of two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *ALAN C. COZENS | *Treble* | KENNETH D. PERKINS | 4 |
| †GEORGE ROOME | 2 | BERTIE O. SODEN | 5 |
| IVOR J. DICKIN | 3 | ERIC NOBLES | *Tenor* |

Conducted by ERIC NOBLES.

* First peal of Minor with Treble Bob. † First peal of Minor in three methods. First peal of Minor since 1927.

Rung to commemorate the Dedication Festival.

STISTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
*On Wed., Dec. 10, 1952, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents. Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HAROLD W. MOORE | *Treble* | ALAN R. SYDER | 4 |
| *MRS. M. MOORE | 2 | SHIRLEY A. BARRINGER | 5 |
| ALBERT SAUNDERS | 3 | TERRY EARLE | *Tenor* |

Conducted by TERRY EARLE.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor.

NEWTON-NOTTAGE, GLAMORGAN.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Thurs., Dec. 11, 1952, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES**

Eleven 240's, plus the ten extents repeated.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CHARLES M. DAVIES | *Treble* | GWYN I. LEWIS | 4 |
| TREVOR M. RODERICK | 2 | *EDMUND J. MORRIS | 5 |
| ALFRED HANNINGTON | 3 | WILLIAM T. PETTY | *Tenor* |

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

* 25th peal. A tribute to churchfolk of the parish who are generously supporting the Welsh Church Appeal.

ASH, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Sat., Dec. 13, 1952, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being one extent each of Wells, London and Cambridge Surprise, and two each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PETER G. SHERWOOD | *Treble* | E. JOHN WELLS | 4 |
| REX J. CORKE | 2 | WILLIAM H. VIGGERS | 5 |
| G. KENNETH WILLIAMSON | 3 | EDWARD J. BRAGG | *Tenor* |

Conducted by EDWARD J. BRAGG.

First peal in five methods by all except the conductor. First in five methods as conductor.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Alfred Raggett and Miss Ena Butler, of Bentley.

BETHERSDEN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec.* 13, 1952, *in* 3 *Hours and* 15 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents. Tenor 16 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MARY F. FENSOME | *Treble* | ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD | 4 |
| HARRY BAKER | 2 | WILFRED W. RING | 5 |
| PERCY REEVES | 3 | WILLIAM C. MARSHALL | *Tenor* |

Conducted by WILFRED W. RING.

First peal as conductor.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. H. Jarvis, mother of Peter Jarvis, who was to have rung in the peal but was unable to do so owing to illness. Thanks are due to Mr. Reeves for standing in at short notice.

NEWICK, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec.* 13, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 36 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Consisting of a 720 each of (1) Cambridge Surprise, (2) Double Court, (3) Double Oxford Bob, (4) St. Clement's Bob, (5) Single Oxford Bob, (6) Oxford Treble Bob and (7) Kent Treble Bob.
Tenor 5 cwt. 27 lb. in B.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *C. JOHN PIPER | *Treble* | WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE | 4 |
| FREDK. J. LAMBERT, JUN. | 2 | ARTHUR F. LEWRY | 5 |
| †ARCHIBALD G. GRIMWOOD | 3 | FRANK H. HICKS | *Tenor* |

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

* 25th peal. † First peal in seven methods and also first extent of Surprise. First peal in seven methods on the bells. First peal on the bells since rehanging on ball bearings by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

Rung as an 85th birthday (Dec. 13th) compliment to Mrs. F. J. Lambert, sen.

PURLEIGH, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec.* 13, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 58 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| IVAN SAUNDERS | *Treble* | HORACE J. MANSFIELD | 4 |
| SIDNEY R. LINNETT | 2 | *ARTHUR HUBBLE | 5 |
| ERNEST W. RICHARDSON | 3 | SYDNEY C. EASTER | *Tenor* |

Conducted by ARTHUR HUBBLE.

* 25th peal.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mary Hubble.

RAYNE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec.* 13, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 50 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven extents. Tenor 7 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *JOHN BROWN | *Treble* | †HAROLD MOORE | 4 |
| MRS. M. MOORE | 2 | ALAN SYDER | 5 |
| RONALD SUCKLING | 3 | TERRY EARLE | *Tenor* |

Conducted by RONALD SUCKLING.

* First peal (age 12 years). † First peal 'inside.'

SANDON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec.* 13, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 43 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Two extents of Cambridge Surprise and one extent of Plain Bob. Tenor 10¼ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PETER J. CAME | *Treble* | ERNEST W. FURBANK | 4 |
| JOHN WEST | 2 | JOE E. G. ROAST | 5 |
| HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE | 3 | ARTHUR H. EDWARDS | *Tenor* |

Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.

First peal in four methods on the bells.

WILLINGHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Sat., Dec.* 13, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 45 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
**A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR**

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OLIVER NORMAN | *Treble* | E. JACK PARISH | 4 |
| *FRANK ELSOM | 2 | GEORGE A. WALKER | 5 |
| FRANK WARRINGTON | 3 | GEORGE E. CRISP | *Tenor* |

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

* First peal.

# GILLETT
AND
# JOHNSTON
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**No matter in which corner of the country you happen to be, as likely as not you will come across Gillett and Johnston bells or tower clocks.**

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BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON

# RINGERS I REMEMBER

### JOHN BUTTERY (Leicester).

IN my early days young aspirants to the art did not get the encouragement or opportunities that are possible to-day. My father introduced me into St. Mark's belfry along with my schoolmate, Fred Staniforth (now of Kibworth), just over fifty years ago. When we could handle a bell, if we got a 'rise' or a 'fall' we were lucky, especially if a full team turned up. Our job was to stay at the tower bottom and see that only ringers came in. St. Mark's at that time was in a slum area and 'drunks and disorderlies' were frequent and often caused trouble. Among the 'élite' of those days were the brothers Stephen and William Cooper, John Buttery, William Willson, Charles H. Fowler and others now gone to their rest.

One of the most outstanding and interesting personalities was John Buttery. He had 'inherited' the leadership of the old Leicester ringers from Edward Biggs, and for many years —long before my time—was the recognised conductor. He was an educated man and (I believe) in his younger days was a tea taster, which was a position of high repute. Alas, he fell on evil times and his taste developed for stronger beverages than tea!

His first peal was rung in 1869 at All Saints', Loughborough, on the old eight, and from that time he took part in many praiseworthy performances. His first peal as conductor was at St. Mary-de-Castro, Leicester, and in 1874 he took part in a peal of Caters at St. Mary's, Nottingham. In 1877 he composed and called the centenary peal of Caters at St. Margaret's commemorating the 10,080 rung there 100 years before. In 1880 he called the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung in Leicester, and in 1885 he called the first of Grandsire Caters for the old Midland Counties Association and also their first of Stedman Caters. In 1891 he turned St. Margaret's tenor in to the first peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal in Leicester. In 1894 he called Thurstans' Stedman Triples on handbells and later the first of Stedman Caters to be rung on handbells in the county. He took part in the 'silent' peals of Triples, Caters and Cinques, and most of his peals were of special merit.

Buttery was gifted with a ready speech and many are the tales told of his doings. He married a cousin, Fanny, and she, after the death of their first born, turned somewhat mental and led old Jack an awful life. He came down greatly in the social standard, yet still, in spite of it all, maintained a quiet dignity and dressed as well as he could.

### A PERSUASIVE CHARACTER

I never remember him without his walking stick! He developed a suasive tongue and could wheedle money out of anybody. He often used to go round for Christmas boxes two or three times a year, calling at factories and warehouses and shops all over the town! When he called the first peal of Stedman Caters in Leicester he went round and not only collected enough to erect a most elaborate board (now in St. Margaret's), but also to give a tripe and onion supper to all Leicester ringers. Once after ringing for Christmas at St. George's—then possessing six bells—he espied a wedding carriage stop nearby. He coaxed Mr. Willson to go with him and went and called on the bridegroom. After the usual congratulations he said, 'We have been ringing the bells for you.' The bridegroom replied, 'How could that be? I've just got married at Charles Street Chapel and there's no bells there.' Old Jack was not stumped—he said, 'Ah, yes! we knew that, so we rang at the nearest church!' They were taken in, given a glass of wine and 2s. 6d. each.

Another time after ringing muffled for a funeral there happened to be a wedding following. Old Jack went and told the wedding party they had been ringing. The bridegroom said, 'But you rang muffled!' Jack replied, 'Yes, but only one side—the open side was for you.' He collected the fee!

### CORONATION RINGING

Never shall I forget the Coronation of King George V. in 1911. All the city bells rang at given times during the day so that there was continuous ringing all the time. We at St. Margaret's started first, and after our spell old Jack went across the way to the 'Queen Victoria' Inn to wait the next turn. After this had been done St. Martin's rang a peal, and Jack—instead of going home for a meal—went and listened to this peal in the 'King and Crown' opposite. At the end of the day he was properly 'soaked.' He came down Church Gate on his sea-legs—all over the place—and how he got up St. Margaret's tower I do not know. While we rang a touch he sat in the corner and promptly went to sleep! Rousing him up to take part in the last touch of the day, he made vain efforts to pick up the end of the rope. It was therefore placed in his hand. Evidently he could see several sallies and could not grasp any, so this was also placed in his hand. Then 'Go' was called, and he—on the 2nd—rang a perfect touch with not the slightest sign of a bad blow—to my youthful amazement.

When he called my first touch of Caters I asked him how many changes that was: he replied, 'I can't tell you, my lad; I make it up as I go along.' However, the next week he brought the touch written out in pencil on a blue sugar bag! That night he called another 500 odd and the next week brought the figures written on the back of an old election paper! Once after ringing, the company adjourned to the 'Queen Victoria' opposite and after a time Jack was missed. A search failed to find him, so one went across to the belfry, but no sign of him there. Eventually they found him—fast asleep—on the bottom steps of the turret behind the door leading to the church.

Once when coming out from ringing, the leading ringers saw Fanny, dead drunk, being wheeled off to the police station on a handcart. They promptly blocked the door so that Jack should not see the sight. Fanny would, on occasion and for no apparent reason, when in company in the ringing hostel, suddenly go mad and scratch poor old Jack's face till the blood poured from it. In spite of all this he was a most lovable character and always did his best to keep respectable.

As has been shown, Buttery's performances were all of special merit, yet he was ever ready to stand down in favour of others and always willing to help a learner by imparting some good advice. He died on December 19th, 1913, aged 62, and six of his brother ringers bore him to his rest. I was one and took part in the handbell tribute over his grave.

ERNEST MORRIS.

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### BIRMINGHAM RINGING

(Continued from next column)

motto; W. H. Barber conducted it. I rang in the peal but was not one of the selected band. I was there helping to pull up the bells and look at the ropes. Mr. Ernest Holloway, now a trustee, failed to turn up, so I was roped in in his place and so rang my first touch of Maximus in 3 hours and 42 minutes, a feat of which I was very proud. There are only four of that band now living—Ald. A. P. Smith, Albert Walker, Joseph Piggott and your truly,

A. J. HUGHES.

## FIFTY YEARS AGO AT BIRMINGHAM

### Mr. A. J. Hughes' Reminiscences

Just over 50 years ago service ringing at St. Martin's was only done every third Sunday morning in each month when besides the local band notable ringers would attend from such distant places as Derby, Swindon, Cheltenham and Worcestershire and often stay until the Tuesday practice. There was no dearth of local ringers and four capable conductors were available in the persons of Bill Short (the regular conductor), W. H. Barber, J. E. Groves and Albert Walker.

The then Rector of St. Martin's informed the Guild that he saw no reason why the bells should not be rung regularly every Sunday morning, it being so well done once a month. A voluntary regular band was then formed and the bells have been rung regularly (except war period) every Sunday since. There are very few of this first regular band now with us. Among them are Alderman A. P. Smith, Albert Walker, J. Reggatt and myself (perhaps there are others). The tower-keeper then was Jobey Joines, followed by Frank Banks and John Neal. The methods were the four standard ones but chiefly Stedman, which was always rung faultlessly, Bill Short being a very capable and expert conductor.

Mr. Godden, of Barwell's bell foundry, was the secretary and held the post for 20 years, to be succeeded by A. P. Smith and Tom Reeves, each for another 20 years and now succeeded by the very capable ringer and conductor of the Cathedral band, Mr. George Fearn. In those days the bells of St. Philip's were in bad-going order and there were no regular practices, but the bells were always available for visitors on Henry Johnson Dinner days, and very occasional peals were attempted there. There was not the co-operation between the two bands then as there is at the present time.

There were many excellent ringers in the surrounding districts and there was always a good attendance on practice nights; if not in the belfry there would be familiar faces in the meeting house. Members of the band in those days included such ringers as Tom Russam, Tom Reynolds, A. E. Pegler, E. Holloway, W. H. Barber, T. Piggott, Tom Pigott, J. E. Groves, Det.-Sgt. Painter (tenor man), Syd Jessop, Bernard Witchell (Erdington) and his band of young ringers which included George Swan, Frank Fay; also Charles Dickens and John Dickin from Sutton and others I can't recall. The King's Norton men included the Master (Ald. J. S. Pritchett) and Percy Taplin, the Smethwick youths, Joe, Tom and George Piggott and the writer, Samuel Reeves, from West Bromwich, and later his son Tom. W. Rock Small (Tipton) and J. Jagger (Oldbury), previously from Burton-on-Trent, Walter Bryant and John Buffery, also of Smethwick, and many others. Frank Smallwood, I think, started at Bishop Ryder's. There was a practice night for the youngsters if they wanted it on every night of the week, Friday nights being at St. John's (Deritend), now demolished.

We must not leave out John Carter, the celebrated composer and inventor and maker of the first ringing machine, and Mr. Tom Miller, the bell tuner, who was a very capable tower and handbell ringer; also Harry Withers and John, from Selly Oak. The capabilities of each are too well known to need description.

I left the district in 1903 as also did W. H. Barber. I went to London, Bangor, Rhyll and Bradford and am now back in Bangor. W. H. Barber went to Bangor, Dublin, Edinburgh and Newcastle, in that order.

It will be 50 years on January 13th next that the first peal of Forward Maximus was rung at the Bull Ring. This peal was the creation of John Carter and named after the Birmingham

(Continued in previous column)

**BEDDINGTON, SURREY.**—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Winchester (first quarter) 1, A. Clayton 2, E. Reece (first quarter 'inside') 3, F. Jennings 4, J. Galyer 5, R. D. Tomlin (cond.) 6, L. Reece 7, S. Kimber 8.

**BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET.**—On Nov. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Floyd 1, E. Chapman 2, E. Young 3, F. Greedy 4, C. May 5, B. Jeanes 6, W. Gigg (cond.) 7, G. Burge 8. A farewell to Mr. E. Young, who is leaving for Stone, Staffs.

**BUCKLEY, FLINTSHIRE.**—On Dec. 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. E. Usher 1, R. Robinson 2, F. R. Evans 3, J. B. Budd 4, A. G. Watkin 5, F. H. Birks 6, D. H. B. Millward (cond.) 7, L. R. Millward (first quarter) 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Nancy P. Hanton Johnstone, formerly a ringer at this church.

**BEXLEY, KENT.**—At St. Mary's, on Dec. 7th, 1,260 Doubles (being 480 Plain Bob and 780 Grandsire): Miss W. M. Ward 1, Miss B. R Thompson (first quarter as cond.) 2, P. Braund (first 'inside') 3, P. P. Brown 4, J. Eden 5, Miss M. Andrews 6.

**COLCHESTER, ESSEX.**—On Dec. 13th, at St. Peter's Church, 1,280 Rutland Surprise Major: G. W. Rashbrook (79) 1, Jean M. Harris 2, F. L. Harris 3, E. E. S. Johnson 4, A. Cansdale (first of Surprise Major) 5, A. R. Andrews 6, H. J. Millatt (cond.) 7, E. P. Duffield 8. First touch of Rutland by all and on the bells.

**FARNBOROUGH, HANTS.**—On Dec. 7th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: K. H. Treweek 1, R. H. Mills 2, L. Knott 3, R. E. Woods 4, A. Page 5, T. Page (cond.) 6. First in method for 1, 2 and 4.

**GORLESTON-ON-SEA, NORFOLK.**—On Dec. 9th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: C. Parnell 1, J. G. W. Harwood 2, P. G. W. Newstead 3, A. Wigmore 4, J. Denton 5, A. W. Bird 6, R. Garwood 7, A. Crowe (cond.) 8. Rung as a compliment to the long service as ringer of C. Parnell (54 years), A. Crowe, J. Denton and J. Harwood (50 years).

**HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.**—On Dec. 14th, 1,320 Surprise Minor (669 Ipswich, 624 Cambridge Spliced): G. L. Perkins 1, F. Warrington (cond.) 2, F. R. Nicholls 3, W. Ransom 4, A. Clements 5, H. S. Peacock 6.

**HELLINGLY, SUSSEX.**—On Dec. 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Joyce M. Roberts (first quarter) 1, G. Beeney 2, B. Stepney (cond.) 3, C. J. Piper 4, C. Booth 5, A. Ellis 6.

## QUARTER PEALS

**HERNHILL, KENT.**—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: H. Manuel 1, C. Eades 2, B. J. Luck 3, Miss E. S. Wyles 4, E. Eades 5, W. S. Palin (cond.) 6 F. Pack 7, R. Harris 8.

**HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.**—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Cornwall (first quarter) 1, R. Biggs 2, A. Newton 3, A. Cox 4, N. Cornwall 5, W. Lee 6, P. Newton (cond.) 7, V. Evans 8. First quarter on the bells since recasting.

**KETTERING, NORTHANTS.**—On Dec. 16th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: R. V. Chapman (first quarter) 1, L. G. Toseland (first of Major) 2, R. F. Turner 3, R. G. Black 4, C. W. Bird 5, H. Baxter 6, R. March 7, P. I. Chapman (cond.) 8. A 16th birthday compliment to R. V. Chapman.

**LONG BUCKBY, NORTHANTS.**—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Doubles, comprising 120 each of Norfolk, Old Bob, Kennington, April Day, Plain Bob, Southrepps Pleasure, Clifford and Canterbury and 300 Grandsire: J. Eales 1, R. Holland 2, M. Amos 3, S. Summers 4, E. Orland (cond.) 5. First quarter in nine methods by the local band.

**LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK.**—At St. Margaret's Church, on Dec. 11th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Howlett (cond.) 1, E. Newson 2, A. Bird 3, J. Kindred 4, A. Coleman 5, D. Mitchell 6, R. Coates 7, P. Kindred 8.

**LYME REGIS, DORSET.**—On Dec. 14th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. S. Morris (cond.) 1, E. L. Taylor 2, Mrs. C. W. Powell 3, H. Arscott 4, A. Scott 5, G. Whitemore 6, R. Keeley 7, H. G. Keeley 8. Rung for Confirmation service.

**MANGOTSFIELD, GLOS.**—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Beakes 1, E. Palmer 2, M. Wiltshire 3, M. Jefferies 4, W. F. Scudamore (cond.) 5, J. Jefferies 6, J. G. Jefferies 7, T. Jefferies 8. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to the late Mr. W. H. Seers, of Bath.

**NEWPORT PAGNELL, BUCKS.**—On Dec. 6th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: M. Orme (first on eight bells) 1, P. Croft 2, P. Mehew 3, J. Church 4, D. Gullick 5, W. Todd 6, E. Winter 7, F. Croft (cond.) 8.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At St. Giles' Church on Dec. 6th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal: H. Wooding 1, J. King 2, B. P. Morris 3, J. E. Skerrit 4, E. E. Whitmore 5, B. Austin 6, W. Whitmore 7, B. Cope 8, G. E. Watson 9, R. G. Care 10. A birthday compliment to Mrs. G. Care.

**NOTTINGHAM.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Dec. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Giles (first quarter) 1, Joan Hoodless 2, C. Barnes 3, G. Glenn 4, A. Simpson 5, P. H. Speck 6, W. Nichols (cond.) 7, A. E. Hoodless 8. In memoriam Fred Blood.

**RIPPINGALE, LINCS.**—At St. Andrew's Church, on Nov. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. R. Marsh 1, Mrs. H. Adams 2, Mrs. V. Williamson 3, J. Nichols 4, B. Boyfield 5, N. Whitney (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. S. Laxton, a local ringer for 50 years, who was at one time secretary of the tower.

**SALISBURY, WILTS.**—At St. Paul's Church, on Dec. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (with 4, 6, 8 covering): J. Turner (first quarter) 1, Miss E. Eloie 2, F. E. Manns (cond.) 3, J. Maidment 4, P. Blackman 5, Miss E. Ball 6, W. Romaine 7, J. Merrifield 8. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to F. Yule, ringer and choirman.

**SAPCOTE, LEICS.**—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Doubles (180 Stedman, 1,080 Grandsire): Rita Stratford 1, Christine Stratford 2, R. Hall 3, A. Chapman 4, M. E. Brown (cond.) 5, J. Turner 6. Also on Dec. 14th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: R. Hall 1, Dorothy Stratford 2, T. Cooper 3, M. Abbott 4, A. Chapman 5, M. E. Brown (cond.) 6. First 'inside' for 2 and 5. Both rung by the Sunday service ban.

**SYDNEY, N.S.W.**—On Nov. 30th, at St. Mary's Basilica, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Miss M. Winter (first of Major) 1, G. Logan (first of Major 'inside') 2, Miss J. Wells 3, J. J. Cummins 4, K. Stacey 5, E. J. Fowell 6, T. W. Goodyear 7, L. R. Curran (first of Major as cond.) 8. First of Major on the bells. Rung in memoriam R. H. McDonald (late captain of St. Mary's).

**WIDCOMBE, BATH.**—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (silent): H. Newman 1, W. Prescott 2, G. Hawkins 3, R. Fry 4, S. Woodburn 5, R. Perry 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. W. H. Seers, tower master of Widcombe for many years, who died on December 5th, aged 92.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

# 'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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*Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.*

HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER: E. A. BARNETT, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford, Kent (Phone Bexleyheath 8689).

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:—
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD (convener), 122, Lee Road, Blackheath, London, S.E.3.
FRANK I. HAIRS.
JOSEPH T. DYKE.
HAROLD J. POOLE.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.


**We start 1953 with a number of new postal subscribers, but we want many more. The co-operation of meeting organisers and tower captains towards achieving this aim would be much appreciated.**

## BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. Geo. Stacey, the grand old man of Minehead, has just retired after 50 years as secretary of the Dunster branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association. Has such a record of being a ringing secretary ever been surpassed?

There was an assembly of veterans at Gorleston-on-Sea on Dec. 9th, when 1,344 Plain Bob Major was rung. The quarter was in honour of C. Parnell (54 years a ringer), A. Crowe, J. Denton and J. Harwood (each 50 years).

A strong contingent of Chester Guild ringers visited London on Dec. 13th and rang a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus on the bells of Southwark Cathedral in four hours and five minutes.

To the list of octogenarian peal ringers must be added the name of Mr. Samuel Jones, of the Chester Diocesan Guild. He rang the treble to a peal of Grandsire Triples at Eccleston for his 84th birthday on Dec. 13th.

From Shirley, Birmingham, we have received this week a progress report of the girl trainees in the tower. They now number eleven between the ages of 12 and 18 and are making progress. Three can ring 'inside' for Grandsire Triples and the remainder are able to plain hunt in the same method. Three can ring the tenor behind for touches.

At Eardisland, where a ring of eight has been provided, local opinion is divided as to whether the bell-hanger and his assistant worked all night or slept in the tower. Hot drinks were delivered in an effort to keep them warm; there was no time to shave so the beards they grew kept out the cold. Their persistent toil was rewarded; the last details were completed with two hours to spare before the dedication service.

Chester-le-Street has a novel memorial to King George VI. in the form of a rose bed shaped like a St. Cuthbert's Cross, containing 56 rose bushes—one for each year of the late King's life. The dedication of the memorial was followed by a peal on Dec. 6th. Two of the ringers were Durham University students—Enid Preston, of Luton, and William Smith, of Buxton. Their help to the local band while 'in residence' is much appreciated.

We hear frequently of 50 years a ringer, but it is a rare distinction for one closely connected with ringing to complete over 50 years as churchwarden. The bells of Maulden, Bedfordshire, were rung to a peal in honour of this fine record of Mr. C. W. Sinfield.

It was a disappointment that Mr. Peter Jarvis was unable to stand in the peal at Bethersden, Kent, on Dec. 13th owing to illness. At short notice Mr. Percy Reeves deputised for him, and his action was much appreciated by the band.

'The Bristol Evening Post' featured recently an article dealing with the bells and ringing personalities in the five churches in the Gordano valley in North Somerset. The Ladies' Guild should remember the Gordano valley, as two ringers from Portishead rang in the first all-ladies' peal at Cubitt Town in 1912.

Who was the West Country ringer who on the previous occasion he left his native county forgot the name of the village in which he was staying? It is said that he went to a bus depot to see if he could spot the name on the front of the bus. Knowing this propensity for forgetfulness, he was well looked after when he recently spent a few days in the Home Counties, and to the gratification of all concerned has arrived home safely.


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Etc.

# SCARBOROUGH RINGERS PROUD OF THEIR BELLS

THE restored ring of eight at St. Mary's Parish Church, Scarborough, Yorks, was rededicated at morning service on Sunday, Dec. 7th, by the Archdeacon of York, the Venerable G. F. Townley, a former Vicar of Scarborough. The tower had been silent since the middle of August, when Messrs. Gillett and Johnston removed the bells for retuning. Returned towards the end of last month, they now hang in new fittings throughout, on one level.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Frank E. Ford (Vicar), assisted by the Rev. Sydney J. Smith (Curate). Matins over, there came an inspired rendering of Purcell's bell anthem, 'Rejoice in the Lord alway.'

The act of rededication took place immediately after the anthem. Eight of the twelve ringers left their pews and made their way up to the tower, while the Captain, Bert Sutton, and a representative of the Yorkshire Association (Mr. Edward Hudson, Northern District Secretary) moved forward to the chancel, followed by the churchwardens and the Vicar. Handing the verger's Communion rope to the Archdeacon as a token of those in the tower above, the Vicar said: 'Venerable Sir, we request you to rededicate the bells, which have been tuned and restored and now hang in this tower to the glory of God and the use of this Church.' The Archdeacon then rededicated the bells and one minute of rounds was rung, the ringers standing in the following order: H. Robson, W. B. Kirby, J. A. Robertshaw, G. Sutton, W. H. Barker, H. Spencer, G. W. Frayne and G. Beach. All then returned to their seats during the singing of the hymn 'Lifted high within the tower, all our bells are set on high.'

### ARCHDEACON'S ADDRESS

The Archdeacon based his address on the text, 'In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses holiness unto the Lord' (Zechariah xiv. 20).

He began by thanking the Vicar for the honour bestowed upon him in being asked to rededicate the bells of his old parish, and congratulated the people of St. Mary's on their bold efforts to preserve their 900 year old church, the restoration of the ring of bells being part of a much larger scheme.

Having always been a lover of bells, he regretted that until he became Vicar of Scarborough he had never had a ring of bells at any of the churches of which he had been incumbent. When at St. Barnabas', Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, he had secured a ring of eight for that church, including three pre-Reformation bells, but the war had intervened and the church was still without a tower and the bells were in storage.

The Archdeacon then told the congregation something of the history of British campanology. In tracing the growth and development of ringing and, in speaking of the part which bells played in the life of the English people, he displayed a knowledge of the Exercise which could only come from one who dearly loved bells and ringers. He spoke of the thrill he experienced when the war-time ban was lifted and he had had to find ringers at short notice. Only Mr. Barker of the present band had been available then, but Mr. George Halksworth, although almost eighty years of age, had come forward and, with members of H.M. Forces who were stationed there, they had raised a team. The bells had rung again as they had been ringing since 1852 and as they would again be ringing now. St. Mary's bells were part of Scarborough known and loved by residents and visitors alike, and they would go on calling people to worship. 'The bells of St. Mary's and other churches ring out to call people to church,' he said. 'Another Christmas is approaching, and St. Mary's bells will ring out a message of peace and goodwill to all men. It is goodwill we want in the world to-day, and it can only be given by men and women who live together in happiness and holiness with God.'

The text, which has been used a good many times in services at which ringers have been present, was given an interesting interpretation by the preacher. He pointed out that the mitre of the high priest bore an inscription similar to that which the prophet Zechariah hoped see upon the bells of the horses. Behind this rather odd vision lay the hope that the day would come in which every work of artist and craftsman would speak of the holiness (wholeness) of God, and all departments of life would acknowledge Christ as King. It was significant that the rededication of Scarborough bells was taking place on the Second Sunday in Advent, Bible Sunday, for the central message of the Bible was that of the bells' witness to a God who lives and reigns supreme.

After the service members of the congregation packed the newly-decorated bell chamber to watch the bells being rung, and in 20 years the writer has never seen so many people there at one time. The Archdeacon mounted the stairs to shake hands with all the ringers, and was the first to sign a handsome new visitors' book given for the occasion by Mrs. Davison, in memory of her husband, Frank, who was a ringer there from 1898 to 1938.

Numerous expressions of appreciation on the improved tone have since been made, which can be summed up in the Vicar's comment, 'They certainly sound better outside.' That the restoration has made an immense improvement in both their tone and 'go' is the considered verdict of the local ringers.

# A GENEROUS GIFT TO POCKLINGTON

## A New Yorkshire Eight

IN 1914 five old bells in the Parish Church of All Saints, Pocklington, Yorks, were recast and a new treble was presented by Mr. Francis Scaife and his wife to commemorate their silver wedding. At the same time a frame for eight was installed. Now, after many years, the octave is complete.

Mr. Francis Scaife, a member of an old Pocklington family, for 16 years filled the office of churchwarden. He died on October 29th, 1937, but his devotion to his Parish Church was not limited by his death.

In accordance with his will, fine, lucent glass now gleams in the great west window of the tower, and two new bells, the one commemorating the testator, and the other Mary Jane, his wife, at length complete the ring. But even these notable gifts do not complete his generosity. £400 is bequeathed for the payment of ringers; £100 for their instruction, and £100 for the improvement of the choir.

Mrs. Mary Jane Scaife, who was born in the year of the battle of Inkerman, died on January 9th, 1952, at the age of almost 98 years.

The gifts were dedicated on December 6th by the Rev. I. McNaughton Smith, Rector of Rounton (formerly Vicar of Pocklington) who also preached the sermon. Taking as his text 'The latter glory of this House shall be greater than the former, saith the Lord of Hosts, and in this House will I give peace,' the preacher recalled the devotion of Francis Scaife and his family to the church and his great work for the restoration and preservation of the fabric. He said he was glad to see so many young people present at that service and commended to them the dignity and joy of bellringing which was not simply a matter of tugging at ropes but was a matter of great skill and service to the church.

After the dedicatory prayers rounds were rung by the local ringers under the leadership of Mr. C. Bairstow. At the conclusion of the service Mr. Bairstow was joined by ringers from Beverley, Hull and York, and a touch of 504 Stedman Triples was rung. Mr. J. P. Fidler (representing the founders of the new trebles, Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough) also took part. Further ringing took place under the direction of Mr. S. H. Steel, District Ringing Master, Yorkshire Association.

At tea Canon F. Richardson, Vicar of Pocklington, welcomed the visitors and said it was a proud day for his own ringers who were fortunate in having, as leader, Mr. Bairstow, who had arranged for the bells to be rung for all the Sunday services.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. A. E. Sellars, (vice-president, Yorkshire Association and president, Beverley and District Society), who said Pocklington now had a very nice ring of eight and he was pleased to hear the bells were to be rung every Sunday, which was the most important thing.

Mr. H. Walker seconded and said there was a connection between Pocklington and York because five of the old bells were originally cast in the York foundry. Again, in 1914, when the bells were recast by Warners, the same firm were busy 'cobbling' the Minster bells. The work at York only lasted a few years but that at Pocklington much longer. He congratulated the local ringers on having acquired two very beautiful treble bells which rather improved the sound of the old six; the tenor was rather poor and should be recast as soon as possible.

Mr. J. P. Fidler said that, as was usual, his firm had made the best possible job of the work they had undertaken. He was not satisfied with the old bells but that could not be helped.

Mr. C. Bairstow replied on behalf of the local ringers and said they were not experienced campanologists but that was of secondary consideration to the bells being rung for Sunday services. He had made arrangements that would result in all eight bells being rung every Sunday for the next six months at least.

### INSCRIPTIONS

The new bells are inscribed:—

Treble.—'Francis Scaife Bonæ Memoriæ Me Dedit.'

Second.—'Hilariter Resono, Francis Scaife Inbente.'

On each is the foundry mark of John Taylor and Co. and '1952.'

The inscriptions on the six old bells are:—

Third.—'Presented by Francis Scaife and his wife Mary Jane Scaife (nee Howbrigg) to commemorate their silver wedding.' John Warner and Co., 1914.

Fourth.—'Te Deum Laudamus.' G. Dalton, York, 1784. R. Walker, J. Gartham, churchwardens.

Fifth.—'Voco Veni Precare.' S.S. Ebor 1912. J. Lowe, Vicar, J. Manby, C. Baitson, churchwardens.

Sixth.—'Gloria in Altisimis Deo.' E. Sellars Ebor, 1734. Wil. Chambers, Thomas Linton, churchwardens.

Seventh.—'Soli Deo Gloria Pax Hominibus' 1650. M.B.P.B. I.L. P55.

Tenor.—'Memento Mori' S.S. Ebor. 1722. Joseph Lowe, Vicar. George Overend, John Horsley, churchwardens.

On the back five: 'Recast by John Warner and Co. 1914.'

The tenor weighs 17 cwt. 11 lb. H. W.

## OBITUARY

### MR. W. H. SEERS

The news of the death of Mr. W. H. Seers was received by his many ringing friends with regret. This grand old man of West Country ringing passed away at Southmead Hospital, Bristol, on December 5th, only a few days short of his 93rd birthday. He had recently undergone a major operation, which had been preceded by several months of illness.

'General Smuts,' as he was known to the members of both the Bath and Wells and the Gloucester and Bristol Associations, learnt to ring in the city of Bath in 1875, and at that time had many connections with the Abbey. He later took up residence in the parish of Widcombe, where he joined the band of ringers at St. Matthew's. It was at this tower that he held for a great number of years the post of Master and steeplekeeper.

In 1930 he came to live in Bristol and soon attached himself to the towers of Warmley and Mangotsfield, where his enthusiasm and genial disposition made him a welcome personality.

He was never a great peal ringer, having only rung seven, but this did not stop his enthusiasm, for at the grand age of 90 he rang his last quarter peal.

He was a regular attender at the branch meetings, when he was so often heard to tell tales of his weird activities as an undertaker, and of how he survived the tragic Wellow railway disaster whilst attending the St. Matthew's ringers' outing in 1876.

The funeral service was held at the Chapel of the Abbey Cemetery, Bath, on Dec. 11th, conducted by the Rector of Mangotsfield, the Rev. W. P. Beard. There were many ringing friends present from both Mangotsfield and Bath. Handbells were rung at the graveside by W. F. Scudamore (secretary of the Bristol Rural Branch) 1–2, J. G. Jefferies (Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association) 3–4, W. Baverstock (Bath) 5–6, W. Prescott (Master of Bath Abbey) 7–8.

During the evening half-muffled quarter peals were rung as a token of respect to a loyal churchman at St. Matthew's, Bath, and St. James', Mangotsfield. W. F. S.

### MR. ISAAC SIDEBOTTOM

Friday, November 28th, saw the passing, at 80 years, of a great Cheshire ringer, Mr. Isaac Sidebottom, of Mottram. He began his eventful peal ringing career in 1890 with a peal of Grandsire Triples at Mottram, but soon followed the Mottram tradition of Kent Treble Bob, and almost all the rest of his fifty or so peals were in this method.

He soon became a conductor, usually calling from the treble, and took the Mottram band through many 'long lengths' of Kent, leading up to the then longest in the method. This was 16,680 changes composed by E. Timbrell, and rung at Mottram in 9 hours and 40 minutes on June 8th, 1906. He was the last surviving member of this band.

Mr. Sidebottom had not rung for some time, being bedridden for the last five years.

On Saturday, December 6th, a fully-muffled peal in his favourite method was rung on Mottram bells. B. H.

### MR. FRED BLOOD

The death occurred last week of Mr. Fred Blood at the age of 75. He was an old member of the Midland Counties Association, and at one time secretary of the Nottingham district.

For 16 years he was a regular service ringer at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Nottingham, until ill health and increasing deafness compelled him to retire. His association with the tower and his interest in ringing were maintained to the last.

The funeral took place on Saturday, Dec. 13th, preceded by a service at St. Mary's Church, conducted by the Vicar (Canon R. H. Hawkins), and attended by fellow ringers.

## YORK MINSTER

At the Snowdon Dinner the Dean of York announced that during the forthcoming restoration of the south-west tower the opportunity would be taken to block up the louvres and alter the roof by inserting louvres behind the parapets. This, he said, would have the effect of softening the sound of the bells near the tower, but would enable them to be heard at greater distance. A similar alteration had been carried out at Lincoln, and he saw no reason why it should not be done at York.

The work of restoring the west front is now well in hand; scaffolding has been taken up to the parapet of the nave gable and much stonework has already been renewed. A start has been made with the scaffolding of the south-west tower, and this will reach to the pinnacles before work on the fabric commences. Several years will elapse before the work of restoration is completed, and it may be necessary to stop all ringing for a period, but in the end this magnificent ring of twelve will be heard to far greater advantage than ever before.

## FORTY YEARS AGO

**Extract from 'The Ringing World' December 27th, 1912**

LONDON

The Middlesex County Association

On Thursday, December 19th, 1912, in 2 hours and 43 minutes

At Brunswick Street, Haggerston

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5,031 CHANGES

| | |
|---|---|
| Bertram Prewett .. .. | 1–2 |
| William Shepherd .. | 3–4 |
| James Hunt .. .. .. | 5–6 |
| E. Maurice Atkins .. | 7–8 |
| Alfred W. Grimes .. | 9–10 |

Composed by C. Charge.
Conducted by William Shepherd.

All the above company have scored over 50 peals during 1912.

[Probably a unique performance, though it could doubtless have been equalled in Birmingham or Leicester during recent years. The above band averaged just over 76 peals each when the final totals for 1912 were known.]

## PRESTBURY BELLS AND THE DAYS OF EYE

In the year 1889 the existing Rudhall six at Prestbury, Gloucestershire, were rehung in a new frame by the Days, and two new trebles added to complete the octave. There can be no doubt about this as there is the name carved in the frame for all who choose to go up the ladder and see. And what a frame it is! Those bells have never been silent for any long period in these 63 years and many a peal has been rung on them. The bearings just wore out and now they have been replaced by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank by ball bearings.

On December 3rd the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Hill), the curate, Jack Thomas, who did the job, and the local band met in the tower for a short service after which the bells were rung again. Their silence lasted four months. It is a lovely job and with a frame as good as any for miles around the ringers look forward to another long unbroken period of ringing.

A cheque for £281, which more than covers the cost, was handed to the church treasurer by the ringers.

Those whose bells need attention can take inspiration from Prestbury. It can be done. A welcome awaits any who may visit Prestbury for service ringing on Sundays at 5.30 or at practice on Tuesdays. C. R.

## HIS 84th BIRTHDAY

### Mr. Samuel Jones, of Eccleston

Saturday, Dec. 13th, was a great occasion in the village of Eccleston, Cheshire, for on this day Mr. Samuel Jones, that veteran of the Chester Diocesan Guild, celebrated his 84th birthday. Such an event naturally called for ringing and, with Sam himself on the treble, an excellent peal of Grandsire Triples was brought round in 3 hours 17 minutes, his son calling from the sixth.

Prolonged 'firing' afterwards proclaimed the success to the village. Sam rang faultlessly throughout, expressed himself entirely satisfied with the performance and, after a young lady representing the Press had covered several pages with mysterious hieroglyphics, led the way to his house.

Here the band was met by members of his family, the Rector and other friends who had gathered for the party. A table loaded with good things for the 'inner man' carried as its centre-piece a handsome cake topped with four candles—the odd eighty being omitted for the sake of convenience, since it might have taken longer to light and extinguish them with befitting dignity than to ring the peal!

Following a sumptuous repast, glasses were charged and Mr. Sam Jones, jun., gave the toast of the day, expressing the congratulations and good wishes of all who were privileged to be present. Then followed the talk of bells and peals which by tradition must always take place when ringers gather together until, with further expressions of goodwill, affectionate farewells were taken and Sam was left to enjoy a well-earned smoke by the fireside.

Mr. Jones is well known to ringers all over the country, for the glorious eight at Eccleston have at some time or other attracted most of the famous men of the day and a great many more of the not so famous. A glance at the visitors' book in the tower will clearly indicate how true this is. Sam has received most of them, led the way in the long climb to the ringing chamber and even to-day is usually the least affected by the exertion. He has a wonderful memory for names and faces and, as might be expected, a great store of anecdotes, some amusing, many very interesting and some illuminating!

He has been a towerkeeper at Eccleston since ringing commenced 45 years ago, and during the whole of that time the bells have been his untiring interest. The fact that they go as well as ever is a tribute to the care and attention which he has given them. He possesses that rare human quality, reliability.

Illness? No. What, never? Well, hardly ever. The writer can only once in 30 years remember his being ordered to bed, a procedure which caused him to take an extremely poor view of the medical profession in general. It is perhaps hardly necessary to add that his stay in bed was of the shortest possible duration.

Many ringers from many towers will wish to associate themselves with the congratulations and good wishes expressed by those who rang in the birthday peal of Cheshire's 'evergreen' Sam Jones. J. W. C.

### 5,120 TREBLE BOB MAJOR

By NOLAN GOLDEN

| M | B | W | H | 23456 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | — | 42356 |
| 2 | — | 1 | 2 | 26354 |
| | — | 2 | 2 | 42563 |
| 2 | | | 2 | 24365 |
| 1 | — | | 2 | 63425 |
| 2 | * | | 2 | 65324 |
| 2 | — | 1 | 2 | 54326 |
| 1 | — | 2 | 1 | 32546 |

* In and 5ths.
Repeated.

Contains 6th extent in 5-6 and 4 and 5 extent in 6ths

Rung at Wells, Norfolk, September 14th, 1952

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### ARRANGING OUTINGS

Dear Sir,—Following the publication of the letters by two clergy on the legal custodianship of church bells, several of my fellow ringers in this district have requested me to reply giving the facts as to how I proceed in arranging all the very happy and successful outings which we have completed.

Firstly, write to the district secretary, who will gladly forward all details, such as tower captains' addresses, possibilities of permission, state of bells, places available for meals and, yes! even parking facilities for coaches. Then write to the addresses supplied, not forgetting replies paid, and afterwards a letter of thanks to the local ringers and ALL the church authorities.

We must remember that very large efforts have been made in the past to unite all ringers into a Christian fellowship by belonging to our local associations which are affiliated to the Central Council, thereby making us into a large army of comrades.

The attitude of 'I'm Boss' is greatly to be deplored. All ringers know who are, but it's very unchristianlike to keep rubbing it in; after all, they are paid servants of the Church, whilst we are voluntary workers, and usually do the work in raising funds for repairs, etc.?

In the few instances that I have been advised to write to the incumbent very few have been satisfactory, and one replied that he supposed he'd better give consent, but could not see anything in it, as his choir never wanted to tour round singing in different churches, so I replied, saying, 'If that's the idea you have of fostering Christian fellowship we shall not be coming.'

Our own Vicar leaves the choir to our organist and the bells to us, and our whole church runs very smoothly. On his arrival here he informed me that he would not interfere only in case of trouble, and his services have never been required.

My own home church, which used to be thriving like my present one, had a new dictatorial incumbent in 1939, and there are now no ringers, and a very small choir, with an even smaller congregation.

Less than 20 miles from here a good octave was installed free of all cost to the church, and has been practically silent for years, until a new incumbent was installed a few months ago.

Some ringers are difficult to handle, some suffer with an overdose of 'I'm It,' some are not such good ringers as others, but all large organisations must contain these people, but if we ignore these little faults of one another and get on with doing our very best, we shall become the envy of every other organisation. This year I have received five letters unopened from our Vicar addressed to the Ringers' Captain, c/o The Vicarage.—Yours sincerely,

OUTING ORGANISER.

P.S.—Our own Vicar commands the respect of us all by his lovable and understanding attitude.

### VAR. TRANS. REVERSE CALLINGS

Dear Sir,—I do not wish to distress Mr. Corby, but . . .

Act I.: At the Chapel in the valley the sexton is chiming the one bell for Matins.

Act II.: Enters the Vicar, who asks, 'What are you ringing this morning?' The Sexton: 'Johnson's, but not the variation, nor the transposition, nor the reverse, but just a version for you to see whether this old bell hits the clapper on either side. It sounds just the same to me.'

Best Christmas wishes, Mr. and Mrs. Corby. —Yours truly,

F. WARRINGTON.

### THE ROCHDALE MEETING

Dear Sir,—The annual meeting of the Rochdale Branch, Lancashire Association, on Dec. 13th last, was advertised in 'The Ringing World' notices to take place at Rochdale Parish Church. On arriving there at 3 p.m. we found the bells, as a ring, to be out of order; a clapper was missing from one of the middle bells. None of the local ringers was there to meet us, which is not unusual for the Parish Church, and the first notice we received of the missing clapper was a chalked notice on a box in the ringing chamber.

All Saints', Rochdale, ringers immediately came to the rescue and took us over to their church, where we held the meeting. A notice was left on the Parish Church door to this effect.

May I apologise to any ringers who may have been inconvenienced by travelling to Rochdale and finding the Parish Church deserted.

Our thanks are due to All Saints' ringers and their Vicar for allowing the meeting to take place there without any notice whatsoever.—Yours faithfully, F. PRITCHARD,

Rochdale Branch Secretary.

### HEXTON'S DANGEROUS BELLS

Dear Sir,—With reference to your report on the condition of the tower and bells at Hexton, Hertfordshire, on behalf of the Towers and Belfries Committee of the Central Council I have taken up the matter with the Central Council for the Care of Churches who have approached the Diocesan Authorities regarding the necessary immediate action which should be taken to preserve the bells.—Yours sincerely, FREDERICK SHARPE.

Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

### FIRST LADY TO CONDUCT PEAL IN IRELAND

Dear Sir,—Surely the footnote to the peal at Hillsborough should read 'The first lady resident in Ireland to conduct a peal in the country.'

One has recollections of a peal of Stedman Caters rung at Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, on July 30th, 1927, conducted by (as she then was) Miss E. K. Fletcher. This performance was rung for the Irish Association and should be in the report for that year.

A CORRESPONDENT.

Oldham, Lancashire.

### NORFOLK IMPERIAL

Dear Sir,—Could any reader tell me what method was rung to the name 'Norfolk Imperial,' as it is not given in the Table of Performances in the new Plain Major book. I believe the peal was rung some time towards the end of 1946, presumably in Norfolk. —Yours sincerely, D. A. FRITH.

Grantham.

### Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following contributions to meet the cost of 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—A. G. A. Caldwell 7s. 6d., Miss Jean Causley 7s., H. C. Spencer 2s. 6d., Trevor M. Roderick 4s. 6d., W. Mawley 5s., F. E. Roberts 17s. 6d., E. Garrard 7s. 6d., F. Skidmore 7s. 6d., Mrs. Chandler 2s. 6d.

Peals. — Exeter 9s., Balhampton 3s., Stony Stratford 4s., Bethersden 2s., Ash 3s., Willingham 2s., Blankney, Lincs., 3s., Mangotsfield 2s., Alverstone 4s.

Quarter Peals.—Lyme Regis 2s. 6d., Salisbury 2s., Hemingford Abbots 1s.

**WINDSOR, BERKS.**—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Painter (first quarter) 1, E. S. T. Farr (cond.) 2, R. Tabraham 3, E. Armstrong 4, K. Buckingham 5, A. J. Glass 6, B. Taylor 7, J. Painter 8.

## BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Chew Deanery Branch was held at Portishead on December 6th. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m. and continued until the service, which was conducted by the Rev. C. G. Shipley, who gave a few words of welcome.

Tea was taken at a nearby cafe and the Rector of Portishead (the Rev. W. L. M. Coombes) presided at the business meeting which followed.

Officers were elected as follows:—Chairman and Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Knight; vice-chairmen, Messrs. L. Derrick and L. Pullin; secretary and treasurer and representative on the Diocesan General Committee, Mr. P. G. Yeo.

Mr. George Yeo, who has been a ringer at Long Ashton for 65 years and the Diocesan Committee Representative for over 40 years, announced his resignation from the office. Tributes were paid and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Yeo for his long and faithful service.

Three new members were elected from Clapton-in-Gordano, four from Wraxall and three from Kingston-Seymour.

It was decided that, subject to permission being granted, the next quarterly meeting should be held at Chew Magna in April, with practices at Winford, Nailsea and Chew Stoke for January, February and March respectively. The bi-annual Corporate Communion will be held at Wraxall on April 26th.

After the usual votes of thanks a return was made to the tower. M. J. H.

## LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The minutes of the November meeting record another successful gathering at Liversedge on November 29th.

The bells were raised in peal at 3 p.m., and ringing enjoyed until tea time at 5 p.m. The Liversedge company are to be congratulated on arranging tea when most of the visiting members did not send in any notification of their intention to be present.

The business meeting was held in the same room. The President was chairman, and members were present from Armley, Collingham, Drighlington, Elland, Guiseley, Halifax, Headingley St. Chad's, Leeds Parish Church, Liversedge, Pudsey, Rothwell and Thorner.

Three new members were elected, viz.: Miss Dorothy Hogg (Leeds Parish Church), Miss E. M. Bryce (Headingley St. Chad's), and Brian C. Capewell (Liversedge).

A vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the local company was proposed by Mr. Irvin Slack, and seconded by Mr. T. W. Strangeway, and duly carried. The Vicar, acknowledging the thanks, referred to Fred Hodgson and the many years' service he had given to the Liversedge tower; he is missed greatly. Mr. Ernest Betts supported the Vicar, and said they were always pleased to see the Society, and hoped everyone had enjoyed themselves.

As this was the last meeting the Society would hold this year, the President wished everyone a happy Christmas and looked forward to seeing all members at the next meeting in January, 1953.

### HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY

Nine members of the Huddersfield District Society visited Ashton-under-Lyne on December 6th. An excellent quarter peal of Treble Bob Major and a touch of 576 were rung at St. Peter's in the afternoon.

Following a good tea, ringing took place at the Parish Church. Treble Bob Major and Royal were rung, although striking was uneven for a time. Striking improved, and various touches were introduced before a good lower in peal took place at 8.45 p.m. Thanks are due to Mr. Gee, a former member, and now residing near Ashton, for the excellent arrangements.

# BELLS IN ENGLISH LIFE

By ERNEST MORRIS

(Continued from page 557.)

SOME of the earliest bells on record were unquestionably very small and probably of the kind one still sees on the baby's rattle, viz., a hollow metal sphere with a loose pellet inside it. Such bells in all likelihood formed the fringe of the robe of the High Priest (Exodus 28 ch., 31-34 v.; also 39 ch., 25-26 v., and Ecclesiastes 45 ch., 9 v.), in which they were placed alternately with pomegranates, all being made of gold. This addition of bells on robes or vestments was intended to help the worshippers to follow mentally the steps of their hierarch as he passed into those sacred portions of the Tabernacle which were concealed from all eyes but his own.

In mediæval times a similar method arose of adorning the vestments of Christian priesthood. We have notices of several magnificent robes which were thus decorated. Conrad, Abbot of Canterbury, had a cope fringed with 140 little silver bells and 51 of silver gilt tinkled round a cope of Lanfranc.

Ricalfus, Bishop of Soissons, in his will dated 915, speaks of stoles adorned in a similar manner, and Peterborough Abbey had maniples of a like kind.

## BELLS ON CLOTHING

Ladies also wore little bells jingling at their girdles; knights attached them to their armour; and the high curled shoes of the time frequently ended with a bell on the pointed toe. In this connection we are reminded of our nursery rhyme:—

'Ride a cock-horse, to Banbury Cross,
To see a fine lady on a white horse;
Rings on her fingers, and bells on her toes,
She shall have music wherever she goes.'

The usage was of Eastern origin and is very ancient. In the Bible there is reference to the Jewish imitation of the custom where Isaiah (3 ch., 16 v.) describes the 'daughters of Zion' as 'walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet,' and further denounces judgment on them and the destruction of all their finery and 'their tinkling ornaments.' Persian monarchs bedecked themselves with bells, and the women of Arabia and Persia wore them on their anklets. Wearing of bells became a special badge of the fool and jester, and they attached them to their caps, their shoes, their elbows, the heads of their carved staves and indeed all over their persons and their insignia. Longfellow in 'King Robert of Sicily' refers to them thus:—

'Nay, not the King, but the King's jester, thou
Henceforth shall wear the bells and scalloped cape.'

Again, in Thornbury's 'Songs of the Cavaliers,' we read about the jester when about to deliver his 'sermon,' who:—

'. . . . shook his head and bells, and leaped upon a chair.'

The last official jester at the English court appears to have flourished as late as the reign of Charles II., and under the date February 13th, 1667-8 in 'Pepys' Diary' we read:—

'Mr. Brisband tells me, in discourse, that Tom Killigrew hath a fee out of the Wardrobe for cap and bells, under the title of the King's Foole or Jester, and may revile or jeere anybody, the greatest person, without offence, by the privilege of his place.'

Morris dancers in olden times were commonly bedecked on May-day with jingling bells, especially upon the knees, so their sound might keep harmony with the dancing. 'Cobbe's Prophecies, his Signes and Token, his Madrigells, Questions and Answers' (1614) thus alludes to this custom:—

'It was my hap of late, by chance
To meet a country Morris-dance.
When, cheefest of them all, the Foole,
Plaied with a ladle and a toole:
When every younker shak't his bels.'

In the churchwarden's accounts of St. Helen's, Abingdon, under the date of 1560, there is the entry for 'two dossin of Morres bells'; and in a similar record belonging to Kingston-upon-Thames we find, among other expenses connected with the 'Mores dawnsars' in the reigns of Henry VIII. and his successor, '12d. for bellys.'

## BELL AROUND MALEFACTOR'S NECK

Small bells were used in the camps and garrisons of the Greeks, were hung in triumphal cars and sometimes used in the temples. They were also hung on the necks of malefactors on their way to execution, and from this Greek custom—it is said—was derived the Roman one of hanging a bell and a scourge to the Emperor's chariot that, in the height of his prosperity, he might be admonished against pride and be mindful of human misery. Small bells also in many ways formed part of the equipment of war. The early Britons had bells fastened or suspended at the butt ends of their spears that they might make a rattling or jingling noise when the weapons were brandished. Thus Lingard, describing the accoutrement of the British warriors, says:—

'They possessed no other defensive armour than a narrow target; their weapons were a dirk, an unwieldy sword hanging from the waist by an iron chain, and a short lance from one extremity of which was suspended a bell.'

The Goths also were accustomed to incite their forces to military ardour by clanging cymbals and bells in honour of their gods. In a similar way the Greeks waved their shields as they entered into battle, producing thereby a martial clangour from the sounding of innumerable little bells which were hung within the hollow of each shield.

A curious use of bells in warfare is recorded by Plutarch in his 'Life of Brutus.' He tells us that Brutus and Cassius drove the Lycians into Xanthus and there besieged them, and continues:—

'As a river ran close to the town several attempted to escape by swimming and diving, but they were prevented by nets let down for that purpose, which had little bells at the top to give notice when anyone was taken.'

## AS HORSE TRAPPINGS

The use of bells in the trappings of horses, and especially those trained for war, is very ancient. The prophet Zechariah (xiv. ch., 20 v.) mentions the 'bells of the horses,' and several of the sculptures discovered at Nineveh represent horses with bells hanging from their bridles or (as is sometimes seen even to-day on the modern cart-horse) fixed on top of their heads. This form of decoration for harness became very general and is even now not entirely obsolete. Russian horses frequently carry bells within an arch which surmounts the native horse collar, and in England the horses of the old tram cars sometimes wore a single bell suspended from their collars. One of the tokens or signs used by pilgrims who visited the shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury was a number of bells inscribed 'Campana Thoma,' which were attached to their horses' bridles. No doubt the little bell-shaped flower 'Canterbury bells' obtained its name from the ancient symbol of an accomplished pilgrimage. Edgar Allen Poe's references to the use of bells on the harness of sleigh horses is well known:—

'Hear the sleigh with the bells—silver bells.
What a world of merriment their melody foretells!
How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle,
In the icy air of night!'

In 1916 the writer had some correspondence on the matter of horse bells discovered in the Isle of Wight by Miss Hearn, a local antiquarian (see 'Isle of Wight County Press,' February-March, 1916). She found one set belonging to a team of five horses and stated: 'We have a few sets left on the Island—can you tell me who cast the bells in those quaint days of narrow roads when motor cars were not dreamt of?' I was able to inform her that at Aldbourne, Wilts, an important bell foundry flourished from 1694 to 1825. The first owners were the family of Cor, and subsequently it passed to Robert Wells, who held it from 1764 to 1799 and was joined by his son James in 1781. James carried on alone from 1799 to 1825. Wells' bells are very common in the neighbourhood and are remarkable in that their inscriptions are often placed on the sound-bow, and in one or two instances **inside** the bells.

## FIRST MAKER OF HANDBELLS

The first maker of handbells—in tune—I can trace is Robert Wells, and a Marlborough paper dated June 6th, 1772, bears an advertisement in which 'horse bells' are named among other things for which the Aldbourne foundry was famous at that time. I, myself, possess a set of 'latten bells' besides several pack-horse bells stamped 'R. W.' and at this moment in the 15th century parvis of St. Margaret's Church, Leicester, I have quite 50 such 'latten bells,' most of which are stamped **inside** with the same initials.

The usage of such horse bells was not a matter of fancy but doubtless arose from the idea that the joyful tinkling of the bells would stir the animals to greater exertion and higher courage. Andrew Marvell declared that 'the pack-horse tires without his bells,' and for this reason the camels of an Eastern caravan carry their bells, as did the long lines of burdened horses which with us preceded the introduction of the stage coach. The sound of the bell, too, is useful in helping the owner to trace the animal that wears it; thus it became common on the necks of cattle and with flocks of sheep and goats. To this present day it is usual in many districts abroad to hear the sound of sheep and cattle bells on the mountain sides, or on the broad plains, which form their pasturage.

## IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE

So in all walks of life throughout the ages and in almost every country the bell is used in hundreds of ways. It used to announce to passengers waiting the approach of the railway train. In America it also served the purpose fulfilled in England by the shrill engine whistle. It tells when the steam boat is about to start on its journey and the sharp tinkle still announces the approach of the bicycle. It summons scholars to school and often is used as a signal for silence and attention when they are there: it is the president's call for order in assemblies; and often is used to mark the limit of time permitted by the various speakers. It announces the moment when the curtain is about to rise for the commencement of the opera or play; it calls the labourer in the factory or mill; and in many other ways serves a useful purpose in everyday life.

In spite of the introduction of other means of communication, such as gongs (which are really a form of bell) buzzers, etc., the bell still holds its own. When a visitor arrived in Spartan days he announced his coming by a shout; the Athenian or Roman rapped with his knuckles, and the old-fashioned door-knocker was but an improvement on this. The door bell was a still further advance on these

(Continued on next page)

## Analysis of Handbell Peals rung during 1951

| ASSOCIATION | MAXIMUS | | | | CINQUES | | ROYAL | | | | | CATERS | | MAJOR | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | TRIPLES | | MINOR | | | | | DOUBLES | | | | | | | | | | | | TOTAL |
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| | Kent Treble Bob (14) | Spliced Maximus (3) | Kent Treble Bob | Plain Bob | Grandsire | Stedman | Cambridge Surprise | Yorkshire Surprise | Kent Treble Bob | Plain Bob | Spliced (5 Methods) | Spliced (3 Methods) | Grandsire | Stedman | Spliced Surprise (12) | Cambridge Surprise | Kent Treble Bob | Oxford Treble Bob | Kent & Oxford T.B. | Double Norwich | Crayford College | St. Clement's | Plain Bob | Little Bob | Spliced (50 Methods) (46) | Ditto (42) | Ditto (25) | Ditto (8) | Ditto (7) | Ditto (6) | Ditto (5) | Ditto (2) | Grandsire | Stedman | 6 Methods | 4 Methods | 3 Methods | 2 Methods | 1 Method | 20 Methods | 17 Methods | 15 Methods | 12 Methods | 10 Methods | 8 Methods | 7 Methods | 6 Methods | 5 Methods | 4 Methods | 3 Methods | 2 Methods | 1 Method | |
| Bath & Wells Dio. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 3 | 5 |
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| Chester Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Coventry Guild | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | — | 5 | 19 |
| Cum. & W'land | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 |
| Derbyshire Assn. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| Devonshire Guild | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Durham & New. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Ely Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Glouc't'r & Bristol | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 9 |
| Hereford Dio. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
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| Irish Association | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | 5 |
| Kent County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 |
| Lancashire Assn. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Leicester Diocesan | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | 7 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | — | — | 1 | 5 | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 3 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 62 |
| Lincoln Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 8 |
| Middlesex County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Midland Counties | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | 3 | 11 |
| North Staffs | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 12 |
| Norwich Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| Oxford Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 3 |
| Oxford University | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 11 |
| Peterborough Dio. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
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| St Martin's Guild | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 12 |
| Salisbury Guild | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Southwell Dio. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 9 |
| Stafford Arch. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Suffolk Guild | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| Surrey Association | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
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## Bells in English Life—Continued

(Continued from previous page)

methods. House bells are said to date from the days of Queen Anne, and the electric variety is only of recent introduction. Shakespeare, however, knew of the bell as a domestic signal, for we find Macbeth (Act ii., Sc. i.) saying to his servant:—

'Go, bid thy mistress, when my drink is ready,
She strike upon the bell.'

Within the monasteries the inmates assembled, not only for worship but for every other requisite purpose, by the sound of the bell. It provided what Byron called 'the tocsin of the soul—the dinner bell!' It summoned the servants when needed and often used to arouse the household to the duties of the day.

[Concluded.]

**OXFORD.**—At St. Ebbe's Church on Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. P. Wright 1, G. Harper (first quarter) 2, P. C. Wright 3, R. J. Cook 4, P. Border 5.

## 5,152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

By MICHAEL SLANEY

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Repeated, single instead of bob half way and end. The (3) in the first part only.

Contains the extent of the 7568s, 7856s and 5867s (tittums). Also all the 6578s and 5678s at the course ends.

First rung on August 20th, 1952, 'in hand,' for the North Staffs Association, conducted by the composer.

**LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.**—On Nov. 23rd, 1,280 Cobham Surprise Major: W. Newberry 1, A. H. Winch 2, Alan Smith 3, B. Hawkins 4, G. Peters 5, G. Marriner 6, A. Smith 7, A. Harman (cond.) 8.

## NEW ZEALAND PROGRESS

Enclosing his annual subscription to 'The Ringing World,' Mr. A. G. A. Caldwell, ringing master of St. Peter's Cathedral, Hamilton, writes:—

We are progressing steadily, if slowly, with our ringing, and are now ringing Bob Doubles and Bob Minor for services and practising Grandsire Doubles. Our highest flight to date has been to ring a plain course of Bob Triples.

Our biggest difficulty has been with conducting, but we have been greatly helped in this by Colin Ward, who has recently come to us from Christchurch, where he has been ringing for several years.

We also welcome Mr. A. J. White, a veteran ringer from Auckland, who comes 80 miles each month to ring with us on our Wednesday practices and the following Sunday service rings. He was delighted to see in your 'Forty Years Ago' feature mention of his name in a record of ringing at St. Matthew's, Auckland. He is now 76 years old, and does get immense pleasure out of ringing with us.

# AMONG THE VILLAGE BELLS IN DEVON

## Forty-One Towers Visited This Year

VILLAGE churches in Devon are dotted about in quaint places, sometimes on hills where towers stand out as landmarks, sometimes in pleasant valleys and combes. The churches are of unique interest, and the bells are the pride of villagers. Few village rings are silent on a Sunday. It is the joy of our party of change-ringers to motor through these villages in the summer time rousing the interest of many a rustic in what they call scientific ringing. The local ringers check our faults and often praise when they are pleased. 'Weight of tenor?' you may ask, and the reply may be: 'We always called it 20 cwt., but it is 17 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb.' This sort of thing occurs frequently, and an explanation has been given that old founders called 100 lb. 1 cwt., and that anything approximating to say 1,800 lbs. would be 18 cwt.

We met for our first trip on May 28th at Shobrooke (tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb., 'old' weight 15 cwt.), where Messrs. Myers, Mr. Atkins, with Messrs. A. W. Searle and G. Burrows, Rev. J. H. B. Andrews, Rev. W. H. Smale, with Mr. W. H. R. Smale, Miss Pat Gilbert and Mr. F. C. Smale rang touches on the handy six. We were met by the Rector, the Rev. C. C. Kelway. Through pleasant lanes we moved on to Stockleigh Pomeroy, where even Mr. Searle discovered a fresh tower. We enjoyed a 'go' on the light ring of three tuneful bells. The church has many points of interest, perhaps the most unique being the altar, with the five crosses carved on the marble.

Narrow lanes led us to Cheriton Fitzpaine (15 cwt.), where the 'go' was heavy. At Cadbury (12 cwt.), Canon Coleridge's old home, Mr. Bill Myers joined our party, and the Vicar (Rev. D. W. D. Phillips) welcomed us. Touches being rung, we proceeded to Cadeleigh (7 cwt.), where we found a handy six. Our next call was Halberton (16 cwt.), which has a fine church and a lovely six. We enjoyed our ringing, and Mr. Stafford Green joined our party. Then followed Hemyock (21 cwt.), Burlescombe (17 cwt.) and Holcombe Rogus (17 cwt.), which, though a mixed six in which a mediæval founder, Kingston, Bilbie, Pennington and Wroth had a hand, Mr. G. H. Myers thought the best of the trip.

### A WHIT MONDAY TOUR

On Whit Monday we assembled at Buckerell (8 cwt.), where Miss B. M. Boyle and her party, as well as Messrs. A. and R. Truman, joined our company. Touches being rung, we ran on to St. Paul's, Honiton (13 cwt.), a very good eight, on which we rang Triples and rounds. On our way to Axminster (24 cwt.) we called at Shute, where the Vicar (the Rev. A. Joslin) gave a hearty welcome and watched our ringing with interest. At Axminster Mr. N. Mallett joined us and good touches of Triples came round. Kilmington (11 cwt.) and Musbury (14 cwt.) were our next towers, and though we could not ring at Colyton, the church and the Old Church House Cafe were most interesting to all our company.

We appreciated the eight at Seaton (14 cwt.) and again touches of Triples were well struck. By way of the main road and a 'stickle' hill to the village, we found the Branscombe Church nestling in a deep combe. The local ringers gave us a welcome, and good touches of Doubles and Minor were rung. Our conductor, Mr. Tom Myers, thought this trip was one of our best.

### TALATON TENOR

On July 9th our company included Preb. E. V. Cox and Rev. J. H. B. Andrews, Messrs. Myers and Smale, with Mr. R. Truman and Messrs. Searle and Burrows. Talaton was the starting point, and the Rector (Rev. F. H. Simpson) gave us a welcome. Ellacombe thought Talaton tenor (12 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb., called 15 cwt.) the finest bell in the county. The founder is supposed to have been Roger Semson in Queen Mary's reign. Talaton has a good six, and our striking of Doubles and Minor was good.

Payhembury (15 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb.) followed, and at Feniton (9 cwt.) we were met by the Rev. A. G. Chappell, the Rector, who joined us in a touch of Grandsire Doubles. The six are very tuneful. Our next stop was Luppitt (12 cwt.). The Vicar (Rev. B. A. Finn) gave us a welcome, and all our touches of Doubles and Minor were beautifully struck. Luppitt commands very fine views. We paused at Upottery for tea, but could not ring because of illness near the church. At Membury there was delay and our ringing limited, due to a faulty headstock of the fourth bell. On this occasion Mr. E. Morris and party assembled for a peal, but had to be content with a 'quarter.' At Colyton (24 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.) we rang Doubles on the noble six. It was a long run to Ottery St. Mary (18½ cwt.), and a puncture caused our late arrival, so it was we had to be content with a touch of Stedman Triples.

### CHURCHES WITHOUT PINNACLES

The South Hams was the district selected for our succeeding trips. The itinerary on Aug. 20th started at Kingsbridge (13 cwt.), a handy octave, and took us to Charleton (12 cwt.), Chivelstone (12 cwt.), E. Portlemouth (14 cwt.), South Poole (12 cwt.), Sherford (12 cwt.), Stokenham (15 cwt.) and Stoke Fleming (17 cwt.). On this occasion our company were sorry to hear of the illness of Preb. Cox, who had arranged to be with us, and the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews brought along Messrs. Burrows and Searle. Miss Pat Gilbert was also with us.

The towers we visited are unique. They have no pinnacles and are finely built of very hard slaty material. The churches are impressive, and contain rood screens of the Portlemouth type. The homely stairway to the belfry at Kingsbridge was unusual, and the ringing chamber at Stoke Fleming reminded us of a parlour with certificates replacing pictures, electric clock and polished lino on the floor. At East Portlemouth we were met by the captain of the tower, who reads 'The Ringing World' regularly. On the belfry walls were many certificates of merit, and all was in good order.

On September 4th Miss B. M. Boyle brought along Messrs. Searle and E. J. Ryall in place of the Rev. J. H. Bandrews. The start was Ugborough (23 cwt.), an impressive octave, which we thought needed tuning. A local ringer helped with Grandsire Triples. The church is a gem. Our next call was Modbury (17 cwt. 1 qr.), a fine six. The broach spire is rather unusual in Devon. Then followed Loddiswell (9 cwt.), a musical ring amid historic surroundings, and Churchstow (13 cwt.), a somewhat neglected six. As we approached West Alvington we were impressed by the fine pinnacles on the tall tower. We found an excellent six (tenor 16 cwt.) in good order. Many merit certificates adorn the walls of the belfry. The wife of the captain praised our ringing. Thurleston (12 cwt. 2 qr.), our next call, has a fine six. Our tea in the hotel was an event. Then we visited Galmpton (6 cwt.) and were pleased with the merry little six. There is romantic country here. We finished at East Allington (13 cwt.).

Thus it is our party visited 41 of the village towers in Devon this summer and enjoyed every minute of the time spent. The ladies of our party also have had a happy time, the change of scenes appealing to them, and we are sure that Mrs. Myers and her sister and Mrs. Smale and her sisters, Misses A. and E. M. Risdon, owe much to Mr. Searle's note book and his wealth of knowledge of the churches visited. He is 83 and rings little in these days, but he enjoys our tours, and we are sure he values the appreciation of our lady friends.

FREDK. C. SMALE.

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## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The Editorial Committee of 'The Ringing World,' and the Editor and his staff wish all ringers every happiness this Christmastide. With confidence and encouraged by the wide measure of co-operation they look forward to the Coronation year being a memorable one in the annals of the Exercise.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all my ringing friends wherever they may be, and grateful thanks for good fellowship in 1952.—Paul FIELD, Buckland Newton, Dorset. 1868

This is Tom MYERS wishing his friends all that is good for them for Christmas and the New Year. May their ringing in 1953 bring credit to our art. 1858

All good and much adventure to all ringing friends, especially those in East and West. With Barbara Harris, a special greeting to new friends made at Leicester recently. — Jean FREER. 1859

Sincere greetings to all ringing friends, especially those in Kent, Middlesex, Northants, Leicestershire and all Cumberlands.—Ronald J. SHARP. 1862

Christmas greetings and a happy New Year to all our friends, from George and Hilda MASSEY, Parbury Bungalow, Frome, Somerset. 1860

Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year from Mary and Jim PAGE, 51, Cecil Crescent, Hatfield, Herts. 1861

Mr. Stafford H. GREEN, now at 35, Arundel Street, Forest Lodge, Sydney, N.S.W., sends his best wishes to all ringers for a happy Christmas and a bright New Year.

Heartiest Christmas greetings to ALL ringing friends wherever they may be; especially the Editor and 'The Ringing World,' the Chester, 'Dick' Langford; Samuel Jones (84), Sam., jun.; the Archdeaconry, Howard Howell, Barney Key; the Derbyshire, Bill Lancaster, Sid Jones; North Staffs.; the Shropshire, Ted Rodenhurst; Worcester, Geof. Hemming; Norwich, Nolan Golden; Lincoln, John A. Freeman; Midland, Joe Cotton; Peterborough, Ron (and Mrs.) Noon; St. Martin's, Birmingham, Albert Walker; North Wales, Fred Evans; Ashton-under-Lyne; Ted Walker, Dover; Harry Overton, Wrenbury, ill.

Good health and good ringing for the new (1953) and succeeding years. — Frank STENSON, Crewe. 1866

To all ringing friends, greetings, at this festive season, and best wishes for good health and prosperity throughout the coming year. — Charles ROUSE, 52, St. George's Drive, Cheltenham, Glos. 1864

My Christmas greetings for 'The Ringing World.' To all my ringing friends, wherever they may be, the joys of a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. — Leonard DERRICK, Nailsea, Somerset. 1867

Mr. A. R. WILSON and his fellow ringers at Holy Trinity Church, Hobart, Tasmania, send cordial greetings to all ringers in the Homeland.

Mr. F. E. JEATER extends Christmas greetings to all postal subscribers. He reciprocates the good wishes and kind thoughts received from many friends.

Mr. Peter N. BOND sends sincere greetings and good wishes for Christmas and New Year to all his many ringing friends, and especially to fellow Cumberlands. 1873

The season's greetings to all my ringing friends throughout the country from Richard E. MANTON, Ibstock, Leicester. 1872

# NOTICES

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### GOLDEN WEDDING

HOODLESS—DENT.—On Dec. 25th, 1902, at St. Mary's Church, Roxby, Lincs., by the Rev. H. C. Ker, Arthur Wilson to Lucy. Present address: 11, Holy Dyke, Barton-on-Humber, Lincs. 1870

### SILVER WEDDING

BENNETT—DICKINSON. — At Bicker on Dec. 28th, 1927, Stanley, to Mabel, both of Bicker. Present address: Bicona, 325, Pennygate, Spalding, Lincs. 1869

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'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.

'CHURCH BELLS OF FLINTSHIRE,' by Ranald Clouston; 34 pages; 9 photographs. Giving full particulars of 14 rings and many other bells, with illustrations. 3s. 6d. post free from the author at Swanslea, Westerfield, near Ipswich, Suffolk. 1777

COLLECTION OF PLAIN MAJOR METHODS (second edition), with Table of First Performances. Price 3s. From Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, Osmington School, Tring, Herts.

### MISCELLANEOUS

DANBURY, ESSEX.—Sunday service ringing and Wednesday practices will recommence on Sunday, Dec. 28th. 1865

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.

### MEETINGS

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Derby District. — Annual meeting, St. Peter's, Dec. 27th, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Miss K. Tivey, 232, Chellaston Road, Derby. 1856

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch. — Meeting, Windsor Parish Church, Saturday, Dec. 27th, 6.45 p.m. Ringer's Diaries available at meeting.—Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 1826

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Practice cancelled, Tuesday, Dec. 30th, Christchurch, Ealing Broadway. Saturday, Jan. 3rd, General Meeting, St. Mary, Putney, 2.45. Service 4.15. Tea, Gordon Restaurant, 5 p.m. Business and nominations, 5.45, All Saints', Fulham. Ringing 7 p.m., Monday, Jan. 5th, 7.15, practice, St. Mary, Lambeth Bridge. Annual General Meeting, Southwark Cathedral, Saturday, Feb. 7th. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. HOU. 3921. 1853

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District. — A.G.M. on Jan. 3rd. Elstow 2.30-4. St. Peter's, Bedford, 2.30-4.25. Service 4.30. Tea (1s. 9d.) at 5, can be guaranteed only for those sending names before the day to Michael Stephens, 24, Durler Avenue, Kempston. 1874

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS. — N.E. Branch. — Annual meeting, Tiverton, Saturday, Jan. 3rd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to C. G. Dymond, Silverton.

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION & SHEFFIELD DISTRICT. — Joint quarterly meeting, Chesterfield, Saturday, Jan. 3rd. Ten bells available. 1875

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Ely District.—Annual General Meeting at Ely (8), Jan. 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—Miss M. Grain, Dis. Sec. 1881

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—A.G.M. will be held at Harlow Town (8) on Jan. 3rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m., followed by meeting. Names, please, to G. Blake, Dis. Sec., Teesta, Jack's Hatch, Epping Upland, Essex. 1819

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.W. Division.—Annual meeting, Walthamstow, St. Mary's (10), Jan. 3rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea to Mr. H. Rumens, 32, Woodstock Road, Walthamstow, E.17. 1827

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Blackburn Branch.—Annual branch meeting, Burnley, St. Peter's, Jan. 3rd. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Chas. W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 1877

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch. — A combined practice at Sandhurst (6) on Saturday, Jan. 3rd, at 6 p.m. —B. C. Castle. 1857

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Oundle Branch.—Annual meeting Jan. 3rd, at Benefield (6 bells), commencing 3 p.m. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by Dec. 28th to Mrs. Clarke, 7, Bassett Place, Oundle. 1855

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Annual meeting, Devizes, St. John's (8), Jan. 3rd. St. Mary's (6) and St. James' (6) also available. Names for tea to Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 1871

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Annual meeting, Jan. 3rd, at the Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, City, at 6 o'clock. Bells available:—Cathedral (12) 3 p.m.-4 p.m.; St. Martin's (12), 4.15 p.m.-5.45 p.m.—G. E. Fearn, Hon. Sec., 92, Etwall Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28. Phone SPR 1025. 1812

SWANSEA & BRECON GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Mary's, Brecon, Sat., Jan. 3rd. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business to follow. Names please to W. Smith, Stanbury, Penbont Road, Talgarth, Brecon. 1879

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Annual meeting, Winchester, Saturday, January 3rd. Bells: Cathedral (12) 1-2, 6-7; St. Maurice's (6) 7-8.30; other towers if wanted. Meeting and tea St. Maurice's Hall, Colebrook Street, 2.30. Service in Cathedral 5.15. Names, by previous Wednesday, to Mr. J. A. C. King, 29, Fox Lane, Stanmore, Winchester. 1822

LADIES' GUILD.—North-Eastern District. —Inaugural meeting, St. John's, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday, Jan. 10th. Bells (8) at 2.30 p.m. Tea at Roma Cafe, Bigg Market (3s.), at 4.30. Names by Wednesday, Jan. 7th, to Mrs. McGuiness, 72, Rokeby Drive, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 3. 1880

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wymondham, on Saturday, Jan. 10th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.15. Tea at 5 p.m. in the Vicarage Room, for all who send names or numbers not later than Wednesday, Jan. 7th. No names, no tea. — H. Tooke, Branch Sec., 11, Long Row, The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk. 1876

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Tonbridge District.—Joint meeting with Hawkhurst and District Guild at Hawkhurst on Jan. 17th, at 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15. Names for tea to Mr. G. Billenness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst. 1863

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