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JOHN BRIANT, BELLFOUNDER AND CLOCKMAKER

By WILLIAM SHEPHERD

WE often forget that our old founders practised a trade of art and skill under many difficulties in times when circumstances were very hard, and problems were not easily solved; therefore they were worthy of greater attention at the time and their skill publicly recorded.

John Briant was born in 1749 and his father sent him to school at Newmarket, the intention being that he should go to a University, take Orders and enter the Church. Young John had different ideas and his taste led him to become a clockmaker and bell founder. Before 1781 he had settled in Hertford and in Parliament Row he set up his foundry and workshop, a place which became famous for bells and clocks. His clocks included King's College, Cambridge, and Shire Hall, Hereford, and among his customers were the Dukes of Marlborough and Rutland.

His fame for bells covered a very wide area and over 400 bells are known to have been made by him during the 40 odd years he had the Hertford foundry. His bells have been found in 17 English counties, north into Lincolnshire and west into Devon. He even cast some for Ireland (Tuam Cathedral, Edenderry, and Lisburn). Hertfordshire, with 94 bells in 36 churches, heads the list.

As a craftsman he frequently experimented in order to improve his craft, for he aimed at the best possible workmanship, but he was rather indulgent with his customers and his modesty and generosity must have lost him many pounds of income. If his clients could not pay for the work he had done he took a philosophical view and accepted what could be afforded, never pressing for payment of his accounts.

When an admirer of his genius and industry expressed regret that Briant had not acquired a carriage for himself, he replied, 'I don't want a carriage; I'm satisfied with the station of life that God has placed me in. I've enjoyed more real pleasure in my favourite pursuits than the wealth of India could afford.'

Throughout his working life he never let his banking account grow with his reputation, and it is not to be wondered at when he fell into extreme pecuniary difficulties, which resulted in his acceptance of a home in the Marlborough Almshouses, St. Albans, a gift from Earl Spencer. The last bell he cast was in 1824, and he sold the business to Thomas Mears, of Whitechapel, in 1825.

John Briant enjoyed the confidence of church authorities in many parts of England, and even after his retirement the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral consulted him regarding the recasting of 'Great Tom.' He strongly opposed a suggestion that a piece should be cut out of the bell as far as the crack extended, but the experiment was tried and proved a failure. The authorities failed to heed good advice from a fine old bell founder then nearly 80 years of age, but five years after his death (February 27th, 1829) the bell was recast.

Among those associated with John Briant in bell founding was Robert Taylor, and although not strictly an assistant of Briant, both names were placed on a bell cast for Riseley in 1816.

John Briant's memorial tablet is at All Saints', Hertford.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.
THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.
On Sat., Dec. 27, 1952, in 3 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.
A PEAL OF 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS
Tenor 25¾ cwt.

*BETTY GRIFFITHS	*Treble*	*ALAN WARD	7
*JEAN C. BROWN	2	*A. NEVILLE BROWN	8
BARRY CORBISHLEY	3	*WILFRED L. ROBINSON	9
*D. ELAINE WRIGHT	4	*DENIS MOTTERSHEAD	10
*SHIRLEY GOLDING	5	DEREK OGDEN	11
KENNETH W. MACKINTOSH	6	BRIAN HARRIS	*Tenor*

Composed by J. Cox. Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

* First peal on twelve bells. First peal of Treble Twelve by all. Rung for the celebration of Christmastide. Average age of the band is 19¼ years.

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Thurs., Jan. 8, 1953, in 3 Hours and 32 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,
A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES
Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

WILLIAM C. DOWDING	*Treble*	BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY	7
EVELYN M. FLETCHER	2	TERRY R. HAMPTON	8
ALBERT WALKER	3	ARTHUR V. PEARSON	9
MURIEL REAY	4	RODNEY B. MEADOWS	10
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD	5	HENRY H. FEARN	11
ANTHONY AGER	6	GEORGE E. FEARN	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 10, 1953, in 3 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5280 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS
Tenor 35 cwt. 4 lb.

PETER LAFLIN	*Treble*	HENRY O. BAKER	7
FRED DUNKERLEY	2	BRIAN D. THRELFALL	8
WILFRED STEVENSON	3	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	9
JOHN E. BIBBY	4	JOHN WORTH	10
C. KENNETH LEWIS	5	JOSEPH WHITTAKER	11
BASIL JONES	6	EDWARD JENKINS	*Tenor*

Arranged and Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

TEN BELL PEALS

SLOUGH, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Dec. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5,04 GRANDSIRE CATERS
Tenor 17¾ cwt.

*AUDREY EWINS	*Treble*	†BRIAN T. LISTER	6
WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM	2	*§MICHAEL HATCHETT	7
WILLIAM WELLING	3	WILLIAM BUTLER	8
FREDERICK SCOTT	4	‡BRIAN TAYLOR	9
JOHN M. ELLWOOD	5	WILLIAM HENLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by WM. WILLSON. Conducted by WILLIAM BUTLER.
* First peal of Caters. † First peal. ‡ First peal of Caters 'inside.' § First peal in the method.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Dec. 31, 1952, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,
A PEAL OF 5043 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor 21 cwt.

ALBERT M. TYLER	*Treble*	JOHN M. STALLARD	6
FREDERICK G. LEAKER	2	ALAN A. HILLIER	7
IVOR H. TRUEMAN	3	REGINALD G. HOOPER	8
MRS. MARY P. MAYELL	4	RICHARD J. BOWDEN	9
FRANCIS C. MOGFORD	5	FRANK HANSFORD	*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by ALBERT M. TYLER.

APPLETON, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,
A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS
Tenor 14¾ cwt.

*FREDERICK J. ABSOLOM	*Treble*	FRANK WHITE	6
EDWIN DREWITT	2	HENRY C. WHITE	7
FREDERICK C. WHITE	3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD	8
RICHARD WHITE	4	FRANCIS A. WHITE	9
EDWIN G. MOORE	5	FRED WHITE	*Tenor*

Composed by late G. HOLIFIELD. Conducted by GEO. HOLIFIELD.
* First peal of Caters.
Rung on the occasion of a visit home from Eire of Mr. F. C. White.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Jan. 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR.
A PEAL OF 5057 GRANDSIRE CATERS
Tenor 21 cwt.

FREDERICK G. LEAKER	*Treble*	JOHN M. STALLARD	6
REGINALD G. HOOPER	2	NORMAN H. COOMBS	7
*GEORGE BRIGGS	3	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD	8
†RICHARD J. BOWDEN	4	IVOR H. TRUEMAN	9
ALBERT M. TYLER	5	ALAN A. HILLIER	*Tenor*

Composed by EDGAR GUISE. Conducted by NORMAN H. COOMBS.
* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. First peal of Grandsire Caters as conductor.

WILLENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL
Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr.

J. NORMAN HADLEY	*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER	6
HERBERT KNIGHT	2	ERNEST STITCH	7
*SAMUEL BIRCH	3	†HARRY GRIFFITHS	8
*DEREK J. TRANTER	4	HOWARD HOWELL	9
*JOHN R. COTTERILL	5	MAURICE G. TURNER	*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by MAURICE G. TURNER.
* First peal of Royal in the method. † First peal of Royal. First peal of Royal in the method as conductor.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Wallater.

MILDENHALL, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 10, 1953, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL
Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in E.

ANDREW R. KER	*Treble*	RONALD D. EDGE	6
ARTHUR F. BALLAM	2	T. REGINALD DENNIS	7
JAMES STANNARD	3	JOHN G. GIPSON	8
WILLIAM STANNARD	4	JOHN BANKS	9
WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN	5	PETER BORDER	*Tenor*

Arranged and Conducted by PETER BORDER.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 23, 1952, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Middleton's. Tenor 19¾ cwt.

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

Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST., PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

*FREDERICK J. CULLUM	*Treble*	*ARTHUR MASON	5
EDWIN BARNETT	2	FREDERICK W. BUDGEN	6
*FRANK BENNETT	3	JOHN O. WELLER	7
EDWIN A. BARNETT	4	*PHILIP A. CORBY	*Tenor*

Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.
* First peal of Little Bob Major.
Rung by request for the baptism of Michel Puech, of Puycalvel, France.

ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 18¾ cwt.

EDWARD BARKER	*Treble*	*JOHN W. PICKETT	5
*JOHN A. ACRES	2	*ROBERT H. BROOKER	6
MARION GRAIN	3	*†MAURICE J. THURMOTT	7
CLAUDIA A. HARDING	4	ERNEST H. MASTIN	*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST H. MASTIN.
* First peal of Triples. † 50th peal.

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FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 27, 1952, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,
A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. in F sharp.

TONY PRICE	*Treble*	*ROBERT G. LAY	5
FRANK T. BLAGROVE	2	JOHN R. MAYNE	6
WILLIAM WELLING	3	WILLIAM H. COLES	7
*JANET S. BAILEY	4	FRANK C. PRICE	*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by TONY PRICE.
* First peal of Double Norwich.

STOKE-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 27, 1952, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER AD VINCULA,
A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 20 cwt. 8 lb.

JUNE M. HENSHAW	*Treble*	G. ARNOLD MOORE	5
*ERIC NIXON	2	EWART H. EDGE	6
†REGINALD O. PRESTON	3	CHARLES H. PAGE	7
*MICHAEL SLANEY	4	FREDK. E. WILSHAW	*Tenor*

Arranged by F. W. GROCOTT. Conducted by FREDK. E. WILSHAW.
* First peal in the method on tower bells. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Dec. 31, 1952, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5024 EALING SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 13 cwt.

LEONARD E. LAST	*Treble*	DAVID W. BEARD	5
C. RONALD SMITH	2	CHARLES E. WILLMINGTON	6
MRS. R. F. DEAL	3	JOHN F. GROVE	7
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION	*Tenor*

Composed by CHAS. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.
First peal in the method by all the band and for the Association.
Rung for the Watchnight Service, and also in honour of the marriage of Miss B. M. Last, daughter of the treble ringer, to Mr. E. C. Sanford.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Furness and Lake District Branch.)
On Thurs., Jan. 1, 1953, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 21½ cwt.

*VERNON S. FORSHAW	*Treble*	HAROLD WILSON	5
ALAN CAPSTICK	2	JAMES E. BURLES	6
WILLIAM WALL	3	GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE	7
ROLAND F. ECCLES	4	*FRANK BIRKETT	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JAMES E. BURLES.
* First peal in the method.
Rung to welcome the New Year.

PINCHBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Jan. 1, 1953, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 18 cwt. 9 lb.

CHARLES C. RAWDING	*Treble*	RONALD C. NOON	5
JOHN G. AMES	2	AUBREY D. MILLS	6
CYRIL R. BURRELL	3	W. ALLAN RICHARDSON	7
STANLEY E. BENNETT	4	C. HAROLD WHITTON	*Tenor*

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES.
Conducted by C. HAROLD WHITTON.
Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss G. D. Robinson.

SCORTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
On Thurs., Jan. 1, 1953, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
S. Biddleston's Twelve-part. Tenor 18 cwt.

JAMES W. METCALFE	*Treble*	PETER CROOK, SEN.	5
JOHN WOODS	2	STANLEY ANDERTON	6
JOHN F. WOOD	3	JOSEPH THORNLEY	7
JAMES SKEATS	4	THOMAS H. MOSS	*Tenor*

Conducted by PETER CROOK, SEN.
A 70th birthday compliment to the 2nd ringer.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Jan. 2, 1953, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb.

JOHN WORTH	*Treble*	DENNIS HEAPY	5
JUNE MARIE HENSHAW	2	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD	6
*STEPHEN W. J. PENNY	3	O. MICHAEL SLANEY	7
JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER	4	BARRY CORBISHLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by BARRY CORBISHLEY.
* First peal on eight bells. First peal as conductor.

AYLESFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 14¼ cwt. in F.

R. L. SILLS (Wrotham)	*Treble*	A. WADDINGTON (Egerton)	5
G. F. CANTRILL (Bearsted)	2	G. W. GRANT (Headcorn)	6
*M. H. COUCHMAN (Harrietsham)	3	E. S. J. HATCHER (Aylesford)	7
L. MANNERING (Maidstone)	4	†S. A. HAYZELDEN (East Farleigh)	*Tenor*

Conducted by E. S. JOHN HATCHER.
* First peal of Triples 'inside.' † First peal. A Maidstone District tower captains' peal.

DARESBURY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in E.

HAROLD WORRALL	*Treble*	HENRY PARKER	5
JOHN SCOTT	2	HARRY W. HOWARD	6
ERIC HORNBY	3	WALTER ALLMAN	7
JOHN E. BIBBY	4	CECIL RADDON	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by CECIL RADDON.
First peal as conductor.
Rung as a 63rd birthday compliment to the conductor.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Middleton's. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

HARRY C. JONES	*Treble*	ANTHONY E. COX	5
KATHLEEN FLETCHER	2	*ARTHUR NEWTON	6
DOROTHY FLETCHER	3	F. DONALD BOREHAM	7
ROLAND BIGGS	4	WALTER LEE	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER LEE.
* First peal of Cambridge Major.

OXTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR.
A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. in E.

HENRY O. BAKER	*Treble*	JOHN E. SPICE	5
RALPH G. EDWARDS	2	JOHN WORTH	6
PETER LAFLIN	3	BRIAN D. THRELFALL	7
EDWARD JENKINS	4	JOSEPH WHITTAKER	*Tenor*

Composed by THOMAS B. WORSLEY. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
A birthday peal for Brian D. Threlfall.

PENKRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIFTY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb.

EDMUND MALIN	*Treble*	ROGER HAWKESWORTH	5
JOAN BERESFORD	2	PETER BERESFORD	6
RICHARD J. WARRILOW	3	GEORGE E. OLIVER	7
DENNIS BERESFORD	4	ROY K. MOWFORTH	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Edmund Malin.

RATBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
F. H. Dexter's Variation of Thurstans' Four-part.
Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in G.

E. CHARLES TURNER	*Treble*	HARRY POYNER	5
BRIAN G. WARWICK	2	ERNEST MORRIS	6
PETER J. THOMAS	3	WILLIAM THORNLEY	7
MICHAEL D. STANIFORTH	4	WINIFRED M. BURTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 22 cwt.

HARRY RICHARDSON	*Treble*	ANDREW C. SINFIELD	5
RONALD J. SHARP	2	FRANCIS KIRK	6
JOHN KING	3	ERNEST E. WHITMORE	7
DENNIS KNOX	4	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE	*Tenor*

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH. Conducted by FRANCIS KIRK.
Rung to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kirk, of Raunds, on reaching the 50th anniversary of their wedding.

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
E. Taylor's Six-part. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. in G.

*MRS. W. E. SIMPSON	*Treble*	WILLIAM H. T. KING	5
*SHELAGH KILBOURN	2	DAVID J. MARSHALL	6
WILLIAM E. SIMPSON	3	R. ALLEN HICKTON	7
W. RODNEY HARRISON	4	†OWEN CRIPPS	*Tenor*

Conducted by DAVID J. MARSHALL.
* First peal on eight bells. † First peal. First peal of Triples as conductor.
Rung as a wedding compliment to Miss E. Harrison and Mr. F. Forrest, son of the Rector of Sawley.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Jan. 4, 1953, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 21 cwt.

DORIS G. DOBBIE	*Treble*	†GEORGE KENWARD	5
SHEILA M. DOBBIE	2	†STANLEY B. DOBBIE	6
*BRIAN CHITTENDEN	3	WALTER H. DOBBIE	7
GEORGE E. EASTMAN	4	JAMES A. JUDD	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER H. DOBBIE.
* First peal. † 75th peal together.
Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to Mr. H. E. Simpson, captain of Sittingbourne band.

TONBRIDGE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Jan. 4, 1953, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 19 cwt.

BETTY M. VIDLER	*Treble*	ROBERT COLLINS	5
REGINALD E. LAMBERT	2	THOMAS E. SONE	6
BENJAMIN F. BAKER	3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	7
DORIS E. COLGATE	4	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
First peal of Yorkshire Surprise on the bells. A 40th birthday compliment to Mr. A. Patrick Cannon.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Jan. 5, 1953, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

MAURICE THOMAS	*Treble*	ROGER LEIGH	5
*GEOFFREY PEARSON	2	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON	6
*ALAN PENDLEBURY	3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON	7
PETER CROOK, SEN.	4	GORDON CORBY	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.
* First peal in in the method.
Rung to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany.

BOWDON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Jan. 6, 1953, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb.

JEAN C. BROWN	*Treble*	*ALLEN TWYNAN	5
BARRY CORBISHLEY	2	†DAVID A. EDWARDS	6
M. JUNE HENSHAW	3	ALAN J. BROWN	7
ALAN N. BROWN	4	DAVID VINCENT	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by ALAN J. BROWN.
* First peal. † First peal in the method.
Rung half-muffled in memory of Charles Edwards, member of the above tower, and formerly, for some years, Master of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, who was interred at Fownhope, Herefordshire, earlier this day.

HINGHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Jan. 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Composer's Twelve-part No. 10 in the method. Tenor 16½ cwt. in E.

GEORGE LAND	*Treble*	F. CHARLES GOODMAN	5
NOLAN GOLDEN	2	GEORGE SAYER	6
CHAS. E. G. BANHAM	3	ARTHUR G. BASON	7
H. WILLIAM BARRETT	4	BERT GOGLE	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
Composition contains 60 course-end with 4-5-6 only in 6ths. all combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6; tenors together throughout.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Jan. 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 6½ cwt.

JOHN B. BENNETT	*Treble*	MRS. H. J. POOLE	5
HAROLD J. POOLE	2	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON	6
WINIFRED M. BURTON	3	MICHAEL E. BROWN	7
*DAVID WOODLEY	4	BRIAN G. WARWICK	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
* First Surprise peal on 'inside' bell. Brian G. Warwick has now 'circled' this tower.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Jan. 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5024 PETERBOROUGH SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

MRS. N. O. L. MANCHIP	*Treble*	*JOHN R. MAYNE	5
*RICHARD E. PRICE	2	ALICK CUTLER	6
*ANNE B. SPEED	3	*RICHARD F. B. SPEED	7
THOMAS H. FRANCIS	4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.
* First peal in the method.

HASLINGDEN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Jan. 9, 1953, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt.

LEONARD WALSH	*Treble*	NORMAN SMITH	5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON	2	PETER CROOK	6
A. VICTOR WILLIAMS	3	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON	7
KENNETH HARTLEY	4	ROGER LEIGH	*Tenor*

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS. Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

BLAGDON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 10, 1953, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb.

ROY COLMAN	*Treble*	LEONARD DERRICK	5
*RONALD D. SHORT	2	*FREDERICK W. SWEET	6
MARJORIE LEGG	3	GEORGE PRESCOTT	7
MICHAEL HORSEMAN	4	FREDERICK SANDY	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE PRESCOTT.
* First peal of Triples.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

COUNTESTHORPE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Nov. 10, 1952, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 NETHERSEALE SURPRISE MINOR
Tenor 10 cwt. 17 lb. in G.

BRIAN S. CHAPMAN	*Treble*	JOHN B. BENNETT	4
HAROLD KILBY	2	*ERNEST MORRIS	5
*W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	3	JOHN J. MORRIS	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN J. MORRIS.
* 50th peal together. First peal in the method by the band, on the bells and for the Guild. Rung half-muffled for the Armistice.

ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES
Being two extents of New Bob and four each of Grandsire, Place, Accrington, Blackburn, Reverse Canterbury, St. Nicholas, Winchendon, St. Simon's, St. Martin's and Plain Bob in 11 methods. Tenor 9¼ cwt.

CHARLES J. ABRAHAMS	*Treble*	NORMAN SMITH	3
KENNETH HARTLEY	2	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON	4
ROGER LEIGH	*Tenor*		

Conducted by ROGER LEIGH.

EGERTON, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
C.C.C. 37, 36, 34, 50, 48, 28 and 29. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

*KATHERINE STISTED	*Treble*	†KEITH BURBIDGE	4
†SYLVIA ROWLEY	2	†MARK H. COUCHMAN	5
†DAPHNE TURK	3	ALEXANDER WADDINGTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALEXANDER WADDINGTON.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor. All members of the local company except the ringer of the 5th bell.

COPT OAK, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 27, 1952, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

JOAN COTTON	*Treble*	WILLIAM H. CURSON	4
ROLAND BENISTON	2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON	5
WM. GEOFFREY HAIR	3	JOHN UNDERWOOD	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN UNDERWOOD.

RUDGWICK, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Dec. 31, 1952, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Single Oxford, Double Oxford, Cambridge, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 14 cwt. 9 lb. in F.

HAROLD F. WOOD	*Treble*	ERNEST TREAGUS	4
LEONARD STILWELL	2	WILLIAM T. BEESON	5
EDGAR R. RAPLEY	3	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.
First peal on the bells, cast by Pack and Chapman in 1770.

ST. ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Dec. 31, 1952, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES
Being one 240 and twenty-four 120's of Grandsire (six callings) and sixteen 120's of Plain Bob (four callings). Tenor 13 cwt.

CHARLES T. PAYNE	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. SOUTHAM	4
GEORGE W. DEBENHAM	2	FRANCIS KIRK	5
GEOFFREY DODDS	3	BERTIE A. CORNELL	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANCIS KIRK.
Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kirk, of Raunds, on their golden wedding anniversary.

SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 31, 1952, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Tenor 12¼ cwt. in F sharp.

*KATHLEEN SHAW	*Treble*	JOHN W. L. SLACK	4
CHARLES W. LAWTON	2	MRS. C. W. LAWTON	5
BARRY LAWSON	3	JOSEPH WHITTAKER	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH WHITTAKER.
* First peal.

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BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON

BRENTFORD, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Jan. 1, 1953, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

*COLIN R. LAMONT	*Treble*	†WILLIAM T. COOK	4
*GILLIAN R. LAMONT	2	FRANK P. WRIGHT	5
PETER C. WRIGHT	3	R. JAMES COOK	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK P. WRIGHT.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

FLOOKBURGH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Furness and Lake District Branch.)
On Thurs., Jan. 1, 1953, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 17 cwt.

*HAROLD DIXON	*Treble*	ROBIN SHUTTLEWORTH	4
JOHN ASKEW	2	NICHOLAS M. NEWBY	5
†CLIFFORD H. FORD	3	*ALEC EDGAR	*Tenor*

Conducted by NICHOLAS M. NEWBY.
* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal on the bells.

TODMORDEN, YORKSHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Jan. 1, 1953, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, CROSS STONE,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, Childwall, St. Clement's, Fulbeck and Spliced Double Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9¾ cwt.

DEREK SANDERSON	*Treble*	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON	4
RONALD EDGE	2	*DEREK OGDEN	5
KENNETH HARTLEY	3	ROGER LEIGH	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROGER LEIGH.
* 50th peal for the Association. First peal in eight Minor methods by all.

RUMNEY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Jan. 2, 1953, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In eight methods, being five extents each of St. Nicholas', St. Simon's, Place Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Southrepps Pleasure, and Plain Bob; and six extents each of Stedman and Grandsire. Tenor 9½ cwt.

A. RYAN PRICE	*Treble*	WILLIAM A. JERRETT	4
JACK R. WORRALL	2	RONALD C. LUCAS	5
W. RICHARD SPEAKE	3	SIDNEY SHACKELL	*Tenor*

Conducted by RONALD C. LUCAS.
First peal in eight methods by all the band, on the bells and for the Association. First peal as conductor. The ringer of the 2nd, has now 'circled' the tower.

ACTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Ten extents. Tenor 14 cwt.

*KENNETH MACKINTOSH	*Treble*	O. MICHAEL SLANEY	4
JOHN E. BROUGH	2	IVOR R. NICHOLS	5
JUNE M. HENSHAW	3	†HERBERT SUTTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN E. BROUGH.
* First peal of Stedman Doubles. † Has now twice 'circled' the tower.

BUXHALL, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Court, Cambridge, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt. 7 lb. in F.

WILLIAM J. BUTTON	*Treble*	RONALD W. STEWARD	4
ROBERT E. LESTER	2	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	5
GEORGE W. PIPE	3	CECIL W. PIPE	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.
A birthday peal for William J. G. Brown, of Ipswich.
The first peal on the six bells, augmented by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

FLAMSTEAD, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of: (i) Wells, (ii) York, (iii) Netherseale, (iv) Bourne, (v) London, (vi.) Cambridge, (vii) Norwich.
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

WALTER AYRE	*Treble*	TERENCE G. MORTON	4
EDWIN J. UPTON	2	AUGUSTIN V. GOOD	5
PAMELA A. MARTIN	3	GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

LLANELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE.
THE ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELLI,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (10 callings). Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb.

*EDGAR THOMAS	*Treble*	DESMOND CURTIS	4
LESLIE A. TREMEER	2	R. SCUDAMORE	5
CHRIS. H. HAWKINS	3	J. O. ALLCOCK	*Tenor*

Conducted by CHRIS. H. HAWKINS.
* First peal.
Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. J. E. Longhurst, churchwarden, and Mrs. T. Francis. Mr. Leslie A. Tremeer hails from Winchester.

MERTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being six extents each of Stedman, Reverse Canterbury, St. Martin's, St. Simon's, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 7½ cwt.

M. JEAN FREER	*Treble*	GEORGE C. GOODMAN	3
BARBARA M. HARRIS	2	GEORGE W. MASSEY	4
JOHN HILL	*Tenor*		

Conducted by JOHN HILL.
First peal of seven Doubles methods by all the band, on the bells and for the Association.
Rung as a farewell to George C. Goodman, leaving for Singapore.

MOULTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Ipswich Surprise, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb.

C. HAROLD WHITTON	*Treble*	CYRIL WANDER	4
JOHN G. AMES	2	FRED BRIGHTMAN	5
ERNEST BRITTAIN	3	FRANK TAYLOR	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.
A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 4th.

NEWCHURCH-IN-ROSSENDALE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 15 cwt.

FRANK REYNOLDS	*Treble*	ROGER LEIGH	4
RONALD D. EDGE	2	REV. R. D. ST. J. SMITH	5
KENNETH HARTLEY	3	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON	*Tenor*

The first extent was rung silent; the other six were each called by a different member of the band, in order from treble to tenor.
Rung after meeting short for Major.

STANWELL, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 3, 1953, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, THE BLESSED VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED PLAIN AND DOUBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 13 cwt. 14 lb.

JANET S. BAILEY	*Treble*	ROBERT G. LAY	4
FRANK T. BLAGROVE	2	MICHAEL HATCHETT	5
	3	BRIAN TAYLOR	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK T. BLAGROVE.

HANDBELL PEALS

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 22, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 14 *Minutes,*
IN THE 15TH CENTURY PARVIS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF 5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor size 17 in A.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 1—2 | JOHN BRAMLEY .. .. 5—6
DEREK G. GOODMAN .. 3—4 | ERNEST MORRIS .. .. 7—8

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 23, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 6 *Minutes,*
AT 53, LEYS ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor size 12 in F.

PATRICK I. CHAPMAN.. .. 1—2 | ROBIN G. TURNER .. .. 5—6
JOHN KING .. .. .. 3—4 | MALCOLM KING .. .. 7—8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

A birthday compliment to Philip Cooper, of Adelaide, South Australia.

BELFAST
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 27, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 15 *Minutes,*
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. DONARD'S CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES
Being 10 callings. Tenor size 11 in G.

JEAN STEWART .. .. .. 1—2 | JOHN T. DUNWOODY .. 3—4
*WILLIAM HALL (16) .. 5—6

Conducted by JOHN T. DUNWOODY.

* First peal of Doubles 'in hand.'

STOKE-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 27, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 10 *Minutes,*
IN ST. PETER'S BELFRY,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
J. W. Washbrook's Variation of Thurstans' Four-part.
Tenor size 14 in D.

FREDK. E. WILSHAW .. 1—2 | *MICHAEL SLANEY .. .. 5—6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. 3—4 | *ERIC NIXON .. .. .. 7—8

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung as a compliment to Mr. Walter Soar, of Ticknall, on his engagement.

BARROW-UPON-SOAR, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 29, 1952, *in* 1 *Hour and* 45 *Minutes,*
IN THE VESTRY OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES
Being 42 extents. Tenor size 15 in C.

*F. KEVON THOMPSON .. 1—2 | *B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. 3—4
†ROGER G. W. SOARS .. 5—6

Conducted by F. KEVON THOMPSON.

* 25th peal together. † First peal 'in hand.'

DROGHEDA, IRELAND.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 29, 1952, *in* 1 *Hour and* 54 *Minutes,*
AT 26, WILLIAM STREET,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES
Being 42 six-scores. Tenor size 12 in F.

MRS. F. E. DUKES .. 1—2 | FREDERICK E. DUKES .. 3—4
*WALTER E. BOVENIZER .. 5—6

Conducted by FREDERICK E. DUKES.

* First peal.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a daughter to W. Graham, steeple-keeper, Drogheda, and a son to Mr. and Mrs. Cyril W. Galbraith, both ringers of St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 29, 1952, *in* 1 *Hour and* 33 *Minutes,*
AT 53, LEYS ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Seven different extents. Tenor size 8 in C.

PATRICK I. CHAPMAN.. .. 1—2 | *ROBIN G. TURNER .. .. 3—4
JOHN KING .. .. .. 5—6

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

* 50th peal and 40th in 1952.

A 21st birthday compliment to Patrick I. Chapman.

LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Wed., Dec. 31, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 10 *Minutes,*
AT FOSSEWAY FARM,
A PEAL OF 5376 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor size 15 in C.

PETER BERESFORD .. .. 1—2 | GEORGE E. OLIVER .. .. 5—6
JOAN BERESFORD .. .. 3—4 | DENNIS BERESFORD .. .. 7—8

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON. Conducted by DENNIS BERESFORD.

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.

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JOSEPH T. DYKE.
HAROLD J. POOLE.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

NO COPY THIS WEEK

We regret to announce that a larger number than usual of our postal subscribers have not yet paid Mr. Jeater. Copies of 'The Ringing World' are awaiting them at our office.

BELFRY GOSSIP

'Teen age peals from Minor to Maximus have been rung by the Ashton-under-Lyne Society. The average age of the band which rang 5,184 Kent Treble Bob Maximus at Ashton-under-Lyne was 19¼ years. There were eight firsts on 12 bells in the company.

Miss June M. Henshaw is the first lady to ring a peal at Acton, Cheshire.

The six bells at Stockland, Devon, are to be rehung, and the work has been entrusted to Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

Mr. P. A. Corby is now working in the Nottingham District and is only home week-ends There is a possibility that he might be living there permanently at a later date.

Two former officers of the London Counties Association—Mr. Eric T. Beauchamp and Miss Audrey M. Castle—were married at the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Merton, last Saturday.

Her friends in the Chester Diocesan Guild will join with us in congratulating Miss Norah Bibby on ringing her 150th peal. It was a peal of Liscard Imperial Bob Major at Liscard, a method never previously rung to a peal.

Mr. George C. Goodman, the popular Master of Kingston-on-Thames tower, has been seconded to a Government post at Singapore with H.M. Post Office. He left this country on Wednesday. A report of a farewell dinner and presentation will appear in our next issue.

Lincoln ringers, we feel sure, will like to congratulate Mr. Horace Hurst who on January 26th completes 50 years' service at St. Peter-at-Gowts' Church, Lincoln. Mr. Hurst is the present Ringing Master, a post he has held for a number of years. He was Master when the tower records were first kept in 1926 and has held office ever since.

Two stalwarts of the Kent County Association and lifelong ringing friends, who still give a great example to the Rochester District, Mr. W. J. Walker (85) and Mr. Herbert E. Simpson (80), had their birthdays honoured by a peal at Upchurch on January 3rd. After the peal a great time was had by all at the home of Mr. W. J. Walker. A real birthday tea was followed by tales of ringing back in the days of the 'pennyfarthings,' Mr. Walker doing his fair share of the talking.

Of those who rang their first peal of Little Bob Major at Crayford on Boxing Day, one has 63 and two others each 35 years of peal ringing behind them!

Congratulations to David Woodley, of Oxford, on ringing his first Surprise peal on a working bell. He arrived in Leicester in connection with his military service on the Sunday and was contacted at the bell foundry the following Thursday.

Mr. George Briggs, a member of St. Mary Redcliffe Guild, Bristol, is the first of several ringers to be invited to attempt their first peal as part of an experiment by the St. Stephen's Guild, Bristol, in devoting their first Monday night practice in each month to a peal attempt. As he has now been successful in scoring Grandsire Caters, it is hoped that several other 'firsts' will be scored during the year.

Although his name does not figure in our peal columns, Mr. Neville D. Smith, of Great Staughton, Hunts, is known to many ringers of the Bedfordshire and Ely Associations on account of his regular attendance at district meetings. His many ringing friends will join with us in congratulating 'Nev' on completing 50 years as a service ringer at Great Staughton, where his very regular attendance for service ringing is much valued.

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Etc.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD

Mr. John Pinfold New Ringing Master

The annual meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at the Tamworth Arms Hotel on January 3rd, under the chairmanship of Mr. Vice-President Albert Walker.

The chairman regretted that since the last meeting the Guild had suffered the loss of two old and esteemed members. For over fifty years Hubert Shepherd, brother of Mr. Edgar C. Shepherd, the Guild's librarian, was closely connected with Solihull Parish Church, both as ringer and chorister. His passing had left a breach in the choir and the band of ringers at Solihull which would be difficult to fill. Charles Williams was perhaps better known to the older generation of Birmingham ringers. In his younger days he had been a good twelve-bell ringer at St. Martin's Church before leaving to join a new band formed at Perry Barr Church, in which parish he then resided. Charles Williams was one of the very few remaining who actually knew Henry Johnson. In fact, at the last annual dinner he was the only ringer present who could claim that distinction. The members stood in silence for a moment as a token of respect to their departed colleagues.

Mr. Peter J. Hutchings, of London, S.W., was elected a life member, and the following tower elections were duly ratified: Miss Ann Barr and Mr. Michael Fairey, of Little Aston, Messrs. Clifford A. Barron, Shrewsbury, Gerald C. Hemming, of Evesham, and Ernest J. Ladd, of Tunbridge Wells.

For some years the April meeting has been held at Aston, and an invitation extended by the Aston ringers for this year was gratefully accepted for April 11th, be it noted—instead of the usual meeting day, which falls in Holy Week this year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1953

President, the Lord Bishop of Birmingham (re-elected). The vice-presidents were all re-elected, viz.: Rev. Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Alderman A. Paddon Smith, J.P., Albert Walker, Frank B. Yates, Edgar C. Shepherd, and Frank E. Haynes, M.A. It was decided to invite Rev. Canon Bryan Green, Rector of Birmingham, to become a vice-president.

Mr. Albert Walker was elected Master in place of Alderman Paddon Smith. In acknowledging his election, Mr. Walker paid a tribute to the retiring Master, calling attention to the vast amount of work that Alderman Paddon Smith had accomplished for the Guild, and proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to him for his past services.

Mr. John Pinfold was unanimously elected Ringing Master—a most popular election. Mr. Pinfold would like to see greater use made by members of the excellent facilities for method ringing at the Guild's practice at St. Martin's on Tuesday evenings. To avoid disappointment, it should be noted that the first Tuesday in the month is usually reserved for a peal attempt.

The remainder of the officers were re-elected as follows: Trustees, Alderman A. Paddon Smith and Ernest T. Allaway; auditors, Henry H. Fearn and Sidney O'C. Holloway; librarian, Edgar C. Shepherd; hon. secretary and treasurer, George E. Fearn.

A successful year's work was reported upon by the secretary. The finances had reached a record level, whilst the number of peals rung were the greatest that had been rung in one year for the Guild. Eleven new Major methods had been rung for the first time for the Guild during the twelve months.

The chairman at the forthcoming Henry Johnson Dinner, to be held on March 7th, will be the Guild's popular librarian, Mr. Edgar C. Shepherd.

THE BELLS OF GORDANO VALLEY

And Some Ringing Personalities

FEATURED in the 'Bristol Evening Post' of December 8th was an article on the bells and ringers in the five churches in the Gordano Valley, North Somerset. These towers are familiar to many of our readers, and we append below extracts from the excellent article written by Grace Sawden.

St. Peter's flat-roofed tower at **Portishead** is the highest in the valley, one of many built in the 15th century by the North Somerset Guild of Masons, whose distinctive design included plain double buttresses on each side of the corners, leaving the angle free to carry its line straight up to the top pinnacles.

St. Peter's has the only ring of eight in the Valley. Six bells bear the date 1772 and two more were added in 1897 for Queen Victoria's jubilee.

The tower of **St. George's** at **Easton-in-Gordano** was built in imitation of Portishead, but a hundred years later.

Being the only two of any great height in the Valley, and being also the two nearest the King Road it seems possible that beacons were lighted on their summits to guide sailors entering the Avon or the Portishead Creek on dark nights. The six bells at Easton are rung regularly by a keen band under the leadership of Mr. F. Neat.

St. Paul's, Weston-in-Gordano, has a small tower with a pyramidal top. As a thankoffering for peace a new bell was recently added to its ancient ring of five. Under Mr. C. Symes the ringers are firmly determined to carry on despite a small membership, and festivals are never allowed to go by without the sound of the bells.

Until about 40 years ago **St. Michael's Church** on **Clapton Hill** had only three bells. Then three more were added. Mr. C. Knight, the captain, is training a young team, including three girls, but finds that a total village population of 800 does not provide all the volunteers needed for all church duties.

The six bells at **St. Mary's, Portbury,** still in wooden frames, are seldom heard except when visiting bands arrive.

Fifty years ago lady ringers were unknown, but in the opinion of Mr. A. Lane, a recognised authority on all ringing matters in the Valley, their coming was a very good thing, as it improved the standard of behaviour in the belfries. The Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers celebrated its 40th anniversary last year. Two from Portishead were in the first all-ladies' peal, rung at Cubitt Town, London, in 1912.

THE EVENING PRACTICE

An evening visit to the Portishead belfry is an interesting experience. After climbing the well-worn spiral stone staircase in the confined space of one corner of the tower the belfry room seems surprisingly spacious. Its walls are decorated with boards commemorating peals rung by past and present members.

The captain, Mr. R. Gale, rings a bell to 'call the ringers,' then takes off his coat before climbing another flight of stairs to wind the church clock.

A full team having assembled, the ringers stand to their ropes—each rope is 60ft. long—hands high, heads bowed for the prayer which begins every practice.

On the conductor's word of command, first one rope, then another begin to move until they are all going up and down. The conductor calls an odd word, the order changes; another word and further changes until the final 'stand' and they stop—all but one, perhaps a learner who has not yet achieved that perfect control necessary to silence a bell at will, and the consequence is a penny fine. Rather a frightening thought that every error can be heard miles away.

THE BASIN

Many Gordano ringers are also experts on the handbells, and at Clapton a young team has toured the village each Christmas playing tunes.

Mr. B. J. Crane, who was an enthusiastic ringer fifty years ago, tells how his team used to walk many miles from one village in Gordano to another, lighting their way by lantern through the muddy lanes, to play carols on their handbells at Christmastime.

As they arrived at each house they tried the gate. If it was well oiled, they maintained a tip would be forthcoming. If it squeaked—no tip.

'And it worked,' says Mr. Crane. 'At one place they gave us a Christmas pudding. We did not know what to do with that, so in the end we all sat round Walton tree to eat it. Then we did not know what to do with the basin. We kept it in the tower for a long time and said we would give it to the first one of us who got married. That was me. We still have the basin, and a very good one it is.'

'Yes,' agrees his wife, 'and we still use it for a pudding every Christmas after 43 years.'

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

AFFILIATION FEES

Association secretaries are minded that affiliation fees to the Central Council for the year 1953 are now due.

E. A. BARNETT,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

A STORY WITH A MORAL

Unusual Northamptonshire Experience

The story of an unusual ending to a Saturday evening peal attempt comes from Helmdon, Northants. Surprise Major was the order of the day, and 'Young John' was looking forward to what he hoped would be his first of Minor.

The five old stagers knew their stuff inside-out, and he had only to keep his bell going to get through. A slight whiff of coke fumes from the recently-lit central heating system hung in the air when a start was made, but no one took any notice.

Two 720's of London were rolled out as merrily as the proverbial marriage bell. Two more of Beverley followed, and then there remained only the last three of Cambridge, intended as the 'home straight.' However, the good striking which had been expected did not materialise. Instead, a gradual deterioration set in. Unbeknown to each other, Nos. 1 and 2 were not feeling too good, 3 and 4 were realising they would hardly see the peal through, and each fell to wondering what the others would say if and when they had to cry, 'Halt, enough!'

The conductor on the tenor afterwards admitted that his brain was fast becoming numbed and useless, when 'Young John' suddenly decided to solve all their problems by collapsing unconscious to the floor, not to recover for close on an hour.

Moral.—Look to your ventilation when coke fumes are hanging about. M. S.

A CANTERBURY SILVER WEDDING

While the quarter peal attempted in honour of the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Philpott, of 73, London Road, Canterbury, on January 5th, on St. Dunstan's bells, Canterbury, was lost three leads from the end, the band are nevertheless sincere in the good wishes for every happiness to them in the years to come. Those who took part in the ringing were B. Wilsden 1, Mrs. Gladys Stockbridge 2, A. C. Philpott 3, J. Stockbridge 4, Mrs. Brenda Chatfield (cond.) 5, A. Butler 6.

OBITUARY

MR. CHARLES EDWARDS

A former Master of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, Mr. Charles Edwards died at Altrincham, Cheshire, on January 2nd, aged 83. He left Fownhope, Herefordshire, about 14 years ago, on the death of his wife, to live with his son-in-law and daughter.

Mr. Charles Edwards was born at Woolhope of a ringing family. His father was a ringer, and while still lads his five brothers could also ring. From his early youth he took a keen interest in the art, and this interest was developed early from the fact that he had as a boy been given a copy of 'Clavis,' published in 1778, inscribed with the words, 'Presented to the gentlemen ringers of Fownhope by John Rudhall, bellfounder, in 1791.' His pride in this book was increased in later years when he went to live in Fownhope.

In 1889 (three years after the foundation of the Diocesan Guild) Mr. Edwards went to live in Colwall and quickly made friends with the then Rector, the Rev. G. M. Custance, founder of the Guild, under whom he learned to ring a six-score and so became eligible for membership of the Guild. He made rapid progress and soon found himself able to teach others and conduct.

After a short time at Leominster, where he quickly built up an efficient band, he left the Diocese. Between 1900 and 1919 he lived in Surrey and soon became an arduous and enthusiastic worker for the Winchester Guild, for which he rang many peals.

Soon after his return to Herefordshire he was appointed Ringing Master of the Guild, and in 1923 he succeeded Mr. Buchanan as Master, a post he held until 1939, when he left Fownhope because of the death of his wife. As Master he did a great work visiting towers, teaching and calling peals, and the Guild made steady progress under him. He also took a keen interest in the care of bells and did valuable work visiting towers and advising the clergy. He had rung 114 peals for the Guild, and when he left he was appointed a vice-president.

The funeral service was at Fownhope Parish Church on January 6th, the service being conducted by the Rev. W. R. Chignell. The family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. Elkins, Mr. and Mrs. W. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Lewis, Mrs. Roberts, Mr. Roberts and Mr. and Mrs. G. Edwards. Members of the Hereford Diocesan Guild were present from Hereford Cathedral, All Saints', Holmer, Eardisland and Fownhope. Members of his family and an old friend, Mr. W. Davies, rang a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells at the graveside. The bells of the church were also rung muffled.

A quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung half-muffled at Holme Lacy by Miss R. Jarrett 1, L. Evans 2, R. T. Jones 3, A. T. Wingate 4, F. E. Roberts 5, J. J. Webb (conductor) 6, A. W. Davies 7, L. L. Quartermain 8.

A peal of Plain Bob Major, with the clappers half muffled, was also rung at Bowdon, Cheshire, of which tower Mr. Edwards was a member.

APPRECIATIONS

On Tuesday, January 6th, Charles Edwards, a vice-president and for many years Master of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, was laid to rest next his wife in the churchyard at Fownhope, which adjoins the Herefordshire village of Woolhope, his native place. So must we all come home at the last. To one who knew him at the height of his vigour, but had, to a large extent, lost touch with him of late years, it seemed a sad and strange homecoming for the active and dominant man we had known.

Following the committal, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on his own handbells over the open grave by three members of his family and one old friend. Fownhope six were rung half-muffled by Fownhope band and members of Hereford Guild, and in the evening a half-muffled quarter peal of Triples on the eight at Holme Lacy, just across the river, by a band from Hereford, Ross and Kington Districts.

As the first Master of the Guild really to exercise the functions of Master, he took over the work of the earlier instructors—men such as Washbrook, Fussell, Short and Groves. He spared neither himself nor his associates in his efforts to encourage the extension and improvement of change ringing in the diocese. To that end he travelled in all weathers to all parts of the counties of Hereford and Shropshire. Much of it was pioneer work of the hardest and least rewarding type, but it was done with the patience and faith of one who, from his daily calling, knew that good seed well planted will bear good fruit. A. W. D.

The passing of Mr. C. Edwards removes a worker of 50 years ago for the old Winchester Guild in the Farnham District. In those early days there were no buses but he used to cycle round the six-bell towers to help and it was a big loss to the District when he moved to Hereford A. H. P.

MR. GEORGE JONES

The death of Mr. George Jones, of Ludgershall, Wilts, on January 11th, at the age of 59, will leave a gap in his own parish and also at Piddington.

He was laid to rest at Ludgershall on January 15th, his colleagues in the Western Region of the British Railways acting as bearers. The service in the Parish Church was attended by a full congregation.

Mr. Jones was for many years a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The tribute accorded him by the Incumbent at the service sums up his life: 'He was always showing kindness to his neighbours in many practical ways and after ringing for service was a regular attender at divine worship and was a true Christian.'

The bells of Piddington and Ludgershall were rung half-muffled in the evening.

MR. H. OVERTON

The Chester Diocesan Guild have lost a very fine ringer by the death, on January 5th, of Mr. Harry Overton, aged 67, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lucas, Woodcott.

He was a member of a fine ringing family from Bridgnorth, Herefordshire, and was for many years employed as a machinist in the Crewe Railway Works, retiring in 1950. At Wrenbury he had been a member of the Parochial Church Council, and as a tower-keeper trained what was probably the youngest band in the Chester Diocesan Guild. 'Nothing but the best would do for Harry,' writes a friend. His genial and sincere character endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. Mr. Overton had about 100 peals to his credit, rung mostly in Cheshire and Shropshire.

Following a short service at Wrenbury Church, conducted by the Rev. A. L. Manning, the interment took place on January 9th at Crewe Cemetery.

Besides family mourners there were present Mr. W. T. Holding and Mr. C. Thomas representing Christ Church, Crewe, ringers, Mr. F. W. Stenson, Crewe Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild, Mr. J. Brough (Nantwich), Mr. A. Crawley (Wistaston), Mr. T. Barlow (Wrenbury) Among the many wreaths were tributes from the bellringers of Christ Church, Crewe; St. Margaret's, Wrenbury; and Wrenbury Parochial Church Council.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Kington District Annual Meeting

Twenty-nine members, representing ten towers, attended the annual meeting of the Kington District at Lyonshall. Ringing started at 3 p.m., and the Vicar (the Rev. C. Denser) conducted the Guild form of service in the church at 4.30. Tea was provided by friends.

The district secretary's annual report, presented at the business meeting, stated that three meetings and five practices had been held with a good average attendance. Four methods of Doubles, eight of Minor, one of Triples and one of Major had been rung at the practices. Five members had qualified for certificates of membership, and seven peals had been rung in the district.

The district officers were re-elected, and combined practices were fixed for February and March. The next meeting will be held in April at Dilwyn, subject to permission. Six new members were accepted.

The district secretary (Mr. J. Preece), in thanking the members for their support during the past year, appealed for more subscribers to 'The Ringing World.' He said he had been a regular subscriber for 41 years. Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, gave him a specimen copy in September, 1911.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to all who had helped towards the success of the meeting. The tower was again visited and ringing continued until 9 p.m. Two Doubles and eight Minor methods were practised, including Spliced Surprise.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—O.D.G. Anon. 2s., Anonymous £1 1s.

Peals.—Rugeley 3s., Bodenham 6s., Pinchbeck 4s., Ely 2s., Godstone 4s., Bowdon 5s., Feltham 2s., Reading 3s. 9d., Bristol (2) 4s. 6d., Crewkerne 4s., Cowley 3s.

Quarter peals.—Eardisland 4s., Slough 5s., Plymouth 2s. 6d., Birchington 2s., Otley 3s., Heston 2s., Canterbury 3s., Chesham 2s. 6d., Thorley 2s. 6d. Isleworth 2s. Ruardean, 2s., Streatham 2s., Twyning 3s., Fulham 2s., Little Staughton 1s.

CARTER'S NOTATION.

Dear Sir,—It would be very interesting to learn who first had the brilliant idea of numerical notation so ably illustrated by the late A. J. Corrigan in his books of Method Collections.

A CORRESPONDENT.

A Holiday Excursion

The ringing tours of Mr. Patrick Chapman are well known in the Kettering area and although we never sampled a mid-winter variety before, his half-day excursion into Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire on December 20th was very successful. The two adjacent villages of Hemingford Abbots and Hemingford Grey were first on the list, and after a quick succession of raising, ringing and falling, we continued to St. Ives and rang several touches with members of the Ely Diocesan Association attending a District meeting.

Very brief visits were made to Holywell (6), Swavesey (6), Willingham (6) and Over (8) and we completed the day's 'snatch' by ringing on the light rings at Longstanton (8) and Rampton (5). Although the time spent at each tower was necessarily short, the standard of ringing was high throughout.

Thanks are due to the converted ambulance driver from Yardley Hastings, and especially to P. I. C. for arranging yet another enjoyable half-day. B. A.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CLASH OF MEETINGS IN LONDON

Dear Sir,—According to your notices, the following 'London' meeting were to be held on Saturday, January 17th: College Youths at Whitechapel, London County at Walthamstow and Leyton, Middlesex Association at Upper Clapton, Middlesex Association also at Acton, and Royal Cumberlands at Shoreditch and St. Martin's.

This could mean that the state of ringing in the Metropolis is flourishing, but it could also mean what it did one Saturday last year, that the attendance at each suffered by reason of the others.

I am well aware of the difficulties experienced in arranging meetings and that occasional clashing of dates is quite unavoidable. But I also know that an Association officer's reward for his work is the knowledge that his meeting has been successful.

I wonder if all is done that could be in the way of notifying fellow-secretaries in good time of the probable dates of meetings. A committee, to meet, say, once or twice a year, composed of the secretaries of the various societies, would be a big step towards such co-operation. That this is not impossible was shown when a similar committee co-ordinated the efforts of the London societies in connection with a Central Council meeting before the war.—Yours faithfully,

WILFRID G. WILSON.

Ealing.

MORE HOLLYWOOD HISTORY

Dear Sir,—Those who appreciate the authenticity and accuracy of Hollywood's historical epics will be interested to learn that the truth about Westminster Abbey's bells is now revealed. It is obvious that the complete octave was stolen long ago from the New World, probably by George III.'s contemptible redcoats during the War of Independence. This fact will be clear to all who are able to sit through the new film, 'The Crimson Pirate,' for they will be rewarded by the sound of the Abbey bells ringing merrily out over the blue Carribean, 'late in the 18th century.' They certainly knew how to strike Stedman Triples in those far-off pirate days!—Yours truly,

O. B.

South Woodford.

LANLIVERY BELLS

Dear Sir,—In order to save any disappointment to ringers organising outings in the Bodmin area of Cornwall I should like to make the following known.

The eight bells of St. Brevita's Church, Lanlivery, have been declared unsafe and are now not permitted to be rung. In the Bodmin Deanery magazine the priest-in-charge (the Rev. William Elwell, M.A., R.D.) states:—

'We are very sorry to learn that the bells of Lanlivery have been declared unsafe and will not be rung in peal until at least £700 has been found to put them in order. It is, however, fortunate that this state of things has been found out in time or a very bad accident may have taken place.'

The bells are a good-tone ring of eight and were augmented to eight from an old five in 1900. The church also needs a fair amount of restoration and although no official appeal has been launched I am sure that any donations towards the restoration would be very welcome. The address of Mr. Elwell is The Vicarage, Luxulyan, Bodmin.

Incidentally, this is Cornwall's only unringable ring of eight bells, and I think I am correct in saying the only unringable bells in the county.—Yours faithfully,

F. STUART WORTH, M.R.S.L.

PRE-REFORMATION BELLS AT NORTHLEIGH

Dear Sir,—After reading the account of Sunday service ringing at St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, and their claim to have the only ring of pre-Reformation bells by one founder, I am enclosing a cutting from 'The Western Times and Exeter Gazette' of January 2nd, 1953.

You will see there that the parish of Northleigh, a small village in the Honiton Deanery, claims to have four bells cast by Robert Norton, of Exeter. Three bells carry the same inscriptions as the three original bells of this parish, two of which still remain.—Yours faithfully,

F. H. PARR.

Buckerell, Devon.

MR. H. J. POOLE'S 1,000 PEALS

Dear Sir,—In reference to Mr. H. J. Poole's most remarkable list of 1,000 peals, I have never read a more wonderful 1,000. In the earlier stages of them it is very gratifying to know that I happen to have been his 'right hand.'

F. J. DEXTER.

Leicester.

RUGBY SLOW COURSE

Dear Sir,—The method published recently as Rugby Slow Course Doubles appears in an old book in the tower at Shipley, Sussex, as being composed by Henry Burstow, of Horsham, in 1871, and is named Henry Burstow Slow Course.

This interesting old book was written in 1896 and contains over 100 Minor and Doubles methods, with such strange names as 'The Success' and 'The Dream,' each most beautifully written, and in some cases touches are written out in full, but few of these methods would conform to the standards required today by the Central Council.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE FRANCIS.

Itchingfield.

'FLINTSHIRE AND ITS BELLS'

ST. MATTHEW'S, BUCKLEY

Dear Sir,—In your note below my letter published in a recent 'Ringing World' you say there is an 'impression' of a coin on each of our bells. Actually there are two gold sovereigns of the year 1902, showing head and tail on each bell. This makes them all the more unique and interesting.—Yours fraternally,

DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD.

Buckley.

P.S.—Souvenir hunters will be discouraged! —D. H. B. M.

LONDON BELLS ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

Dear Sir,—Had Mr. Tom Ingram been in Chelsea at the right time he would have heard the St. Luke's, Chelsea, Society of Change Ringers ringing in the New Year in traditional style.—Yours faithfully,

VERONICA DUPRE,
Hon. Secretary.

RING THIS NEW METHOD

All Saints' Doubles

A peal of this method has been rung at Sutton Coldfield, also included in peals at Handsworth, Birmingham, and Roade, Northamptonshire

Send for this method sheet now to:—
W. H. Cavill, High Street, Ashcott, Bridgwater, Somerset

Price 6d. post free. Extra copies 4d. each

WHO WAS THOMAS DAVY?

Dear Sir,—About five miles from here in the village of Dunkeswell the tower was pulled down in 1948. The five bells now standing in the church are inscribed that they were founded by:—

Treble.—Williams Blews, Birmingham, 1870.
Second.—Thomas Davy, 1684.
Third.—Thomas Davy, 1684.
Fourth.—William Blews, 1870.
Tenor.—T. Wroth, 1732.

Can any reader tell me who Thomas Davy was, and, if a founder, where was his foundry? Are there any other bells about cast by him? I have to hand a book with several towers in this district with the inscriptions of the bells but can find no other mention of T. Davy.—Yours faithfully,

F. H. PARR.

Buckerell, near Honiton.

NEWS FROM HOBART, TASMANIA

Dear Sir,—I am writing on behalf of Mr. A. R. Wilson to wish 'The Ringing World' the compliments of the season. Roy has been poorly of late and has been in and out of hospital quite a lot. His doctor thinks that the trouble, diabetes, is now under control, but when he gets stronger he has to return to hospital for treatment to his eyes. Roy has been a tower of strength to our band and is very much missed because at the best of times we can count on only six for service ringing.

We were very glad to have the help of A. J. (Bert) Lancefield last year and were very sorry when his stay of four months came to an end. Five of our members rang their first quarter peal under his conductorship. His coaching of the St. David's band did not bear fruit during his stay but a few weeks later they scored their first quarter of Doubles. Just at present, for various reasons, we are short-handed and it has been suggested that some ladies be invited to join up.

Until a short time ago we thought that Holy Trinity bells were the oldest ring in the Commonwealth but it has been pointed out that the eight of St. Mary's Basilica, Sydney, were installed a few months earlier.

Considering that our bells have never had the attention of an expert bellhanger they still 'go' reasonably well. The original frame was cut by pit saws from local timber and built to a model (still preserved) sent out with the bells. The headstocks are of elm but the stays and sliders locally made. About fifty years ago a new top of 8in. by 8in. kauri was placed on the old frame and recently the tenor was put on ball bearings. All expenses have been borne by the ringers.

On one occasion, long ago, when ropes were needed, the ringers formed a concert party and quickly raised the money. So successful were their efforts that it was decided to continue the concerts under the name of the Orpheus Club. The choir still gives concerts regularly and claims to be the oldest club of that kind in the Commonwealth. There is no longer any connection with ringers.

The first president an old ringer, has recently died, aged 93. The old-time ringers, although their performances were of little account judged by English standards, did render loyal service to the belfry, and the present standard of ringing, modest though it is, is probably the best ever, and I think that the ideal of service is as strong as ever.

May I, in conclusion, say how much I enjoy 'The Ringing World'? And again we wish you and everyone connected with the paper a very happy Christmas.—I am, Yours faithfully,

SIDNEY W. SMITH.

Hobart, Tasmania.

Mr. W. A. Kitchenside has been ringing at Mayfield, Sussex, for 35 years. On January 10th he heard the bells from outside the tower for the first time and was surprised to hear how nice they sounded in the street. Can anyone beat this?

FOR BEGINNERS—AND A WORD TO THE OLDER HANDS

XXVIII. OBSERVING COURSING ORDER

Every young ringer is a potential conductor, but not all reach the stage of competency in this direction, nor even try to do so. Many ringers are content to go on just 'ringing' and leaving 'calling' to others. Whether or not they desire to assume responsibilities as conductors, however, we think every ringer should know something about conducting, even if only because it helps to give him a closer insight into method ringing.

To stick to one's own job and mind one's business is as meritorious in ringing as in other walks of life but there are times when some knowledge and a little interest in the other man's job comes in very useful. It helps a ringer to keep himself right when trouble occurs and may help him to help others.

The man who knows how to conduct a touch or peal must of necessity know more about the method than the man who just does his ringing by rule of thumb. For instance, the man who only knows where to dodge in Bob Minor by the place he passes the treble or by recollecting where he dodged last time is not as safe a ringer as the man who, in addition, knows the coursing order of the bells and how a bob is going to affect them, but these are things that every conductor studies if he is worthy of the name.

Even if the young ringer has no immediate prospect of becoming the bob caller in his tower, he should lose no opportunity of watching what is happening among the other bells while he is ringing, as soon as he can begin to think of something else besides finding his way through the method. Above all, there is no reason why he should not study these things on paper at home, for this is the one road to success in the tower.

In the simpler methods the crux of successful conducting is in the ability to watch the coursing order of the bells and to be able to anticipate the changes of coursing order which will be made by the bobs.

Despite dodging and place-making, the bells in these simple methods keep to a fixed cycle until they are disturbed by a bob (or single). Coursing order is, generally speaking, the order in which the bells come to lead, or follow each other out behind. It also keeps them to a regular succession in the 'work' of the method, and if the conductor knows the coursing order, he not only can tell the bells when to lead, or the order in which they should come away from behind, but by the position of one or more he can tell a ringer who has gone astray exactly what piece of work he has to do next and thus set him fairly quickly on his feet again—unless the delinquent happens to be one of those unfortunate ringers who, when they get out, have not the capacity to get right again without infinite trouble.

A knowledge of coursing order is, therefore, a first essential for those who wish to study anything more than the merest elementary phase of ringing. Indeed the power to observe and memorise the order in which bells are coursing is the greatest aid to hunting. If you know the coursing order, there is no need to look about to find the next bell to strike over, with the possibility of missing it altogether; the ringer knows exactly which bell to look for.

Suppose it is Plain Bob we are ringing. Let us look at the coursing order first from the treble, when all the working bells come up without interruption. As you hunt out you have them in the order 2, 4, 6, 5, 3, and you take them back in precisely the same order. Then, when you lead, the last bell the treble struck over makes 2nds place and takes the treble from lead. In hunting out and back next time, therefore, you put the last first and keep the others in the same order 3.2.4.6.5. In the next lead this order becomes 5.3.2.4.6 and so on until the end of the course or a bob is called.

A bob in Bob Minor causes 4ths place instead of 2nds to be made, and consequently the bell coursing in front of the treble and the one behind it continue in that order and a different bell is displaced.

As we have seen the coursing order in the first lead is 2.4.6.5.3, and, in the second without a bob, 3.2.4.6.5. If, however, a bob is called, it is not the last bell you meet first, but the same bell as in the previous lead. The bell met next to last turns round in 4ths place and comes in and you have a coursing order of 2.5.4.6.3 instead of 3.2.4.6.5.

It seems a little more complicated in explanation than it really is in practice, and with careful application the young ringer will know as quickly which bells to look for after a bob has been called as he will after a plain lead.

If he is ringing an inside bell, he has to take the treble into account in the ringing order, and he will find that what happens is that the five working bells retain their order and that the treble moves through them one place each lead. Thus (suppose he is ringing the 2nd) he first leads and then he meets the bells 4.6.5.3.1, and after 1 comes his own bell in the cycle, giving an actual coursing order of 4.6.5.3.1.2.

The 2nds place made by 3 transposes the bells in the next lead to 4.6.5.1.3.2, and in the next to 4.6.1.5.3.2, and so on, the treble moving one place at a time, the others keeping their coursing order except for this disturbance. If a bob is called, there is a wider transposition and instead of 4.6.5.3.1.2, you get 4.6.3.1.2.5.

It is worth while going to a little pains to understand this. Get a pencil and paper and write out two or three leads of Bob Minor and note the order in which the bells come up behind and come to lead.

Then write out three leads in which bobs are made and observe in these how the coursing order is changed. It will enable you to grasp it much more clearly when you go into the belfry.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Biggleswade District Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Biggleswade District was held at Biggleswade on January 10th, when ringers were present from Biggleswade, Basford, Bedford, Biddenham, Sandy, Tempsford, Henlow, Clifton, Stotfold, Maulden, Silsoe, Willington, Kempston, Blunham, Stagsden and Northill, and visitors from Histon and Cambridge.

The service at 4.30 was conducted by the Rev. R. B. Griffin, who gave a suitable address. Tea was partaken of in the Memorial Hall, arranged by the wives of the local ringers. A company of 40 sat down to an excellent meal.

The business meeting followed, the Rev. R. B. Griffin presiding. The secretary presented the annual report, which was adopted, as was the balance sheet, which showed a balance of £12 2s. 4d.

Collections for the Belfry Repair Fund during the year amounted to £8 11s. 9d., making a balance of £33 5s. 11d. Two grants have been made to the Clifton Bell Restoration Fund amounting to ten guineas. These bells, which are now at the Loughborough Foundry, are expected to be installed in time for the Coronation.

The usual vote of thanks brought the business meeting to a close. The bells were then kept going until 8.15 p.m. During the evening a course of Bob Major was rung by an entirely ladies' band. Methods rung during the afternoon and evening ranged from Grandsire Triples to Yorkshire Surprise.

L. H. B.

SOME LESSER-KNOWN WARWICKSHIRE CHURCHES

No. 2—Wootton Wawen

Which is the oldest belfry in England? In Warwickshire, at least, there is none older than that at Wootton Wawen—the oldest church in the county. Situated between the city of Birmingham and the historic town of Stratford-on-Avon, its fascinating name is derived from the Saxon owner before the Norman Conquest, a pious and reputable person named Wagen. To him goes the credit for causing the church to be rebuilt (for there was a church on the site in 723), and much of Wagen's work remains. The lower portion of the tower is his, resting as it does on four Saxon arches, one of which is now sealed.

Not only is the church noted for its antiquity, but also for its plan and fittings. Its plan is unique and the church has often been described as three churches in one, for the nave, Lady Chapel and chancel are almost separate buildings and are in themselves self-contained. For the historically-minded ringing visitor to see, there are some grand 15th century screens, a remarkable 15th century pulpit, fine 14th century stained glass, a small chained library containing a copy of the 'Breeches Bible' of 1595, tombs and a host of other things.

Past years have seen the ringers of Wootton Wawen competing in the Four Shires competitions, the cards for which have been framed and now hang in the ringing chamber. The ringing chamber! A room full of mysterious nooks and crannies—a room where once a door opened on to the ancient and now vanished rood loft; and what is the secret of the squint-like opening, now sealed, near that doorway? Here, too, can be seen a genuine Saxon window lighting a genuine Saxon ringing chamber built nine centuries ago! What a privilege to ring in such a belfry and continue the work of those who for nine hundred years have performed the same act of devotion in this very tower.

The bells, six in number, are not in a good condition, yet they are not unringable. The inscriptions are:—

Treble.—Iohn Morris, Henry Green Chvrchwardens. Henry Bagley of Witney made mee, J742.

2nd.—1591. ABCDE. FGHIK. LMNOPQRS.

3rd.—I. Rudhall Glocester fecit J803.

4th.—1784. (The remainder of the inscription on this bell is defaced.)

5th.—Thos Haynes and Iohn Buffery, Churchwardens. 1761.

Tenor.—Iohn Moore Rector Iob Fisher, Iohn Attwood C.W. 1719.

The 4th was in all probability cast by T. Rudhall; the treble is cracked and has been mended with iron rivets, and another bell has been cracked and has an iron band round it. The second bell was cast by Watts of Leicester.

When the commissioners surveyed the churches in 1552 they found at 'Wott'n Waughen. Itm there . . . iij belles.' It seems that at that time there was some building there, for there appears: 'Qd that the p'ishe (parish) have sold sithe (since) the Last Survey oon bell to the buyldinge of theire churche and a ovle (aisle).' In the new aisle the oldest and the newest were thus joined together, and to-day the church at Wootton Wawen proudly boasts the architecture of every period from the Saxon times.

One thought on concluding this, the second article in the series—which is the oldest belfry in England?

A. A. M.

'The War Cry' published an unusual picture of a belfry in its first issue of 1953. A group of men and women, well muffled, had each a hand on a sally. For safety's sake, presumably, the ropes were all tied together below the sallies. Inexperience of the practical side of ringing spoilt what might have been useful and valuable propaganda.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mary V. Whorlow (first quarter) 1, S. W. Brown 2, B. K. Turnbull 3, Mary W. Brown 4, H. W. Brown (cond.) 5, D. H. Paine (first of Grandsire) 6.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKS.—On Jan. 11th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: Miss Lola Callow 1, P. K. Williamson 2, W. A. Stote 3, J. W. Taylor 4, F. W. Pettens (cond.) 5, L. M. Callow 6, R. Winter 7, D. A. Carpenter 8. First of Treble Bob Major by 1 and 7.

BATH.—At the Church of St. Mark, on Dec. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Townsend 1, M. Helps (cond.) 2, R. Perry 3, A. L. Coles 4, H. Newman 5, D. Eyles 6. Rung half-muffled for Mr. J. Brown, father of Mr. W. G. Brown, towermaster of the above church, who was buried this day.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.—On Jan. 8th, 1,500 Plain Bob Major: A Sayer (first quarter) 1, Betty Solly 2, J. Russell 3, T. Milsted 4, H. Luck 5, J. Tumber (first quarter) 6, A. Hinkley 7, L. Everes (cond.) 8. Rung for the universal week of prayer service.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Jan. 4th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss K. Weller 1, J. Galyer 2, A. J. Clayton 3, S. F. W. Kimber 4, R. Tomlin 5, D. E. Parsons (cond.) 6, L. A. Reece 7, F. D. Jennings 8.

BELGRAVE, LEICS.—On Dec. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Barrow 1, O. Castleman 2, J. Kesterton 3, R. Swann 4, P. Wells 5, N. Abell 6, C. Linch (cond.) 7, E. Bass 8. Also on Dec. 28th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. Barrow 1, O. Castleman 2, J. Kesterton 3, A. Skinner (cond.) 4, J. Udale 5, N. Abell 6, C. Linch 7, E. Bass 8. Also on Dec. 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Pole (first quarter) 1, O. Castleman 2, J. Kesterton 3, R. Swann 4, R. Barrow 5, A. Skinner 6, C. Linch (cond.) 7, E. Bass 8.

BETHERSDEN, KENT.—On Jan. 2nd, 1,260 Bob Doubles: H. Jarvis (first quarter away from tenor) 1, Miss M. Fensome 2, P. Jarvis 3, M. W. Marshall 4, W. W. Ring (cond.) 5, D. Borton 6.

CAERHAYS, CORNWALL.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Harper 1, D. Burnett 2, H. Harper 3, A. Carveth (cond.) 4, K. Brewer 5, K. Rowe 6. First known change-ringing on the bells for 13 years.

CALNE, WILTS.—On Jan. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Freegard 1, R. Lancefield 2, F. Walker 3, E. Dixon 4, W. Hacker 5, H. Burry 6, R. Barry (cond.) 7, W. Haines 8. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to the late Harry Parsons, ringer and choirman at St. Mary's Church.

CANTERBURY, KENT.—At the Church of St. Dunstan, on Jan. 4th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: Sally Ashenden 1, B. Wilsden 2, Mrs. Gladys Stockbridge 3, A. C. Philpott 4, Mrs. Brenda Chatfield (cond.) 5, A. Butler 6. First quarter 1 and 2. Rung to mark the engagement of Miss Sally Ashenden to the Rev. T. W. H. Rutherford, curate of St. Dunstan's with Holy Cross.

CHESHAM, BUCKS.—On Jan. 10th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: R. Biggs 1, D. Stone 2, W. Redrup (cond.) 3, M. Hatchett 4, B. Taylor 5, W. Lee 6. First of Cambridge for 2 and 5. Rung as a farewell to Mr. F. Shepherd, who is leaving the country to take up a teaching appointment in Southern Rhodesia.

DERBY.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Jan. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Clare 1, S. Walklate (cond.) 2, D. Walklate 3, G. Freebrey 4, F. R. Lowe 5, A. E. Thompson 6, C. Walklate 7, R. Scott 8. A birthday compliment to Mrs. Irene Tate.

EARDISLAND, HEREFORDS.—On Jan. 1st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. F. Moreton 1, M. P. Moreton 2, H. Symonds 3, R. Stickley 4, A. T. Wingate 5, L. Evans 6, A. W. Davis (cond.) 7, L. Quartermain 8. First quarter peal on the bells. For the Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—On Jan. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. G. Sawyer 1, Pam Webb 2, M. Bishop 3, J. Gordon 4, A. Woodley 5, J. P. Blond 6, A. H. Webb (cond.) 7, D. Napper 8. Also on Jan. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Gordon 1, Pam Webb 2, Jill Bishop 3, M. Bishop 4, G. Bishop 5, B. Brown 6, A. Webb (cond.) 7, W. White 8.

ELY, CAMBS.—On Dec. 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss A. Harding (first quarter) 1, I. M. Waters 2, M. J. Thurnott 3, Miss M. Grain 4, J. W. Pickett (cond.) 5, G. B. Easingwood 6. First quarter of Doubles for all except conductor.

FOXEARTH ESSEX.—On Dec. 20th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise: R. Boykett 1, Miss R. Seabrook (first in method) 2, C. Snowden 3, F. Claydon 4, T. Bird 5, J. Jennings 6, W. Arnold (cond.) 7, Miss H. G. Snowden 8.

FULHAM, S.W.—On Jan. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Belcher 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, R. Mackerill 3, R. Lay 4, H. Ellis 5, J. Bramley 6, J. Phillips 7, H. Page 8.

HALEWOOD, LIVERPOOL.—On Jan. 11th, 1,260 Bob Major: K. Atherley 1, A. Maddock 2, T. Robinson 3, G. Craine 4, D. S. Harris 5, J. Robinson 6, T. Hesketh 7, E. White (cond.) 8.

HESTON, MIDDLX.—On Jan. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss E. Ricketts 1, W. Webb 2, E. R. Gladman 3, J. B. Sansom 4, B. A. Rose 5, W. J. Winter 6, W. A. Lewis (cond.) 7, J. E. Ricketts 8.

LITTLE ASTON, STAFFS.—On Dec. 21st, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob 360 April Day, 120 All Saints' and 300 Grandsire): Mary Wallace (first quarter) 1, Ann Barr (first quarter 'inside') 2, A. G. Isaacson (first quarter 'inside') 3, M. W. Fairey 4, C. M. Smith (cond.) 5, F. T. Warrington (first quarter) 6. First quarter in four methods by all and on the bells. Also 1,260 Doubles (360 April Day, 480 Plain Bob and 420 Grandsire): G. Pugh (first quarter) 1, Ann Barr (first quarter in three methods 'inside') 2, C. M. Smith 3, A. G. Isaacson (first quarter in three methods 'inside') 4, M. W. Fairey (first quarter as cond.) 5, F. T. Warrington (first quarter in three methods) 6. Also on Dec. 25th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 780 Grandsire): F. T. Warrington 1, Ann Barr 2, D. W. Barr (cond.) 3, M. W. Fairey 4, C. M. Smith 5. First quarter in two methods by all and on the bells. Rung prior to morning service and as a 16th birthday compliment to Miss Ann Barr.

LYNDHURST, HANTS.—On Jan. 1st, 1,280 Double Oxford Bob Major: D. Brixton 1, Jessie Kippin 2, Nelia Leahy 3, J. Hartless 4, R. N. Marlow 5, D. R. Reed 6, E. F. Gilbert 7, J. H. Gilbert (cond.) 8. First in the method for 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8 and on the bells.

MERROW, SURREY.—On Jan. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss A. Nicholls 1, Miss M. Kirkby (first quarter) 2, Miss P. Warren 3, G. L. Grover (cond.) 4, F. A. Smith 5, J. A. Etherington 6.

MOORSIDE, OLDHAM, LANCS.—On Jan. 4th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: O. Moores 1, H. Armstead 2, Audrey M. Sevile 3, G. Dare 4, F. Mellor 5, J. Brooks 6, I. Kay (cond.) 7, R. Sinkinson 8. Rung muffled for funeral service of Mrs. S. Mitton, mother of Maurice, a local ringer and sexton at this church.

NORBURY, HAZEL GROVE, CHESHIRE.—On Dec. 29th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Fernley 1, Molly May 2, Elise Brentnall 3, W. Fernley 4, Sylvia Cain 5, J. W. Hartley 6, B. Jones 7, E. Bennett (cond.) 8. A welcome to the curate, Mr. Plimbley.

OTLEY, YORKS.—On Jan. 7th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Claire Mountain 1, Audrey Brough 2, R. M. V. Manning (first quarter) 3, Joan Mountain 4, P. Whittaker 5, L. Cooper (cond.) 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.—At Emmanuel Church, on Jan. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. W. Godard (first quarter) 1, H. H. Thomas 2, G. Godard 3, A. Burbridge 4, T. G. Myers 5, R. Southwood 6, J. Sims (first as cond.) 7, O. Thomas 8.

PORTHKERRY, GLAM.—On Jan. 10th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob: H. Green 1, A. R. Price 2, T. Yeomans 3, F. Bailey 4, M. Williams 5, G. Francis (first as cond.) 6. First of Treble Bob by 1 and 5.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—On Dec. 31st, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor (7, 8 behind): Mrs. M. M. Osborne 1, Mrs. J. C. Northan 2, Miss S. Booth 3, Mr. N. R. Phillips 4, H. F. Perry 5, L. W. Bullock (cond.) 6, A. T. Langstone 7, J. Merrett 8. Rung half-muffled for the passing of the old year.

RUARDEAN, GLOS.—On Jan. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (with 4, 6 and 8 covering): W. Beard 1, Mrs. K. Smith 2, Mrs. D. Stafford 3, W. J. Harper 4, Howard Meek 5, O. W. Clowes 6, L. H. Jones (cond.) 7, Harold Meek 8. Rung half-muffled in memory of George Wilks, a ringer and chorister at this church for 50 years.

RUMNEY, MON.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Doubles (600 Plain Bob, 660 Grandsire): C. Williams (first quarter) 1, M. M. Reid 2, W. R. Speake 3, W. A. Jerrett 4, R. C. Lucas (cond.) 5, S. Shackell 6. Rung for the early morning Holy Communion service.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Dec. 28th, 1,248 Plain Bob Major: A. Rivers 1, B. Taylor 2, G. Birt 3, B. Lister 4, J. Ellwood 5, F. Scott 6, W. Butler 7, W. Birmingham (cond.) 8.

STREATHAM, SURREY.—At St. Leonard's, on Jan. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss N. R. J. Noble (first quarter of Triples) 1, S. Howard 2, D. J. Woodhouse 3, R. Charge 4, R. Sanders 5, J. W. Chapman (cond.) 6, E. Blake 7, T. Welbourne 8. A 79th birthday compliment to R. Sanders.

THORLEY, HERTS.—On Jan. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss B. Warboys 1, P. Warboys (cond.) 2, Miss E. Perry 3, C. Warboys 4, T. Camp 5, J. Foreman 6.

TWYNING, GLOS.—On Jan. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Beacham 1, M. Hawkes (first 'inside') 2, Miss B. Hartell 3, Miss J. Milton 4, W. Williams 5, D. Williams 6. First quarter for ringers of 3, 4 and 6. Conducted by F. Hawkes.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On Jan. 4th, 1,320 Surprise Minor (one extent of London and 600 Cambridge): Anne Holmes 1, Barbara Mitchell 2, Mary Fuller 3, R. Bird 4, J. Cannell (cond.) 5, A. S. Richards 6. First extent of London for 1, 2, 3 and 5, and first attempt.

GRANDSIRE CATERS

Dear Sir,—The enclosed peal, published by William Willson in the 'Bell News,' has been discovered by Mr. Birmingham, of Slough, to consist of only 4,932 changes and not 5,004, as published. Mr. C. W. Roberts has rectified this by the substitution of slightly longer going off courses, as follows:—

A		B	
23456789		23456789	
32456978	1, 4, 5S	23456978	1, 4, S
		45326	8 in 3S
25436	8 in 3	32546	8 in 3S
42536	9 in 3	53246	9 in 3
		63254	1S, 89S
53246	8 in 3S		
63254	1S, 89S		

Each of these, if substituted for the first four courses of the peal, will give a true peal of 5,004 changes.—Yours sincerely,

W. BUTLER.

Windsor.

5,004 GRANDSIRE CATERS

By WILLIAM WILLSON

23456789	
23456978	1, 4, S
35426	8 in 3
52436	8 in 3
63254	8 in 2
45362	8 in 2
34562	9 in 3
54263	89
25463	9 in 3
42563	9 in 3
52364	89
35264	9 in 3
23564	9 in 3
53462	89
43265	89
24365	9 in 3
32465	9 in 3

Repeat last 12 courses, calling 1st course 9 in 3S for

24563978	
45326789	*
52346	9 in 3
35246	7 in 3
23546	7 in 3
34526	9 in 3
42536	9 in 3
54236	7 in 3
25436	7 in 3
53426	9 in 3
32456	9 in 3
43256	7 in 3
24356	7 in 3

Repeat these 12 courses, calling 1st course 9 in 3S for 23456789.

* 1S, 3S and 8 in 3.

WILMSLOW, CHESHIRE.—On Jan. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Dorothy Kidd 1, J. Wheadon 2, S. Sage 3, M. Jillian Brierley 4, N. D. Lomas 5, D. Mottershead (cond.) 6. An 81st birthday compliment to the 2nd ringer.

WITHAM, ESSEX.—On Jan. 4th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Sheila Rudkin (14, first quarter) 1, W. S. Butler 2, Mary Edwards 3, W. H. P. Mellin 4, D. Portway 5, S. Bones 6, C. Burton 7, E. W. Bright (cond.) 8.

YARNTON, OXON.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Doubles, consisting of Reverse Canterbury, Clifford Pleasure, Plain Bob, Old, Norfolk, April Day, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Northrepps, Fortune, Union and Grandsire: W. Godwin 1, N. Chamberlain 2, J. Venn 3, L. Durham 4, H. Floyd (con.) 5, J. Green 6. First quarter in eleven methods for 1, 2, and 3. Rung for Christmas.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD

Northern Branch

The annual meeting of the Northern Branch was held at St. Mary's, Brecon, on January 3rd, with an attendance of 40 ringers and friends. Mr. E. T. P. Field (Dorset) was amongst the visitors. Towers represented were Swansea, Cefn Coed, Llanfaes, Ebbw Vale, Talgarth, etc.

Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and the Guild service at 4.30 was conducted by the Dean of Brecon, the Very Rev. W. Edward Jones, who extended a hearty welcome to the ringers and proceeded with a very able address. After a very nice tea came the business meeting.

The meeting began with the general secretary (Mr. J. A. Hoare) taking the chair during the temporary absence of the Dean. The minutes of the previous quarterly meeting were read and adopted. The election of officers followed, and it was proposed and seconded that the three retiring officers be re-elected, viz., Mr. J. A. Smith (Ringing Master), Mr. W. G. Smith (secretary) and Mr. D. H. Bennett (treasurer). Five new ringing members were elected and one honorary life member (Mr. E. T. P. Field). A collection for the bell restoration fund realised £1 0s. 9d.

Llanfaes (Brecon) was the choice of the members for the next quarterly meeting. The Dean (Rev. W. E. Jones), having returned to the meeting, rose to inform the members that the prospect of having the bells made fit for ringing at the Cathedral was very remote owing to the very delicate state of the fabric of the tower, plus terrific expense. This was a sad blow to the members.

After Mr. J. T. Williams had expressed a wish that some members would take a little more interest in new methods on practice nights, the chairman (J. A. Hoare) asked that tower secretaries would also interest themselves in seeing that members' subscriptions are in the secretary's hands at the beginning of December. He mentioned that two towers (not named) were still outstanding, but was assured that the dues are safe. With the customary vote of thanks to those concerned for the success of the meeting, and a prayer by the Dean, the meeting closed for members to return to the tower for further ringing.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World' January 24th, 1913

BRISTOL

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, January 18th, 1913, in 4 hours and 17 minutes.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS; 5,280 CHANGES

Tenor 50½ cwt.

Henry Porch	Treble
Raymond J. Wilkins	2
Henry Brownjohn	3
Albert Stowell	4
Richard Clark	5
Alfred E. Reeves	6
Henry Pring	7
William Knight	8
George Condick, jun.	9
William Stowell	10
John A. Burford	11
William A. Cave	Tenor

Composed by Rev. H. Law James,
Conducted by William A. Cave.

['The Ringing World' commented: 'Congratulations to the Bristol men on their peal of Cambridge Maximus. . . . They are, we believe, only the third company to ring a peal in this complete method, Ipswich and the College Youths (being) the other bands. . . .' It was, of course, in the West Country that the method had been first rung, some 15 years previously, by the Gloucester men at Painswick.]

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

New Secretary for North-East Branch

The annual general meeting of the North-East Devon Branch was held at St. Peter's, Tiverton, on January 3rd.

The bells were raised in peal at 2.30 p.m., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman (Doubles and Triples), Bob Minor and Rounds for the learners were rung prior to the service in the Parish Church, conducted by the Rector (Canon R. C. Worsley), who gave an inspiring address.

Tea was taken at the Half Moon Hotel, followed by the business meeting, with the Rev. J. H. Jones, branch chairman, presiding, supported by the Guild president, Preb. E. V. Cox, and the general secretary, Mr. E. J. Taylor.

Branch towers represented were Tiverton, Silverton, Culverleigh, Huntsham and Bampton, visitors from Exeter, Honiton Clyst, Highweek, Ashbrittle, Milverton, Wellington and Combe Martin.

Officers elected for the next year were: Chairman, Rev. J. H. Jones (Huntsham); hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. W. H. Ware (Tiverton); Ringing Master, A. G. Selley (Silverton).

Paying tribute to the retiring secretary, Mr. C. Dymond, Mr. A. W. Payne said the Branch had found him to be a very genial and respected person on whom the successful running of the Branch meetings, etc., had fallen over the past nine years.

Mr. Dymond thanked the members for their support, and hoped they would support his successor in the same way.

The secretary's report stated that Branch meetings had been well attended, Sunday service ringing in Branch towers had been maintained, and instruction given at new towers, Bradninch and Calverleigh. Membership was 60. The balance sheet showed a balance in hand of £34 16s. 7d.

Preb. E. V. Cox, acknowledging a welcome extended to him by the chairman, congratulated the Branch on its financial statement, the number of young members and the work of the instructors during the past twelve months, and hoped the good work would continue.

The next Branch meeting will be held at Bickleigh on Saturday, April 18th, at 2.30 p.m., by permission of Rev. Dr. H. G. Hatch.

Thanks to the Rector of St. Peter's for the use of the bells and to the organist, Mrs. Miles, a member of the St. Peter's band of ringers, were expressed by the chairman.

Ringing continued under the Ringing Master, Mr. A. G. Selley, until 9 p.m., when the bells were lowered in peal. W. H. W.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH

Southampton District

Over 70 members from a wide area attended the annual meeting of the Southampton District held at St. Mary's, Southampton, on January 10th.

Ringing in the afternoon was under the direction of the Master (Mr. G. Pullinger). The Guild service was held in St. Mary's Chantry conducted by the Rector (the Rev. G. Hales). Tea was taken in the gymnasium.

At the annual business meeting, the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead (chairman) presided. The following officers were re-elected for the ensuing year: Chairman, Rev. K. W. H. Felstead, St. Michael's, Southampton; Ringing Master, Mr. G. Pullinger, Bishopstoke; secretary-treasurer, Mr. M. J. Butler, St. Mary's, Southampton; auditor, Mr. H. Higson, Bishopstoke; representative on the Central Committee, Mr. R. Reed, North Stoneham.

Three new members were also elected. After the secretary's report had been duly received and adopted, further ringing took place on the ten bells of St. Mary's.

NOTICES

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DEATH

HOVERD. — Susan Margaret. — At Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, after long illness, on January 12th, 1953, aged 7 years. Only child of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hoverd, of 185, Crayford Road, Crayford, Kent. 2025

PERSONAL

Re JACK R. WORRALL.—Thought old fungus face was qualifying for Bachelors' Union. Sadly disillusioned.—Wellwisher from the Midlands. 2031

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. S. Geoffrey Waters is now Crane Croft, Hawkhurst, Kent. 2017

PUBLICATIONS

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

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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

ABBOTSBURY, DORSET.—Ringing practice Tuesdays, 7.30 p.m., until further notice. Everyone welcome.—J. H. Hayne, West Street, Abbotsbury. 2028

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MEETINGS

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Eastern Division.—Annual meeting, Writtle (8), Saturday, January 24th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Business and election of officers for 1953. 1911

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Annual district meeting at Farnham (8) on Saturday, Jan. 24th, from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in Co-operative Hall at 5.15 p.m.—G. S. Joyce, Hon. Dis. Sec. 1943

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION — Eastern District. — Annual general meeting, Saturday, Jan. 24th, at St. Andrew's Hereford. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15. Names for tea to J. Kemp, Dis. Sec., 16 North Road Avenue, Hertford. 1997

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Bray, Saturday, Jan. 24th. Committee meeting 3.30 p.m. (one from each tower). Bells available 6 p.m.—Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 1991

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District. — Annual meeting, Reigate, Jan. 24th. Bells (10) 3. Tea and business meeting 5. 1941

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division. —Owing to the death of the Rector of Bexhill, the practice meeting arranged for Saturday, Jan. 24th, is cancelled. Next meeting, Annual divisional, Eastbourne, Feb. 28th. — Hon. Div. Secretary. 2032

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Tuesday, Jan. 27th, 7.15, advanced practice, Christ Church, Ealing Broadway. Monday, Feb. 2nd, 7.15, general practice, St. Mary's, Lambeth Bridge. Saturday, Feb. 7th, annual general meeting, 2.30–4, Festival Church, St. John's, Waterloo Road; 3.45–4.45, Southwark Cathedral; service 5; tea, business, handbell competition, Chapter House, 5.45. Further ringing Cathedral afterwards. Names, please, Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth, HOU 3921. 2036

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Glaston Deanery.—Annual meeting, Glastonbury, St. John's, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells 3. Service 4. Tea and meeting. Notify for tea, certain. Tuesday, Jan. 27th.—William Marsh, 4, Dovecotes, Street. 1985

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT R.S.—Annual Dinner, Jan. 31st. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. in St. Mary's, Beverley. Dinner 6 p.m. Ringers requested to be in Market Cross Hotel at 5.45 p.m. There are still a few vacant seats; will anyone desiring a seat inform, by Jan 27th, Mr. G. Braithwaite, 26, Albert Terrace, Beverley. 2030

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—Reminder. Annual Ringing Day and Dinner, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Tickets still available. Kindly send remittance (7s. 6d.) to Miss H. Tesson, 129, Sylvia Avenue, Knowle, Bristol. Ringing arrangements published last week. All ringers welcome. 2018

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD. — Arrangements on Saturday, Jan. 31st, are: Ringing at St. Bene't's, 3–4 p.m.: R.C., 4–5 p.m.: Great St. Andrew's, 5.30–6.30 p.m. Annual dinner in Clare College, 8 for 8.30 p.m. (charge, 13/6).—F. E. Roberts, Selwyn College. 2035

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Annual meeting at Stockport (St. Mary's) on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea advise, by Tuesday, Jan. 27th, Mr. A. S. Gordon, 46, Commercial Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport.—C. K. Lewis. 2002

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—St. Paul's, Honiton. Jan. 31st. Service 4.15. St. Michael's bells for the afternoon. St. Paul's after tea. Names for tea, not later than Jan. 27th, to Mr. O. Griffin, New Street, Honiton.—J. Arberry, Hon. Sec. 1934

DEVON GUILD. — Mid-Devon Branch. — Wolborough, Newton Abbot, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Usual arrangements.—A. L. Bennett, Cornerways, Buckfastleigh. 2034

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Annual meeting at St. Ambrose, Bristol, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.15 p.m. Names for tea, by Tuesday, Jan. 27th, to W. F. Scudamore, No. 6, Sandringham Avenue, Downend, Bristol. 2024

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Annual meeting will be held at Guildford, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Holy Trinity and S. Nicolas' towers available 3 p.m. Service at S. Nicolas' 4.30 p.m. Tea at Prince of Wales. Names by 28th inst. to R. Kenward (Hon. Sec.), 7, Raymond Crescent, Guildford. 2005

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ledbury District. — Annual meeting, Bosbury, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.30. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, Jan. 28th. J. Ward, Woofields, Coddington, Ledbury. 2010

HEREFORD GUILD.—Ludlow and Church Stretton District.—The annual meeting, Ludlow, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—G. Randle. 2012

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—Meeting at Beckenham, Sat., Jan. 31st. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea. Oliver's Cafe, High Street, 5 p.m. Names for tea not later than Monday, 26th, to A. Hill, 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent. 1998

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Meeting at St. George-the-Martyr's, Borough, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Business meeting 6 p.m. Ringing to follow. Please make own tea arrangements.—A. M. Bailey, Dis. Sec. 2023

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be at Pudsey on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea arranged for those who notify, by Wednesday, Jan. 28th, Miss M. Shearsmith, St. Vincent Cottage, Littlemoor Road, Pudsey. Business meeting to follow tea.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec. 2009

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District. — Meeting, Great Bowden, Jan. 31st. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., Village Hall. Names for tea, by Wednesday, Jan. 28th, to L. W. Allen, High Street, Great Glenn. 2015

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Open Day at St. Thomas', South Wigston, Jan 31st, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the dedication of the church. Bells available at 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. Social evening to commence at 7.30. All welcome. Proceeds to Church Repair Fund. Names for tea, by Wednesday, Jan. 28th, to A. E. Bodycote, 32, Richmond Drive, Blaby, Leics. 2014

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Annual meeting, Jan. 31st, Barkby. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Names for tea, at 4.30, to G. James, 10, School Lane, Barkby, please. 2019

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Caversfield on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4. Tea 5. Bicester (8) available 7. Names for tea by Monday, 26th inst. **No name no tea.**—C. Kinch, Causeway, Bicester. 2011

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—Annual meeting, St Mary's, Peterborough, Saturday Jan. 31st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Own tea arrangements; plenty of cafes. Business meeting 6 p.m. St. John's vestry. Evening ringing at both churches if desired 2000

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Towcester Branch. — Annual meeting at Towcester, Jan. 31st. Usual arrangements. Names for tea, by Tuesday previous, to Mr. V. Burt, 13, Watling Street West, Towcester. Greens-Norton bells available in evening.—W. A. Yates. 1979

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Annual meeting Shrewsbury, Jan. 31st. St. Mary's (10) 3.15 to 4.15 p.m.; St. Chad's (12) 3.45 to 4.30 p.m. Service at St. Chad's 4.35 p.m. Tea St. Chad's Parish Room 5.15, followed by business meeting. St. Chad's bells available 7 to 8.30 p.m. Tea by invitation of the Vicar and churchwardens of St. Chad's, but names must be sent to me by Jan. 28th.—W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury. Tel. 3846. 1999

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—Annual meeting will be held on Jan. 31st at Croydon. St. John's bells (12) 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting in Parish Hall, Silverdale Road. Names for tea, by Jan. 28th, to Mr. D. Cooper, 51, Waddon Road, Croydon. Nominations for general officers 1953.—R. Lathbury, Hon. Dis. Sec. 1988

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—Annual District meeting at Basingstoke on Saturday, Jan. 31st. All Saints' and St. Michael's bells available from 2.30. Service in All Saints' Church at 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock in All Saints' Hall. Names, by Jan. 27th, to J. Chesterman, Leacroft, Sherborne St. John, Basingstoke. 1996

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Annual meeting, Alverstoke (8), Jan. 31st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting, in Brodrick Hall, 5. Names, by Jan. 27th, to John H. Hunt, 44 Bellfield, Titchfield, Hants. 2029

HEREFORD GUILD.—Bromyard District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bromyard (6 bells) on Saturday, Feb. 7th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea provided for those letting me know by Thursday, Feb. 5th.—A. S. Tomkins, Harp Cottage, Bredenbury, Bromyard, Hereford. 2026

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—Annual meeting at Grimsby (8), February 7th. Names for tea, by Feb. 4th, to G. W. Moody, Walcot, Scunthorpe. 2013

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Diss on Saturday, Feb. 7th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., preacher, Rt. Rev. Bishop Wilfred B. Belcher, M.A., M.C., Rector of Diss. Tea 5 p.m. at the Corn Hall. Special invitation to Suffolk ringers. Names for tea, by Feb. 3rd, please, to A. G. Harrison, 10, Mount Pleasant, Diss, Norfolk. 2020

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY. — The annual lunch will be held on Saturday, Feb. 7th. Members wishing to come please notify, immediately, David Gallop, Magdalen College. 2008

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — V.W.H. Branch.—Meeting at Stanford-in-the-Vale, Feb. 7th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, Feb. 4th, to M. J. Pryor, 59, Marlborough Gardens, Faringdon. 2033

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — I.W. District. — Annual meeting, Carisbrooke, Feb. 7th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and ringing, Newport, 5 p.m.—Mrs. Guy, Merrie Meade, Watergate Road, Newport. 2016

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Reminder. St. Albans District Annual Dinner, Saturday, Feb. 14th. Names, as soon as possible, to W. J. Southam, Dis. Sec., 14, Walton Street, St. Albans. 2022

HERTFORD COUNTY ASOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting at Harpenden, Saturday, Feb. 21st. Bells (8) from 2.45 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Tues., Feb. 17th, to W. J. Southam, Dis. Sec., 14, Walton Street, St. Albans 2021

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. — The 65th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at 6 o'clock on March 7th in the Connaught Room at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street. Tickets 14s. 6d. each. Early application with remittance is essential. Ringing arrangements will be announced later.—G. E. Fearn, Hon. Sec., 92, Etwall Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28. Phone: SPR 1025. 2007

SHIRLEY, WARWICKS.—On Jan. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Barbara Bayliss (first quarter) 1, J. F. Harvey 2, G. Bailey 3, Mrs. K. Watts 4, L. Tuffrey 5, T. Gwilt 6, V. A. Hemming (cond.) 7, T. H. Bartlett 8.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.—On Dec. 20th, 1,312 Cambridge Surprise Major: Miss M. A. Softly 1, D. R. Airey 2, Miss M. Fidell 3, K. Arthur 4, T. Cooke 5, E. N. Harrison 6, J. A. Ainsworth 7, D. A. Bayles (cond.) 8.

5,024 Yorkshire Surprise Major

By R. F. B. SPEED

234 56	B	M	W	H
2. 4	X			—
62534			—	3
24536		—		2
24365	X			—
46253	X			
35264		—	—	—
62453		—	—	
43526		—	—	2
52436			—	—
52364	X			—
46325		—	—	—
36524		—		3
62345	X			3
54326		—	—	—
34625		—		
23456	X			2

5,120 Spliced Surprise Major

By W. ERIC CRITCHLEY

23456	M	W	H	
65432	—	—	—	Rut., Sup., Bris., Bris.
46532			—	Lon, York., Lon.
53462		—	—	Lon., York., Lon.
45362			—	Lon., Sup., Rut.
36452		—	—	Rut., Lin., Lon.
64352			2	Lon., Lin., Rut., Bris.
35642		—	—	Rut., Pud., Lon.
63542			—	Rut., Cam., Lon.
56342			—	Lon., Pud., Rut.
34562		—	—	Rut., Cam., Rut.

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