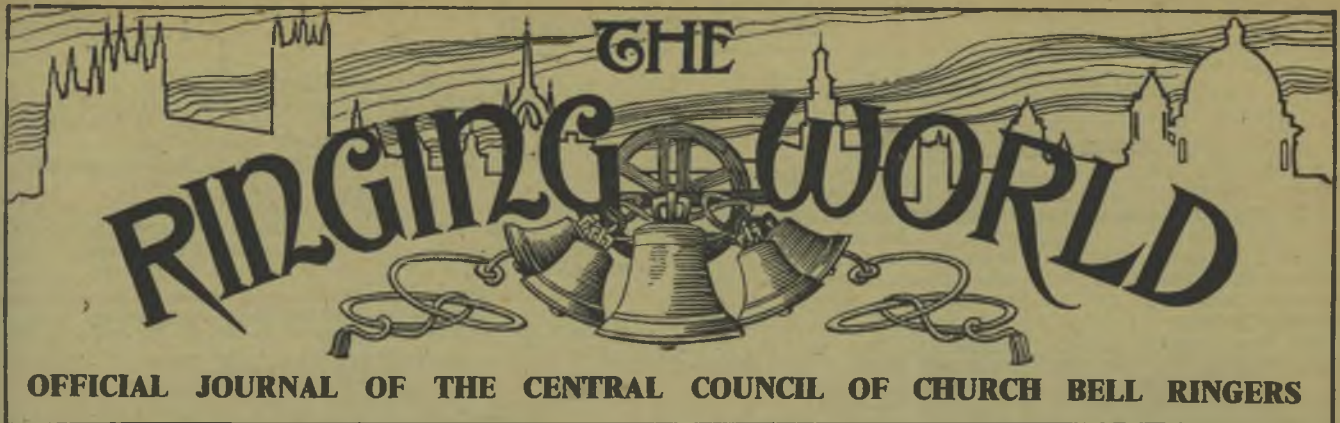




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BELFRY CUSTOMS

WITH the contemporary desire for speed has also come a general slackening of moral standards and a departure from the way of life which our forefathers enjoyed. As a result the familiar 'couldn't-care-less' attitude has crept in and spread into most walks of life, even affecting the art of campanology. Yes, for all over the country belfry customs are dying out and are sadly neglected.

By way of an example, the customs observed, or now lapsed, by the ringers of Knowle, Warwickshire, can be adduced to represent hundreds of similar cases. It is hoped to create new interest in old customs by this article and also determine the cause of the disappearance of so many of them.

From November 5th (when the full octave is rung) until Christmas Eve the inhabitants of Knowle are reminded by the curfew of the restrictions imposed upon their remote ancestors by William the Conqueror, in whose day the curfew meant that no person must roam the streets between the hours of dusk and dawn. The first record of the curfew in Knowle is in 1672, but there is little doubt that it was rung long anterior to that date.

It seems, on consulting the Chapel Wardens' Accounts, that the bells were always rung in former days for such events as Christmas Day, Coronation Day and anniversary, Sovereign's birthday and on May 29th, Restoration Day. Except at Christmas and Coronations these customs have become obsolete, but another has been observed now for a number of years—the ringing out of the Old Year and the ringing in of the New Year. A peculiar use not mentioned in records but observed for a period extending beyond the limit of living memory is the chiming of the seventh bell for Catechism each Tuesday for six weeks prior to a Confirmation.

There is a wealth of interest behind the hundreds of old customs handed down to us if only one would spare the time to make inquiries. Many uses remaining to-day have origins so obscured by the mists of time as to be unknown—and therefore well worth investigation. On the other hand, customs only recently started will, in future centuries, be adhered to by our successors who will be equally inquisitive of our purpose in commencing them.

For instance, a custom at Knowle since 1931 has been to chime the Soldiers' Bell (the 2nd, given in memory of those who fell in the Great War) instead of the tenor for five minutes prior to service on Remembrance Sunday morning. Time will pass, however, and these customs will

custom will be regarded as very strange, no doubt, in three centuries' time. A thought worth consideration.

Various reasons could be cited to account for the decline of belfry customs, but they can be broadly classified under two generic headings: (a) lack of interest on the part of ringers themselves; (b) the general public.

Ringers, on the whole, are normal folk—no bats in the belfry!—who are equally susceptible as their fellows to the common failures of the human race, so that a number of them remains apathetic towards observing customs. The common plea, 'I haven't time,' occurs again, and belfry custom slowly dies. Not that ringers should shoulder all the blame.

Often one finds a busy little town where only fifty years ago a sleepy hamlet existed. More people appreciate good ringing than ever before, but there is a minority who dislike it intensely and show it in characteristic fashion. It would be foolish to neglect their views altogether, for to unwilling ears bells rung continuously can be very monotonous. Therefore, nights on which customs are annually observed should never be utilised for the purpose of introducing learners to ring, or by attempting a fresh method. Good ringing should be the aim and not dubious methods.

Custom nights where the full number of bells is required should be well known beforehand and ringers reminded a week or two before the event. It could, if the area is well populated, take the place of practice night—with no practice, though. Naturally, where circumstances allow, it should be in addition to practice, for no keen ringer will miss the opportunity of ringing twice in one week.

Perhaps some will be spurred to consult past records of their church to trace and record old customs observed and now forgotten. Three questions can be asked in this study: (1) Who started the custom? (2) When? (3) Why? To those who take this trouble succeeding generations will be indebted.

England would be the poorer if the Guards wore only khaki, the Beefeaters wore mufti, the Trooping of the Colour forbidden and Coronations reduced to mere formalities of swearings-in. None of them is really necessary—nor are belfry customs, but there is much to be gained by their retention. The example of Coronation Year, with all the traditional pomp and pageantry it witnessed, would be fitting to add yet another chapter by the revival of as many as possible of age-old customs. Our belfries would lose their greatest attraction if customs are allowed to lapse, so to all those with a love of the traditional, get thinking, and reintroduce those customs to your belfry.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Jan. 25, 1954, in 3 Hours and 41 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5280 LANGLEY SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 25 cwt.

MRS. H. J. POOLE Treble	HARRY POYNER 7
WINIFRED M. BURTON .. 2	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON .. 8
ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 3	S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 9
HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. 4	JOHN R. SMITH 10
PETER J. STANFORTH .. 5	TERENCE A. THORNBUR .. 11
SHIRLEY BURTON 6	HAROLD J. POOLE Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

First peal of Maximus ever to be rung in this method.

Specially arranged in honour of the enthronement of The Right Rev. R. R. Williams, M.A., D.D., as the new Bishop of Leicester.

TEN BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Thurs., Jan. 14, 1954, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

ALBERT WALKER Treble	CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 6
MURIEL REAY 2	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. 7
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 3	RODNEY B. MEADOWS .. 8
ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 9
TERRY R. HAMPTON .. 5	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by FRANK E. DARBY. Conducted by CLIFFORD A. BARRON.

SOUTHAMPTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5079 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHARLES H. KIPPIN .. Treble	D. CECIL WILLIAMS .. 6
*REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD .. 2	†J. M. N. LAKIN .. 7
DANIEL T. MATKIN .. 3	†RICHARD M. CURRIE .. 8
FREDK. W. ROGERS .. 4	†JOHN GILBERT .. 9
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY .. 5	REGINALD A. REED .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

* 25th peal on the bells. † First peal of Stedman Caters.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK.

A PEAL OF 5001 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 24 cwt.

THOMAS W. HESKETH .. Treble	FRANK VARTY 6
ERIC J. GILBERT 2	JOSEPH RIDYARD 7
*ALEXANDER J. MARTIN .. 3	EDWIN C. BIRKETT .. 8
REV. PETER T. ROBBINS .. 4	JOHN E. SPICE 9
WILFRID F. MORETON .. 5	†EDGAR WHITE Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal on ten bells.

A compliment to the Rev. R. D. St. J. Smith, on the birth of a son.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

DARESBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 2, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb.

HENRY O. BAKER Treble	HAROLD WORRALL 5
ERIC HORNBY 2	HARRY HOWARD 6
JOHN SCOTT 3	JOHN E. BIBBY 7
HENRY PARKER 4	CECIL RADDON Tenor

Composed by C. H. MIDDLETON. Conducted by JOHN E. BIBBY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Cecil Raddon.

MEASHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

JACK BAILEY Treble	ALFRED MOULD 5
ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 2	SIDNEY H. JONES 6
W. RODNEY HARRISON .. 3	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. 7
ROLAND BENISTON 4	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY .. Tenor

Composed by DENIS R. CARLISLE. Conducted by JACK BAILEY.

Rung to welcome home Maurice Bailey, now returned from H.M. Forces. Also a birthday compliment to Mrs. S. H. Jones, of Repton.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Jan. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Six-part.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*DAVID J. LAKER Treble	*IVAN A. C. BUTCHER .. 5
ERIC H. KNAPP 2	ALBERT E. LAKER .. 6
REGINALD V. JOHNSON .. 3	RAYMOND OVERY .. 7
*JOHN H. G. GARDNER .. 4	†KENNETH A. TRINICK .. Tenor

Conducted by RAYMOND OVERY.

* First peal in the method. † First peal.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam Albert E. T. Gasson.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Jan. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*CYNTHIA BIBBY (aged 13) Treble	FRED JACKSON 5
HENRY O. BIBBY 2	OSWALD CLAYBROOK .. 6
JOHN E. BIBBY 3	CYRIL VALENTINE .. 7
*HAROLD MATTHIAS .. 4	FRANCIS BIBBY Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN E. BIBBY.

* First peal in the method.

Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bibby.

LODDON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Wed., Jan. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Thurstans' Four-part.

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

F. CHARLES GOODMAN .. Treble	ARTHUR G. BASON .. 5
*STANLEY W. COPLING .. 2	BERT GOGLE 6
H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 3	NOLAN GOLDEN .. 7
†DAVID HEIGHTON 4	JOHN MOORE Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* 150th peal. † First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman on the bells, whose centenary as an eight will be celebrated this year.

SHIRLEY, BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Wed., Jan. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 24 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AMES-THE-GREAT

A PEAL OF 5120 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. in B flat.

MURIEL REAY Treble	*MICHAEL G. MORTON .. 5
*GEORGE E. FEARN 2	EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 6
*VINCENT A. HEMMING .. 3	*EDWARD T. LLOYD .. 7
CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by CLIFFORD A. BARRON.

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major.

BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Thurs., Jan. 21, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER DE MERTON,

A PEAL OF 5024 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb.

BRYAN S. COPE Treble	RYAN PATTISON 5
CHARLES H. HARDING .. 2	BRYAN F. SIMS 6
RONALD J. SHARP 3	HARRY PARKES 7
ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 4	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

First peal of Surprise Major on the bells.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., Jan. 21, 1954, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5152 RAMSEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.

ARTHUR V. PEARSON Treble	CLIFFORD A. BARRON 5
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON 6
MURIEL REAY 3	PETER BORDER 7
JOHN PINFOLD 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by C. KENNETH LEWIS. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.
First in the method for the Guild, and by all.

WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Jan. 22, 1954, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 KIRKINGTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor 12 cwt.
*JOSEPH W. COTTON Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE 5
*ROLAND BENISTON 2	*MICHAEL E. BROWN 6
MRS. H. J. POOLE 3	*RONALD G. EDWARDS 7
JOHN A. ACRES 4	TERENCE A. THORNER .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal in the method.

ADLINGTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Preston Branch.)

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

IAN JONES Treble	ERIC BALDWIN 5
*MARGARET E. OPENSHAW .. 2	LAWRENCE WALMSLEY .. 6
*STANLEY WALMSLEY 3	JAMES BLACKBURN 7
*G. BRIAN DICKINSON 4	CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE .. Tenor

Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

ALREWAS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

FRANCIS A. SEDGWICK .. Treble	JOAN BERESFORD 5
*EDMUND MALIN 2	DENNIS BERESFORD 6
PETER BERESFORD 3	†WALTER J. COPE 7
†ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 4	GEORGE E. OLIVER Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

* First peal in the method 'inside.' † 100th peal. ‡ First peal in the method.

Rung as a 70th birthday compliment to Mr. W. J. Cope.

ANSTEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. in G.

*JUDITH K. E. HARRIS .. Treble	ALBAN DISNEY 5
JEANETTE M. SIMPSON .. 2	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON .. 6
*RALPH ELKINGTON 3	GORDON H. ARGUILLE .. 7
ROBERT D. WILSON 4	DAVID S. HARRIS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by REDVERS F. ELKINGTON.

* First peal.

Rung by the local band for the enthronement of the Right Rev. R. R. Williams, D.D., as Lord Bishop of Leicester.

BICESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDBURG,

A PEAL OF 5088 LYME SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 47 lb. in F.

CYRIL H. KINCH Treble	MALCOLM S. CLOKE 5
HERBERT H. ALEXANDER .. 2	GEORGE F. BURTON 6
EDMUND E. PEARSON 3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG .. 7
EDGAR J. SMITH 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

The first peal in the method on the bells, for the Guild and by all the band.

CARBIS BAY, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANTA AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb.

*DAVID N. PENROSE Treble	CYRIL A. WRATTEN 5
*MRS. J. M. SIMPKIN 2	A. HUBERT EPLETT 6
†PATRICIA D. PROWSE .. 3	GEOFFREY W. TAYSON .. 7
†REV. A. S. ROBERTS 4	CLEMENT W. JOSE Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by CYRIL A. WRATTEN.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ 175th peal.

First peal of Triples as conductor.
Rung as a compliment to the Rev. I. S. Jenkins, Vicar of St. Ives, on being appointed Hon. Canon of Truro Cathedral.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. 82 lb. in D.

JAMES B. MORLEY Treble	TOM C. FORD 5
ALBERT G. HARRISON 2	*WILLIAM F. SLOCOMBE .. 6
NOLAN GOLDEN 3	ARTHUR E. COOK 7
*LEWIS J. BATLEY 4	ARTHUR G. BASON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method. Mr. Slocombe is from Wellington, Somerset.

In memoriam Canon James A. Appleton, a former Rector of Diss,

FINCHINGFIELD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

*BARRY W. RICE Treble	GEORGE SCHLUETER 5
H. WALTER SMITH 2	CECIL BARKER 6
*F. KEITH WILLIAMSON .. 3	FRANK W. J. ROPER 7
PETER L. WOOD 4	TERRY EARLE Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by TERRY EARLE.

* First peal of Major. First peal on the bells since rehanging by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd., in 1953.

Rung for the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul; and as a 64th birthday compliment to Mr. G. Schlueter.

HEAVITREE, EXETER, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 25½ cwt. in E flat.

WILLIAM A. THEOBALD .. Treble	BRIAN PIDGEON 5
E. MAURICE ATKINS 2	REV. JOHN G. M. SCOTT .. 6
ERNEST J. TAYLOR 3	JOHN L. S. GLANVILLE .. 7
FREDERICK WREFFORD .. 4	THOMAS G. MYERS Tenor

Composed by JAMES HUNT. Conducted by WILLIAM A. THEOBALD.

First peal in the method as conductor.

Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to Charles G. Glass at the special request of the Vicar, Rev. A. Johnson.



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HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.		Tenor 19½ cwt.	
JAMES BENNETT	Treble	LESLIE G. BRETT	5
WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN ..	2	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. ..	6
ALBERT E. WHITING	3	Cecil W. PIPE	7
GEORGE A. FLEMING	4	GEORGE W. PIPE	Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.

Rung half-muffled as a last tribute to William J. G. Brown, of Ipswich.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 11 lb. in E.

*IVOR SCOTT	Treble	ALEXANDER RICHARDSON ..	5
†BRIAN WOODRUFFE	2	JAMES A. MILNER	6
MRS. A. RICHARDSON	3	ALAN J. BROWN	7
ERIC SIMPSON	4	C. KENNETH LEWIS	Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

*First peal. †First peal of Major away from treble.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Frances M. Laffin and Arthur Hibbert, who were married earlier in the day at St. George's Church, Stockport.

LOUTH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 31 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb.

GWEN I. RUSBY	Treble	JOHN FREEMAN	5
GEORGE E. FEIRN	2	SYDNEY A. CHAMBERS	6
STANLEY E. BENNETT	3	JOHN WALDEN	7
RAYMOND F. SMITH	4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

The first peal in the method on the bells.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

(West Dorset Branch.)

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.		Tenor 11 cwt.	
F. LEONARD TAYLOR	Treble	G. STEDMAN MORRIS	5
MRS. C. W. POWELL	2	CANON C. CAREW COX	6
HENRY G. KEELEY	3	ROGER KEELEY	7
ARTHUR J. SCOTT	4	CUTHBERT W. POWELL	Tenor

Conducted by CANON C. CAREW COX.

First peal on the bells after recasting and rehanging.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5184 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. in E flat.

JOHN PINFOLD	Treble	ARTHUR V. PEARSON	5
J. EDWARD CAWSE	2	*BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY	6
*MURIEL REAY	3	*CLIFFORD A. BARRON	7
RODNEY B. MEADOWS	4	GEORGE E. FEARN	Tenor

Composed by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

*First peal in the method.

WESTBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.		Tenor 35 cwt. 14 lb. in C.	
W. BERTRAM KYNASTON ..	Treble	RICHARD J. BOWDEN	5
PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING ..	2	RICHARD S. SLATFORD	6
*BRIAN BLADON	3	ROGER O. FRY	7
LAURENCE E. HITCHINS ..	4	B. ENID LLOYD-ROBERTS ..	Tenor

Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

*First peal of Stedman Triples.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5184 STAFFORDSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

C. EDWARD LANKESTER ..	Treble	WILLIAM T. BEESON	5
ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD ..	2	BRIAN D. THRELFALL	6
RONALD J. SHARP	3	THOMAS E. SONE	7
ALICK CUTLER	4	*THOMAS J. LOCK	Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by BRIAN D. THRELFALL.

*100th peal on the bells. First peal in the method by all and for the Association.

WOKINGHAM, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.		Tenor 17 cwt.	
HAROLD SMITH	Treble	WALTER HUNT	5
MRS. B. C. CASTLE	2	WILLIAM J. BROOKS	6
BERNARD C. CASTLE	3	WILLIAM J. PAICE	7
LAURIE HALL	4	JACK PRINCE	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. PAICE.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sun., Jan. 24, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.		Tenor 16 cwt. in F.	
*MURIEL PIPE	Treble	GEORGE A. FLEMING	5
PATRICIA M. CLARKE	2	WALTER RUFFLES	6
WILLIAM J. BUTTON	3	LESLIE G. BRETT	7
RUSSELL G. PARKER	4	ALBERT E. WHITING	Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. WHITING.

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

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Tues., Jan. 26, 1954, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN.

A PEAL OF 5056 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in E.

MRS. S. H. JONES	Treble	DENIS R. CARLISLE	5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ..	2	JOSEPH W. COTTON	6
FRANCIS R. LOWE	3	ROLAND BENISTON	7
SIDNEY H. JONES	4	ERNEST MORRIS	Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Specially rung to commemorate the Enthronement of the Rt. Rev. R. R. Williams, D.D., as Lord Bishop of Leicester.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

RAMPTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Jan. 12, 1954, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Being 42 extents. Tenor 4½ cwt. in C sharp.

WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN ..	Treble	L. VICTOR CHAMBERLAIN ..	3
*CHRISTOPHER R. F. MUNCEY	2	MICHAEL N. BLAND	4
MARIE K. ROBERTS			Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

*First peal 'inside.'

HEYTESBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.		Tenor 20 cwt.	
THOMAS E. MALLARD ..	Treble	ENID LLOYD-ROBERTS ..	4
PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING ..	2	FREDERICK S. SLATFORD ..	5
LAURENCE E. HITCHINS ..	3	ROBERT A. SOUTHWOOD ..	Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK S. SLATFORD.

LONG STRATTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, two extents of Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

WILFRED G. SAUNDERS .. Treble	T. CHARLES BROWNE .. 4
FRANK C. J. ARNOLD .. 2	*JOHN MOORE .. 5
*CECIL A. THOMPSON .. 3	C. FRANK W. PHILLIPPO .. Tenor

Conducted by C. FRANK W. PHILLIPPO.

* First peal of Minor.

Rung to mark the 50th anniversary of Mr. C. A. Thompson joining the Norwich Association.

SPAXTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Five callings (5th Observation). Tenor 20 cwt. (approx.).

*ERIC FORD (16) .. Treble	WALTER STEVENS .. 4
†MICHAEL J. STONE (15) .. 2	*JOHN J. FORD .. 5
RONALD D. SHORT .. 3	CECIL T. CLARKE .. Tenor

Conducted by RONALD D. SHORT.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal in the method as conductor. First peal on the bells.

TIMBERLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 16, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, viz.: C.C.C., Nos. 34, 35, 36, 37, 49, 50, 51. Tenor 13 cwt.

SAMUEL JACKSON .. Treble	RONALD APPLEWHITE .. 4
FRED INGALL .. 2	PETER MASON .. 5
AMOS INGALL .. 3	LOUIS WILLDERS .. Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS WILLDERS.

First peal of Bob Minor by all except the tenor ringer. Rung as a compliment for the 94th birthday of Mrs. E. Ingall, mother of the 2nd and 3rd ringers.

SHAW-CUM-DONNINGTON, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Jan. 19, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Tenor 10 cwt.

*REGINALD RIVERS .. Treble	DONALD A. THEEDOM .. 4
†GILLIAN E. BROWN .. 2	GEOFFREY K. DODD .. 5
FRANK W. LEWIS .. 3	WILLIAM KEWELL .. Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY K. DODD.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

BETHERSDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 16 cwt.

*PAMELA COOLING .. Treble	WILLIAM C. MARSHALL .. 4
PETER JARVIS .. 2	WILFRED W. RING .. 5
HARRY BAKER .. 3	MARK W. MARSHALL .. Tenor

Conducted by MARK W. MARSHALL.

* First peal.

BUNWELL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

DAVID NICHOLLS .. Treble	C. FRANK W. PHILLIPPO .. 4
FRANK C. J. ARNOLD .. 2	FRANK PEARSON .. 5
T. CHARLES BROWNE .. 3	WILFRED G. SAUNDERS .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK PEARSON.

First peal as conductor.

Rung as birthday compliments to T. C. Browne and F. Pearson.



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No matter in which corner of the country you happen to be, as likely as not you will come across Gillett & Johnston bells or tower clocks. Gillett & Johnston craftsmanship is embodied in an all-embracing service—as much in the preservation and restoration of old rings of antiquarian interest as in the installation of new.

BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



COTTESMORE, RUTLAND.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 1,440 Oxford Treble Bob, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob and 2,160 Plain Bob. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*RONALD HILL Treble	†RONALD RUSSELL 4
J. GEOFFREY GEARY 2	†JOHN H. BLUFF 5
†PERCY D. BALDOCK 3	J. FREDERICK HUBBARD .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. BLUFF.

* First peal of Minor. † 50th peal together.

MEYSEY-HAMPTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being two extents of April Day and ten each of Old, Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury and Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb.

HUGH FALKNER Treble	MRS. W. A. GODWIN 4
JOYCE MORSE 2	WILLIAM A. GODWIN 5
*BRIAN R. MYLES 3	RAYMOND G. PEARSON .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. GODWIN.

* First peal 'inside' and of Doubles.

Rung to mark the 25th anniversary of the induction of the Rev. H. Peach, M.A., as Rector of Meysey-Hampton.

NAILSEA, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different callings. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb.

*BETTY OLNEY Treble	DAVID J. MARSHALL 4
AUDREY M. BAILEY 2	CLIFFORD KORTRIGHT 5
MICHAEL J. HORSEMAN 3	LEONARD DERRICK Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD DERRICK.

* First peal.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On Jan. 17th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Wingrove (cond.) 1, Dorothy Fletcher 2, Imogen Darrell-Waters (first in method) 3, Kathleen Fletcher 4, J. Harrison 5, W. Edwards 6, A. Bridges 7, S. Hatfield 8.

BLACKHILL, CO. DURHAM.—On Jan. 21st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. N. Harrison 1, Miss M. Gibson 2, Miss M. A. Softley 3, Miss E. Softley 4, K. Arthur (cond.) 5, P. Draffan 6, H. Walker 7, J. A. Ainsworth 8. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar (the Rev. G. Beaglehole, M.A., M.Litt.), who was inducted the previous evening.

BOW, E.—At the Church of St. Mary, on Jan. 24th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Bullock 1, T. H. Taffender 2, Miss S. Barringer 3, C. W. Outley 4, A. E. Hoare 5, G. F. Bryant 6, E. D. Smith (cond.) 7, F. R. L. Blewer 8.

CARLISLE, CUMBERLAND.—On Jan. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: S. Hodgson (first of Minor) 1, J. Ling 2, J. B. Porter 3, A. Hodgson 4, J. Butterfield 5, J. Boustead 6, A. Forsyth cover. Conducting shared by 5 and 6. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to A. Hodgson.

CLYST ST. GEORGE, DEVON.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. May 1, J. Salway 2, W. Wills 3, C. Burnett 4, Prebendary E. V. Cox (cond.) 5, S. Hartnoll 6. Rung as a welcome to the new Rector (the Rev. C. H. Bray) and his wife. First quarter peal on the bells since being rehung.

DAYBROOK, NOTTS.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. M. Ward 1, Joan Hoodless 2, B. M. Buswell (cond.) 3, P. E. Ball 4, J. Troughton (first in method) 5, A. Simpson 6, E. Clemence 7, W. Perkins 8. Rung for the patronal festival.

ETWALL, DERBYS.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Fisher (first quarter away from tenor) 1, D. Murfin 2, J. F. Murfin 3, F. R. Lowe 4, D. K. Walklate (cond.) 5, F. G. Murfin 6.

EVERCREECH, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 24th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: A. White 1, R. Crago 2, A. J. Sanger 3, R. March 4, D. Hill (first quarter 'inside') 5, J. Badman 6, J. Nicholls 7, D. Lee 8, H. J. Sanger (cond.) 9, I. Whitehead 10. Rung for Matins by the Sunday service band.

FULHAM, S.W.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: H. M. Page 1, H. Belcher 2, I. W. Stephenson 3, J. H. Allison 4, W. J. Rawlings 5, J. Waters 6, M. V. Chilcott 7, J. Chilcott 8, R. F. Deal 9, J. Phillips (cond.) 10.

GORING-BY-SEA, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Smith 1, C. Chappell 2, H. Scott 3, J. Smith 4, H. Weaver (cond.) 5, L. Ward 6.

SUCKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being six extents of April Day, 15 extents of Plain Bob, 15 extents of Reverse Canterbury and six extents of Grandsire. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES RANFORD Treble	JAMES WARD 4
C. WILLIAM NUTT 2	FREDERICK MERRICK 5
ROLAND E. LEWIS 3	*JACK MERRICK Tenor

Conducted by C. WILLIAM NUTT.

* First peal.

WEST RETFORD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being 720 each of Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure, Sandal, Norbury, College Exercise, Duke of Norfolk and Oxford. Tenor 9 cwt.

A. EDWARD DOBB Treble	HAROLD DENMAN 4
GEORGE CHALLENGES 2	ARNOLD HILL 5
ERNEST PRESTON 3	HERBERT T. ROOKE Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT T. ROOKE.

First peal on the bells since 1916.

WORTH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 23, 1954, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of four 120's each of Old, Norfolk, Reverse St. Bartholomew and April Day, and thirteen each of Grandsire and Plain Bob, the last two methods being rung alternately (28 callings). Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. in A.

*PATRICIA M. HOWARD .. Treble	CLEMENT F. BONNETT 4
JOHN A. HOWARD 2	FRANK H. HICKS 5
IVAN A. C. BUTCHER 3	H. JAMES WILDE Tenor

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

* First peal. First peal in six methods by all except the conductor.

QUARTER PEALS

HADLOW, TONBRIDGE, KENT.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss L. E. Rose 1, G. Fry (first quarter 'inside') 2, R. J. Harden 3, C. G. Parsons 4, J. T. Medhurst (cond.) 5, V. S. Rose 6. Rung as an engagement compliment to the ringers of the treble.

HARBURY, WARWICKS.—At the Church of All Saints, on Jan. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. L. P. Aldhouse 1, A. R. Barrett 2, A. J. Barrett 3, H. M. Windsor (cond.) 4, G. Smith 5. Also on Jan. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. L. P. Aldhouse 1, S. T. Hauley (first 'inside') 2, A. R. Barrett (cond.) 3, H. M. Windsor 4, G. Smith 5.

HUNTSPELL, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Chedzey 1, J. Hobbs 2, E. Reasons 3, M. Farthing (cond.) 4, A. Turner 5, G. Cox 6. First quarter on the bells since being rehung. Rung as a compliment to the Rector, who was installed as a prebendary the same day.

HUTTON, ESSEX.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Doubles (480 All Saints, 300 Grandsire and 480 Plain Bob): Eileen M. Malden 1, M. Baker (cond.) 2, E. M. Baker 3, W. T. Hill 4, C. E. Hill 5. First quarter by all in three methods. Rung for Confirmation service taken by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford.

KING'S NORTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. R. Carless 1, A. M. Flynn 2, J. Mary Funnell (first 'inside') 3, R. J. Stokes 4, Molly P. Flynn 5, C. E. J. Blake 6, W. C. Dowling (cond.) 7, R. Wallis 8. First quarter for 1 and 8.

MARGATE, KENT.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. Page 1, Mrs. N. Bridges 2, R. G. Dadds 3, P. Dadds 4, L. Twyman 5, A. J. Dadds 6, F. J. Gadsden (cond.) 7, H. Lade 8. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Robert Dalby Reeve, hon. architect to the Parish Church.

OVERTON, HANTS.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Beryl Pittaway 1, P. Nash 2, R. W. Rex 3, G. K. Dodd 4, F. W. Lewis 5, R. F. Crook 6, H. N. Reed 7, P. H. Toccock (cond.) 8. First quarter in the method for 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6.

READING, BERKS.—On Jan. 24th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Waldegrave (first quarter on eight bells) 1, A. Diserens 2, J. N. Diserens 3, Mrs. A. Diserens 4, E. W. Colley 5, R. F. Diserens (first as cond.) 6, N. J. Diserens 7, F. W. Lewis 8.

SAPCOTE, LEICS.—On Jan. 16th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: M. E. Brown (cond.) 1, Dorothy Stratford 2, Rita Stratford 3, Christine Stratford 4, R. Hall 5, A. Chapman 6. A 21st birthday compliment to Allan Chapman. Rung by the local band.

SOMERSHAM, HUNTS.—On Jan. 24th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: R. Clements 1, J. R. G. Spicer 2, G. Whitehead 3, H. S. Peacock 4, W. Ransome 5, N. Mallitt (cond.) 6. Rung for morning service.

SULGRAVE, NORTHANTS.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Shellard 1, B. Saunders 2, W. J. Chester (cond.) 3, M. Saunders 4, L. Wootton 5, G. Shellard, jun. 6. Rung as a compliment to the Vicar of Sulgrave (the Rev. W. S. Pakenham Walsh) on his 83rd birthday.

TURNER'S HILL, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. A. C. Bonnett (cond.) 1, J. A. Howard 2, G. F. Tizzard 3, I. A. C. Butcher 4, H. Meades (89) 5, C. F. Bonnett 6, F. H. Hicks (cond.) 7, H. J. Wilde 8. First quarter of Triples by 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8. Rung to celebrate the 89th birthday of the ringers of the 5th.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on Jan. 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (with tenor covering): C. F. Neal 1, Miss G. L. Friswell 2, Miss N. Hales 3, J. Hales 4, R. K. C. Wilkings 5, D. Neal (cond.) 6, D. A. Sydenham 7. A birthday compliment to Miss N. Hales.

WARMINSTER, WILTS.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Titt 1, H. Tudgay 2, J. Phipps (first quarter) 3, L. Hawkins 4, N. Knee (cond.) 5, T. E. Mullard 6. Rung for the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, and as a compliment to J. Phipps, who journeys 20 miles each Sunday for service ringing.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Jan. 19th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: D. J. Taylor 1, R. Rowley 2, J. R. Mayne (cond.) 3, E. Durrant (first in the method 'inside') 4, S. H. Hoare 5, J. E. Rootes 6, W. Wenban 7, R. King 8.

WEST HARTLEPOOLS, CO. DURHAM.—At All Saints' Church, Stanton, on Jan. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Margaret James 1, R. Webster 2, Mrs. W. Maughan 3, Mrs. K. Lawson 4, K. Lawson 5, W. Maughan 6, H. Short (Whitby, cond.) 7, J. Maughan 8. Rung for Evensong.

WORDSLEY, STAFFS.—On Jan. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss D. Carless 1, Miss N. Evans 2, Miss S. Banks 3, Miss M. Jewkes (first quarter) 4, C. J. Shepherd (cond.) 5, D. A. Shepherd 6. Rung on the occasion of the 40th wedding anniversary of the parents of the treble ringer.

A WENSLEYDALE AUTHORITY**Mr. Henry Parrish Completes
51 Years' Service**

Yorkshire ringers will congratulate Mr. Henry Parrish, of Kirk Lea, Middleham, on completing 51 years as a bellringer and chorister at Middleham Parish Church. He is an authority on Wensleydale, on which he has given many lantern lectures. The occasion was marked by a presentation from his fellow ringers, the gift being handed over by his sister, Miss J. Parrish, who has been a ringer for 42 years.

For many years Mr. Parrish has been conductor of St. Alkelda's Guild of Change Ringers and is the sole survivor of the six members who years ago had badges made from the metal of the discarded second bell of Middleham Parish Church.

Mr. Parrish has preserved many cards recording notable performances by St. Alkelda's Guild of Change Ringers, including one dated Thursday, November 29th, 1906, described as 'a peal of 5,040 changes of Minor, consisting of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob in three hours and eight minutes.' A footnote states: 'First peal ever rung on Middleham bells, also first peal by any of the ringers.'

On that occasion the tenor bell, weighing 94 cwt., was rung by the conductor, Dr. Henry Pauli, and the team comprised Messrs. John Sarginson, George Handley, Henry Parrish, Anthony Peacock and Henry Jones.

The earliest record is an extent of Bob Minor on Sunday, October 23rd, 1904, this being the first of Minor by the Guild under the instruction of Mr. Robert Burrows, of Richmond, and the first by Middleham ringers for about 20 years. Mr. Burrows rang the tenor bell and the team was Messrs. William Sykes, George Handley, Henry Parrish, Henry Jones and Dr. H. Pauli.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION**Presentation to Mr. Peter Crook**

At the annual meeting of the Bolton Branch, held on January 23rd at Bolton Parish Church, a presentation was made to Mr. Peter Crook, Bolton's popular Branch secretary, who was resigning that position after 35 years' service.

The members of the Branch had previously decided that some form of recognition be made to Mr. Crook in view of his long service. The presentation was made by the Vicar and Rural Dean of Bolton (the Rev. R. G. Norburn) who expressed the good wishes of the whole Branch in most suitable words. Mr. Crook was then presented with a peal records book bound in leather with the inscription in gold: 'Ringing Records. Peter Crook.'

Peter will indeed have a very busy time filling in the peal records because by the time this goes to press he is expecting to have rung his 400th peal. Mr. Crook thanked the Rural Dean and the Branch members for their beautiful gift, and gave one or two reminiscences of his past experiences in Bolton and district in the good old days.

Mrs. Crook also came in for a present and this took the form of a brooch, for which she expressed her great thanks.

The meeting was a great success. Both Mr. and Mrs. Crook were in complete ignorance of any presentation and it was quite unexpected that Mrs. Crook would have been at the meeting at all.

The company sat down to a sumptuous tea provided by the Parish Church ringers and afterwards returned to the very fine tall tower where the excellent ring of eight (tenor 15½ cwt.) was rung until 8.30 p.m. Thus ended a very happy and, indeed, memorable day.

J. T.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN.**S. and W. District Annual Meeting
at Heston**

Five changes were made in the officers of the South and West District elected for 1954 during the meeting held at Heston on January 16th. The officers are:—Master, Mr. F. T. Blagrove; Deputy Master, Mr. R. F. B. Speed; secretary, Mr. F. W. Goodfellow; assistant secretary, Mr. D. Judd; auditor, Mr. J. B. Sansom; and three members of the Central Committee—Messrs. F. A. Finch, H. J. Eldred and T. Collins.

The meetings rota was left in the hands of the secretary, who said that, as far as possible, meetings would be held on the third Saturday in each month. It was decided to invite the Cumberland Youths to Twickenham on July 17th, and the Oxford Guild to Hillingdon on October 16th.

The accounts showed a great improvement on the previous year, with a balance on the right side of £25.

The secretary's report (adopted by acclamation but no extra pay!) recorded 16 tower-bell peals rung in the District, of which eight were rung at Stanwell. Leading conductor was Mr. F. T. Blagrove with seven peals conducted. Quarter peals rung were 54, of which 28 (all conducted by Mr. F. T. Blagrove) were rung at Stanwell. New members elected during the year were 26. The average attendance at the seven District meetings was 34, and at the three joint meetings 70.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. Reuben Sanders on his 80th birthday. One new member was elected, Mr. O. Haythorne, of Ruislip.

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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JOSEPH T. DYKE.
HAROLD J. POOLE.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

S. Nicolas' bells, Guildford, which have been
silent for six months, excepting Christmas Day,
owing to tower repairs, are now available.
Practice night is Wednesday.

It was Mr. Arthur Fidler, son of the well-known Mr. J. P. Fidler, who chimed the bells of St. Anne's, Alderney, on January 24th, which was mentioned in this column last week. J. P. informs his inquirers that he has a cast iron alibi and must decline the congratulations that have been showered upon him. 'We have not yet reached the stage where we can ring bells by remote control,' he adds.

The bells of St. Anne's, Alderney, have been recast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. with a tenor of 13½ cwt. and were rehung by Mr. Arthur Fidler. These bells were removed by the Germans during the occupation of the island, and after recovery were hung in the churchyard on wooden supports.

With the peal at Westbury, Wilts, Brian Bladon, from Swindon, has rung peals of Stedman from Doubles to Cinques.

Congratulations to Mr. A. C. Thompson, a member of Derby Cathedral band, who rang his 100th peal on January 23rd.

For the enthronement of the new Bishop of Leicester, the Leicester Cathedral ringers produced something new--the first peal of Langley Surprise Maximus.

The Lord Bishop of St. Albans will dedicate the bells in Great Amwell Church, Herts, which were recently restored and augmented to a ring of five as a village memorial to the late King George VI. on Sunday, February 21st, at 11 a.m.

We apologise to Miss S. Davis for being credited with her first peal of Plain Bob Major at Bucklebury in our last issue. Her contribution to ringing covers a long period, and the Oxford Diocesan Guild have conferred upon her probably their highest honour by making her a vice-president.

BELFRY GOSSIP

On the day after his 89th birthday Mr. H. Meades, of Turners Hill, Sussex, rang his first quarter peal on eight bells (the fifth to Grandsire Triples). This keen and active 'young man' attends regularly two practices a week (East Grinstead and Turner's Hill) and rings every Sunday at the latter tower. Mr. Meades only commenced ringing again some two years ago after a lapse of 50 years. About 18 months ago he rang a quarter peal of Doubles, this being his first long touch for about 51 years.

Will the conductor of the peal of Doubles at Cuxton, Kent, on January 25th, please forward his name to the Editor?

Bedfordshire Young Ringers rang a quarter peal at Kempston, and not at Bromham as was recorded in our last issue. Their party was at the home of Miss Susan Osborn (see page 78).

The sympathy of his many ringing friends is extended to Mr. Frank E. Haynes, of Smethwick, in the sudden death of his wife on January 27th.

Mr. R. F. B. Speed and Mr. Alick Cutler rang their 100th peal together on January 30th at Twickenham. Ninety-nine of these peals were of Surprise.

Mr. A. E. Boylett, who for 26 years has been a ringer at Horsell Parish Church, Surrey, has retired. Fellow ringers rang a complimentary quarter last Sunday.

Mr. Ernest W. Beadsmore, the veteran tower-keeper at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, was prevented by illness at the last moment to stand in the first peal of London Surprise on his bells. Mrs. S. H. Jones, of Repton, came along at an hour's notice and filled the gap, and the band thank her accordingly.

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DEATH OF MR. G. M. KILBY

Three Times Master of the Middlesex County Association

As was briefly announced in our issue of January 29th, the Ringing Exercise has lost a valuable member in the person of George Martin Kilby, of Ruislip, who died on January 23rd, aged 71 years. The funeral and interment took place at St. Martin's, Ruislip, on January 28th. In spite of the bitter weather many of his old friends attended. The family mourners included the widow and only son, and Mr. E. H. Kilby (nephew). Amongst wreaths was a token of affection and respect in which members of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild had for George Kilby.

After the church service the interment took place nearby. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the open grave by A. W. Coles (vice-president, North and East District) 1-2, W. H. Coles (vice-president South and West District) 3-4, F. W. Goodfellow (hon. secretary, South and West District and Central Council member) 5-6, W. N. Genna (assistant general secretary) 7-8. Also present at the graveside were Mrs. E. C. S. Turner (representing the general secretary), Messrs. T. J. Lock (North and East District secretary and Central Council member), F. Corke, G. H. Hart, T. E. and Mrs. Lankester and the Ruislip ringers. The bells of St. Martin's were rung half-muffled both before and after the funeral, and in the evening a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) was rung by Mrs. G. Savory 1, W. Bunce jun. 2, P. Thrift 3, W. Picthall 4, A. Hunter 5, F. W. Goodfellow 6, T. Collins (conductor) 7, F. Corke 8.

George Kilby was a very keen and clever ringer, joining the Willesden band in the early part of the century, and later, in 1931, becoming a member of the Ruislip band. He started his ringing career as a six-bell ringer at Willesden, where the bells were not augmented to eight until 1915, and rang a good deal at Edgware, too (where, after a long silence, the bells are again being rung). His first peal was of Minor in five methods at Willesden on September 3rd, 1910. Several of his earliest peals were rung for the London County Association, but it was with the Middlesex County Association that George Kilby rang most of his peals. Under the leadership of William Pye, he was one of the band that pioneered the ringing of Spliced Surprise Major, and they rang peals in the full sequence of three to twelve methods inclusive.

209 SURPRISE PEALS

George Kilby also rang in the first peals of several Surprise methods, of which he rang 209. One hundred and eighty of his 362 tower-bell peals were rung at Willesden, where he evidently had his favourite bell, for he rang 96 peals on the third! His last peal was of London Surprise Major at Old Windsor, conducted by C. W. Roberts, on December 30th, 1950.

He was a very regular Sunday service ringer and took a keen interest in church affairs, being a sidesman and church councillor. He was a most loyal and enthusiastic member of the Middlesex Association and he was Master three times, and Deputy Master three times, of the South and West District, besides serving on the Central Committee for several years, resigning from the latter last year.

George was a noted wag, always ready with the humorous remark and the funny story—and what a store he had of the latter. He could be fiercely critical, and how he liked to enunciate those long adjectives! But his fierceness usually subsided in a mischievous grin and his normal good nature reasserted itself. His health had troubled him of late years and he

had been unable to ring recently. He remained avid for news of ringing till the last, and the day before he died was able to appreciate a message of good cheer from the District annual meeting. George kept a record of the ringers (406) with whom he had rung peals, and marked with a cross the names of those (as he put it) 'who have passed for ever from the dream of bells.' They numbered 113. Now he has joined them. God rest his soul.

HIS PEALS

The following is George Kilby's list of peals:—

Royal.—Cambridge Surprise 9, Yorkshire Surprise 2, Double Norwich Court Bob 1, Isleworth Bob 1.

Caters.—Stedman 5 (1), Grandsire 1.

Triples.—Stedman 25 (1), Grandsire 16 (4).

Major Surprise.—London 25, Bristol 26, Cambridge 53, Superlative 31, Yorkshire 5, Rutland 3, Norfolk 2, Lincolnshire 2, Ealing 2, Wembley 1, Pudsey 1, New Cambridge 1, Eastcote 1, Willesden 1, Bayswater 1.

Spliced Surprise Major.—Three methods 1, four methods 26, five methods 4, six methods 2, seven methods 2, eight methods 1, nine methods 2, ten methods 1, eleven methods 1, twelve methods 1.

Major.—Kent Treble Bob 18, Oxford Treble Bob 8, Little Albion Treble Bob 1, Spliced Oxford and Kent Treble Bob 1, Double Norwich Court Bob 23, Plain Bob 19 (1), Double Oxford Bob 2, Edmonton Bob 2, Winchester Bob 1, Marlborough Bob 1, Double Coslany Court Bob 1, Little Bob 2, St. Clement's Bob 1.

Minor.—Cambridge Surprise 2, Plain Bob 4, three methods 4, four methods 3, five methods 1, seven plain methods 1, seven Treble Bob methods 4, seven methods 7. 362 (7).

Total.—369, including 209 in Surprise methods.

The figures in parentheses refer to hand-bell peals.

IN BERLIN FOR FOUR-POWER CONFERENCE

Dear Sir,—On Sunday, January 24th, the bells of Berlin, this great but now devastated city, rang a peal to commemorate the opening of the Four-Power Foreign Ministers' Conference (so reported the German Press).

Among the bells which contributed to this great tumult of sound was the Freedom Bell, which is suspended high in the belfry of Schöenberg Town Hall, which since the East-West split of Berlin has become the seat of the Senate of Berlin and the political centre of the free city in front of the Iron Curtain.

The Freedom Bell, replica of the famous American Liberty Bell, whose resounding tones daily reverberate from aloft, exhorts the inhabitants of the city not to weaken, not to flag in their resistance against tyranny.

As one whose work recently has daily taken me behind the Iron Curtain, the beautiful tone of this bell echoing across the city has provided welcome relief from an uneasy atmosphere and heralded the approach of another night in the freedom of the Western Sector, where in the Kurfürstendamm, the theme of so many songs, the subject of lovers' dreams, and yearned for by all exiled Berliners, has once more regained its former splendour, and where from many delightful restaurants we British Pressman can observe this great German boulevard which at night is transformed into a thrilling fairyland, glittering with myriads of coloured lights. To all of us the sound of this great bell is a reminder of something that is truly English and a greater realisation of the part bells play in the lives of us all. —Yours faithfully, DONALD G. CLIFT.

Berlin.

NEW ZEALAND RINGERS HONOUR THE QUEEN

Christchurch Cathedral Society of Bellringers were very proud to have the honour of ringing for the visit to Christchurch of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh.

On their arrival Grandsire Triples were rung as they passed the Cathedral, set changes on the ten bells having been rung previously.

The next day, January 19th, a touch of 480 Grandsire Triples was rung on the heavy eight prior to Evensong, which was attended by the royal visitors.

To mark this great occasion in the records of the Exercise a peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung on Saturday, January 23rd, conducted by Mr. Fred Savage. Fittingly, the band consisted of three New Zealand and three English ringers. Two of the band travelled over 100 miles to take part.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING AT NEWCASTLE, 1954

Headquarters for the Council's meeting at Whitsun, 1954, will be the CROWN HOTEL, CLAYTON STREET WEST, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE 1. The charge for BED & BREAKFAST IS 22s.

A further list of hotels will be published shortly.

E. A. BARNETT,
Hon. Secretary.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD Salisbury Branch

The annual meeting of the Salisbury Branch was held at St. Martin's, Salisbury, on January 23rd, 49 members and visitors being present. The Rector of St. Martin's (the Rev. A. D. F. Mackenzie) conducted the Guild service and preached. The Rev. A. Phillips (Vicar of Damerham) assisted in the service, and the Branch chairman was at the organ. Some of the ringers' wives and families provided and prepared tea in the Parish Hall, which was followed by the business meeting.

The secretary and treasurer presented the balance sheet showing a balance carried forward of £28 15s 4d., and the report of the Branch activities during the year, which included three peals (two for the Coronation), the new Coronation treble at Durrington and the welcome of the new band there. The chairman read the Branch report for 1886, which had recently come into his hands, and made an interesting contrast.

Most of the Branch officers were re-elected:—Chairman, Mr. H. A. Roles; vice-chairman, Mr. W. Chalk; secretary, Miss Y. L. Eloie; Ringing Masters, Messrs. A. Haines, J. Russell, H. Abrahams, J. Maidment and Miss J. Gray. Members of committee, Mr. J. Lewis and Mr. C. Haines. Six ringing members were elected: Messrs. N. Bush and J. Baverstock (Damerham), F. R. Haines (Wilton), E. Reeves (Martin), Miss A. Bacon (Sarum St. Martin) and Miss J. Hillier (Sarum St. Thomas). The Rev. and Mrs. A. Phillips were welcomed as honorary members, having come from the Dorchester Branch.

A resolution was passed that the meeting urge that the motion deprecating the introduction into churches of recordings of bells be reconsidered by the Church Assembly.

A donation of two guineas was voted towards a memorial plaque to the Rev. H. W. Moule in Damerham Church.

Ringing was enjoyed during the afternoon and evening at St. Paul's, St. Martin's and St. Thomas'.

HEAVITREE HONOURS MR. CHARLES G. GLASS An 80th Birthday Peal

In the peal columns will be found an 80th birthday compliment to Mr. Charles G. Glass. This effort was especially requested by the Vicar of Heavitree (the Rev. Arthur Johnson), by whom, as well as by all his ringing friends, he is held in very high esteem. A gentleman of the 'old school,' the best wishes of all are most heartily extended to him for his continued good health and well being—on to the hundred!

Mr. Glass learned to ring at Clyst St. George as long ago as 1884 and was a boyhood admirer of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, who was then in his closing years. He was awarded the proficiency certificate in 1887.

He moved to Heavitree in 1907, where he has been an active member ever since. Recently, on Friday, January 22nd, his birthday, he could have been seen climbing the many steps to the bell chamber to oil and prepare the bearings and fittings for his birthday peal.

Mr. Glass, for the past 20 years, has been steeplekeeper and Ringing Master at Heavitree and much of the credit is due to him and his care and maintenance for the fine condition the bells are in to-day. The bells were new in 1897 and have been rung regularly ever since without the bellhanger's attention.

In the words of his Vicar, a staunch supporter of all the activities of Heavitree Church, regular communicant, church councillor, feeoffee administrator, a man we delight to honour. Other honours have not passed him by. He was a member of the Exeter Cathedral band (1915-1951), 13 years of which he was Ringing Master. He is also a past chairman of the Exeter Branch, Devon Guild. Mr. Glass, now an octogenarian, still renders his devoted service to church, ringers and bells—long may he continue to do so. F. W.

PRESENTATION TO NAILSEA'S RETIRING CAPTAIN

The Nailsea ringers, at their practice on January 18th, were joined by the Rector (the Rev. W. Russell Davey), who presented an inscribed pewter tankard to Mr. E. J. Baker in recognition of his many years' service and his resignation of the captaincy after 21 years.

The Rector thanked the ringers in general, and Mr. Baker in particular, for their valuable service to the Church and then presented the gift.

Mr. Baker suitably replied, and recalled that when he started ringing, 60 years ago, he was one of three who started on that evening. One never came again and the other came only once more whilst he (the speaker) had been ringing ever since and would still be pleased to come along when he was needed.

The tankard is inscribed:—'E. J. Baker. 60 years Bellringer. Nailsea Parish Church. (21 years Captain.) From his fellow ringers. January, 1954.' M. J. H.

'CIRCLING THE TOWER'

With the peal at Rolvenden, Kent, on January 20th, Mr. T. E. Sone, of Paddock Wood, Kent, 'completed the circle' in his 14th tower. His record is unusual.

'Completed the circle' twice and conducted round the circle once at Marden, Staplehurst, Linton and Brencley.

'Completed the circle' once and conducted round the circle once at Headcorn, Aylesford, West Malling and Hadlow.

'Completed the circle once' at Tunbridge Wells, Leeds, Penshurst, Rolvenden, Rotherfield and Salehurst.

A STOCKPORT WEDDING Mr. Arthur Hibbert—Miss Frances Lafin

A wedding of much interest to Cheshire ringers was solemnised at St. George's Church, Stockport, on January 23rd, between Mr. Arthur Hibbert, of Chapel-en-le-Frith, and Miss Frances Muriel Lafin, of Stockport. The bride has been for nine years a regular Sunday service ringer at St. George's and for the last three or four years hon. secretary of the North-Western District of the Ladies' Guild.

The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. Wilfrid Garlick, Vicar of St. George's, assisted by Canon W. Green, Vicar of St. Thomas a Becket, Chapel-en-le-Frith. The magnificent church was lit up with its new lighting system and there were 12 boy choristers to lead the singing.

The bride was attended by her younger sister, Mrs. Winifred B. Browett, who acted as matron of honour. Mr. Harold Hibbert was best man to his brother.

As the happy couple left the church and organ music behind, the bells above crashed out in rounds and firing successively until the bridal car had left the church avenue on its way to the reception. After this a touch of Stedman Triples was rung by ringers from other towers mixed with some of the home band.

The reception, which was held at a local cinema cafe, was attended by intimate friends and relations of bride and bridegroom and included enough ringers to give a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells whilst the cake was being cut. It was thought that, as the bride made the cake (a two-tiered piece of architecture), she must have known exactly where to put the knife in—it looked so easy. The usual toasts were given and replied to, speeches made and all too soon the time came for the newly-married couple to leave for their honeymoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Hibbert will reside at Chapel-en-le-Frith, where the former is teaching a young band to ring the six bells.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION Northern District Gained 26 New Members in 1953

The annual meeting of the Northern District was held at Hitchin on January 23rd. Ringing commenced at 3 o'clock followed by a short service conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. G. O. Walsh). Canon J. Bailey (former Vicar of Norton and an honorary member of the Association) gave the address. One could not have wished for better encouragement than that given in this sermon reminding all present that although we liked to ring on higher numbers of bells, the five-bell towers must not be neglected, as one day they might have more, as was the case in his own parish of Norton.

Some 33 members sat down to tea at the Triangle Cafe. The business meeting was held in the ringing chamber with the Vicar in the chair. The meeting stood in silence in memory of Thomas Werrett, the only member to have passed on to higher service during the year.

The secretary reported that 26 new members had been elected during the year and that 22 peals had been rung in the District, six of which were for the Coronation. The balance sheet showed a balance of £29 10s.

Mr. D. P. Jones was elected as Ringing Master, Mr. E. G. Buck District secretary, and Messrs. B. Marks, D. P. Jones, E. Winters, J. Dear, F. Croft and H. Werrett committee.

Three new members were elected, viz:—Misses F. Welsh (Walkern) and M. Collins (Norton) and Master A. Tuttle (Hitchin). With the usual vote of thanks the meeting closed and further ringing continued until 9 o'clock.

E. G. B

ESSEX ASSOCIATION Good Sunday Service Report From Northern District

There was an attendance of 83 members at the annual meeting of the Northern District, which was held at Bocking on January 16th. The service in the Deanery Church was conducted by Mr. R. Suckling, Miss H. G. Snowden (the District Master) read the lesson, and the Dean preached.

The business meeting was held in the Workman's Hall after a fine tea which was prepared by Miss Snowden and some lady friends of the ringers. Miss Snowden extended a hearty welcome to all the members and visitors, which included Mr. R. C. Heazel (the Association's Master), who presided over the meeting.

The District Master reported that with the exception of two churches all the bells in the District were rung for Sunday services and that 37 peals had been rung during 1953.

The secretary, in his report, stated that six meetings had been held with an average attendance of 46, and welcomed into the Association the towers at Belchamp St. Paul and Shalford.

Two nominations were received for the position of District Master, and Miss H. G. Snowden was re-elected. Mr. H. A. Pratt was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and Messrs. J. Elliott and J. Warner as committee members.

Colne Engaine was chosen for the next meeting in March. Four new members were elected. Votes of thanks were passed to the Dean, the ladies who prepared the tea and all who had helped to make the meeting a great success. Some were present from Mistley, Ardleigh, Wanstead, Great Waltham, Thaxted, Bures, Clare, Bocking, Kelvedon, Braintree, Stebbing, Great Dunmow, Black Notley, Pebmarsh, Witham, Finchingfield, Sible Hedingham, Great Bardfield, Wickham St. Paul, Halstead, Feering, Earls Colne and Stisted.

Ringing on the Deanery Church bells was resumed after the meeting; the handbells were also made good use of.

HOCKLEY SURPRISE MAJOR

12345678
21436587
12346857
21438675
24183657
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42861357
24683175
24861357
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46283715
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68472315
86743251
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87654321
78563412
75863142
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57619342
75163824
75618342
57163824
51736842
15378624
51738764
15372846
15738264

4ths place bob.

Rung at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, January 4th, 1954.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CENTRAL COUNCIL AFFILIATION FEES Notice Given the Previous Year

Dear Sir,—In the report of the annual meeting of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, Mr. G. H. Cross is reported to have said that the Central Council 'had no right to spend a Society's money before the matter had been referred to the members.' Mr. F. E. Hawthorne added that 'the recommendation came as a bombshell.'

Both Mr. Cross and Mr. Hawthorne, as well as the Society's other two representatives, were present at the 1952 meeting at Lincoln when Mr. G. W. Fletcher announced that he had been asked by the Standing Committee to give notice of an increase in affiliation fees. This was reported on page 379 of 'The Ringing World' of June 13th, 1952, and the leading article in the same issue commented that 'The Council has now come to a review of its own budget . . . The obvious course is to increase the affiliation fee, and in giving notice of this at Lincoln the Standing Committee will enable the Council to enter the new chapter of its career free of financial embarrassment.'

There was, therefore, ample opportunity for the Cumberlands, in common with all other affiliated Societies, to consult their members before the motion was voted on at Bourne-mouth.—Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT,
Hon. Sec., Central Council.

NON-WORKING BELLS IN PEALS

Dear Sir,—In your leader of January 22nd the question was raised as to whether a treble or tenor ringer is entitled to claim a peal if he does not do the inside work. You say it is difficult, if not impossible, to assert with complete exactitude this interesting point.

The B.B.C. in 'What's My Line?' often introduce the word 'loosely.' Let all the ringers claim the honour of the peal, even the trebles and tenors, with the proviso 'loosely' for the last-named two.

I may say there used to be an expert tenor ringer here named Monk. He rang no bell but the tenor and kept a steady pace for three hours, disregarding any neglect of the treble in widening out in Double Triples or Caters. He was in great demand by conductors for pulling the peal through.

Give the trebles and tenors their due, with the proviso 'loosely' to pacify the precisionists.

J. M. TURNER.

Moulton, Northampton.

THE STISTED PEAL

Dear Sir,—Valuable space is taken week by week in 'The Ringing World' by footnotes appended to peals. I am in favour of footnotes which are of genuine interest, but the one attached to the Stisted peal of Cambridge Minor in the issue of January 22nd is not only unnecessary, but also in very bad taste.

The Essex Association do not, I feel sure, wish to enter into any controversy in 'The Ringing World' over peals that have been rung and published.

Before writing to the Press, correspondents should make certain that their facts are correct.

The Essex Association has not yet taken any action regarding this peal and the conductor has not withdrawn it through the columns of 'The Ringing World.' That your correspondent thinks the peal has been withdrawn perhaps indicates his own dissatisfaction with it.

I hope, sir, that instead of using footnotes, you will perhaps consider some articles on the etiquette expected amongst members of the ringing fraternity.—Yours sincerely,

HILDA G. SNOWDEN,
Northern District Master,
Essex Association

ACCEPT THE 'NEW' SCIENTIFIC RINGING

Dear Sir,—Having had some 15 years' electronics experience (R.A.F. and commercial), the correspondence on 'synthetic' bells is of more than usual interest to me.

Moses summoned the children of Israel to worship by blowing a silver trumpet; it was not until the Roman Empire became Christian that bells were introduced to announce the holding of divine worship.

I have witnessed a priest from the Church of St. Sargious, built over the cellar in which the Holy Family lived in Cairo, walking about the streets clashing cymbals to call the faithful, and in the same city heard recordings of English bellringing from the tall grey tower of All Saints' Cathedral.

During the last 12 months between 10.45 and 11 a.m. on Sundays I have heard recorded bells two miles away and these sound very well. At the same time I have heard the discordant jangling of individual bells.

I feel sure that we bellringers should take this 'new' (we were thankful enough for radar) scientific ringing. We will not kill it if the best arguments are those we have read to date. The fact that the Church Assembly vote was not proceeded with was surely because some people did not want to see that body of Church workers, known as ringers, suffer further. We certainly put up a poor show over St. Bride's.

How many ringers know that just 12 months ago a device was introduced into St. Paul's Cathedral to travel the instantaneous electron in the slow company of sound to enable the whole congregation to hear and understand and lose the rumbling echo of unintelligibility. No words such as sham or farce were then used.

I don't think the arguments against amplified recordings will cut any ice except with those who want to silence bell-ringing. We would do better to set up a Central Council Committee on the subject to report. (Unfortunately, the Central Council is only interested in peals, otherwise it would have called for a report on 'silent' towers and no ringers long ago.)—Yours faithfully,

E. L. HUMPHRISS.

Woolton, Liverpool.

WHERE 'CANNED' BELLS WERE A TONIC

Dear Sir,—With reference to 'canned' ringing, it may interest fellow-ringers to know that the Parish Church of St. Paul, Lisson Grove, until recently sounded forth bell-recordings from the roof top (as well as hymns and carols, etc., in season). This has now had to cease—a by-law here grants the fact that three people complaining against it can legally cause it to cease. The doleful single bell will have to be used to summon worshippers and to witness to the non-worshippers.

If I may add a personal point, it is that I shall miss this 'canned' ringing greatly. During training here for the Master's full-time service as Evangelists, we have very little free time to pursue ringing, and to the two sister-ringers and two brother-ringers here, the sound of even 'canned' through some of London's back streets—away from live ringing—is a real tonic. The other brother-ringer here, incidentally, was not impressed favourably with some 'canned' ringing he heard in Aylesbury—he considered the recording itself as either not the best available, or else worn.—Yours sincerely,

NOEL DENSON
(ex-Bristol Rural Branch Secretary).
Church Army Training College,
Cosway Street, N.W.1

'THE INDEFINABLE'

Dear Sir,—While admitting that from time to time 'forms of inquiry and speculation have found problems that seem to admit of no solution,' I do feel that the cases cited by E. C. S. do not justifiably come under the heading 'The Indefinable.'

Let us first consider the problem of Achilles and the tortoise. The argument uses the statement that 'space is infinitely divisible'; now, by similar reasoning (what a wonderful phrase that is!), it will follow that time is infinitely divisible. Using this, I feel it is possible to reach a more satisfactory conclusion than that of 'the tortoise must always be a fraction ahead of the runner.'

Secondly, the problem of the frog jumping to the centre of the pond. Mathematical reasoning (and if it is mathematical it will be strict) proves that if we have a frog which is travelling to the centre of a pond, which always jumps half the distance between itself and its goal, then the frog will take infinite time to achieve its object; but, and here is a point for consideration, the mathematician does not suggest for a moment he can find a frog which will be physically capable of satisfying the above limitations; he does not even suggest that he could verify whether a frog has performed satisfactorily. There is no contradiction: because a theoretical solution to a problem is obtained, it does not follow that either the solution or the problem is capable of practical achievement.

Now to the question of ringing. We will consider 'whether a man ringing the treble to Cambridge should describe himself as having rung a peal of Cambridge.' What exactly do we mean? What is required for a peal of Cambridge to be rung? I suggest that when eight bells (considering Major) are rung in changes and the order of those changes is such that it corresponds to the order which is defined as the Cambridge method and the number of changes is sufficient to satisfy the requirements of a peal, then a peal of Cambridge Major has been rung. 'But that is obvious,' you reply. It may be obvious, but it drives home the fact that a peal is rung by a team of ringers. I have yet to hear of a peal of Major being rung by less than two ringers! No, let us state our claims clearly; a man cannot ring a peal of Cambridge, he rings with a team of ringers who ring a peal of the method.

The argument, as given, confuses the issue. Don't let us cloud the problem by considering also whether the ringer about whom we are talking achieved another task as well (suppose the treble conducts the peal). A team of ringers is required for a peal and neither commonsense X nor commonsense Y is aptly named. They consider one man can ring a peal.

Similar clarity of expression will remove the suggested differences of opinion in the other examples considered by E. C. S.

'We leave the rights and wrongs of peal claims to the judgment of common opinion' only when we do not analyse what we have stated and see that it is precisely what we wish to claim.—Yours faithfully,

PETER E. PARRY.

West Byfleet, Surrey.

FIRST PEAL OF RUTLAND IN BEDFORDSHIRE

Dear Sir,—I have just been informed that a peal of Rutland Surprise Major was rung at Bromham, Beds, on November 24th, 1951.

Please accept my apologies for claiming a peal of this method rung at Maulden a fortnight ago as being the first in the county.—Yours sincerely,

C. E. JEFFRIES.

Bedford.

LETTERS—Continued

RINGING IN MELBOURNE

Dear Sir,—I stand corrected by Mr. Philip M. J. Gray, captain of St. Paul's Cathedral (Melbourne) ringers. I am very penitent and chastened. I should have known better than publish Major Stretton's letter.

What I really had more in my mind was the liking for real, live change ringing was just as strong in Australia as in the Motherland.

However, I have written to both 'Captain' of the St. Paul's ringers and Major Stretton, admitting my indiscretion, promised not to do it again and passed on the very kind invitation of the Melbourne ringers to Major Stretton to look in on them, which I am sure he will do.

Finally, no offence thought of, much less intended, I would like to be included, as one, in those Mr. Gray mentions—'all ringing friends.'

Happy ringing, St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, ringers.—Yours sincerely,

W. FRANK STENSON.

Christ Church, Crewe.

BURTON'S PIONEERS OF SURPRISE RINGING

Dear Sir,—With reference to your report of the annual meeting of the Midland Counties Guild in the January 29th issue of 'The Ringing World,' may I please make a correction?

It was William Wakley, father of W. C. Wakley, who must be associated with the 'Pioneers of Surprise Ringing.'

William Wakley was leader of the band (1874—until his death—1906) that made history in the 1880's.

W. C. Wakley did not join the band until 1896.—Yours truly,

W. C. WAKLEY.

Paignton, Devon.

SYNTHETIC BELLS

Dear Sir,—Church bells are placed in the church tower to be used as a service to God.

I remember being in a Roman Catholic church when a priest was showing a lady round. On coming to a statue decorated with flowers she asked the priest if they were artificial. The priest's answer was, 'No, Madam, nothing is good enough in the service of God but the real thing.'

If our bishops and clergy took the same view there would be no argument about synthetic bells.—Yours,

S. FLINT.

Liverpool.

5,056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

By WILLIAM THORNLEY

23456 1 3 4

42356 A

34625 —

46325 —

62345 —

36524 —

65324 —

52364 —

35426 —

54326 —

43526 —

25346 —

32654 —

63425 —

24365 —

32546 —

53624 —

26354 —

32465 —

Repeat

A=2 & 7, making an 8 lead course. The 36 C.H. with 4.5.6 in 6ths. Sixths place bobs. Rung at All Saints', Leicester, on November 12th, 1953. conducted by the composer.

THE RINGER'S REWARD

From Aching Muscles and Blistered Hands to . . .

A delightful article entitled 'Christmas Changes' appeared in 'Paks,' the house magazine of Eburite Corrugated Containers, Ltd., London, N.W.10, written by Miss Cynthia Clarke, a Middlesex ringer.

She tells of the initiation of the young ringer and adds expressively, 'In short, for the first few weeks, the ringer's lot is not a happy one, and he sees no reward for his labours other than aching muscles and blistered hands.'

'Why, then, does he not give up the struggle? Perhaps because he knows that bells have something to say to him. Just as another person will find a complete expression of his individuality in music, painting or literature, so the true ringer will find complete satisfaction in the sonorous notes of bells. That is why he perseveres in his efforts until he has acquired the art of striking, and goes on from there to master the intricacies of change-ringing. He learns to understand the meaning of such expressions as "holding up," "hunting out to the back," "dodging" and "running in to lead." He has become a regular member of the band.'

'Now he begins to reap the reward of his early struggles. In addition to regular service ringing on Sundays, he will be able to participate in the changes rung in celebration of such national events as the recent Coronation. He will assist in the half-muffled ringing reserved for days of national mourning, and so hear—perhaps for the first time—the splendour and solemnity of bells used as a lament. Midnight on New Year's Eve will see him "ringing in" the New Year, and when, as now, we come to the year's ending, he will again be found in the belfry late on Christmas Eve night to ring for the celebration of a midnight service.'

'Why does he do it? A hard question to answer, indeed. But as the last notes of his own salute to Christmas die away, the ringer puts on his coat and comes down the worn stone steps, out into the cold darkness which is the dawn of another Christmas Day, and knows that he has his reward. As he walks slowly towards home, he hears again in his mind the sound of the bells running round, than which there is no sweeter music in his ears.'

THE LADIES' GUILD

First Annual of North-Eastern District

The first annual meeting of the North-Eastern District of the Ladies' Guild was held at St. Mary's, Gateshead, on January 9th. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m. The Guild service, conducted by the Rector (Canon Stephenson), was held at 4.30 p.m. and was followed by an excellent tea prepared by the ladies of St. Mary's, and enjoyed by 38 members and friends.

At the business meeting which followed tea Mrs. H. McGuinness was re-elected vice-president, and Mrs. N. I. Lea was re-elected hon. secretary. Mrs. M. Ranken resigned from both the District and General Committees and in her place Mrs. M. Lawson and Miss J. B. Softley were elected to the respective committees. Other members were re-elected to these committees. One hon. life member became a ringing member and eleven new ringing members were elected.

Thanks were expressed to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the ladies for providing such an excellent tea.

In her report, the vice-president said that although the District had the very short life of one year, the ladies could be well satisfied with the results of the year's working.

It is hoped that the next meeting of the North-Eastern District will be held at Morpeth on May 1st, during the term of office of the Lady Mayor.

ON CONDUCTING

By WILFRID G. WILSON

V. WHAT HAPPENS AT THE BOBS

In an earlier chapter we said that as well as knowing the order of the bells, the conductor who used the Coursing Order technique would also know which bells were concerned in the bob and what work they did there. Let us examine our Coursing Orders again.

From the plain course a bob W brings up the course end 52436. But that won't tell the normal ringer which bells ran out, ran in, or made fourths place six leads earlier when the bob was called.

But that bob W changes the Coursing Order from 53246 to 32546 (ABC into BCA). If you write the figures out you will see that the three bells we have changed are the three which were concerned in the bob and that 3 ran out, 2 ran in and 5 made fourths place (i.e., B ran out, C ran in and A made fourths).

A bob M from the plain course brings up the course end 43652. But again this won't tell the ordinary ringer which bells were concerned in the bob a lead earlier.

But that bob M changes the Coursing Order from 53246 to 53462 (ABC into BCA).

If you write the figures out you will see that the three bells we have changed are the three which were concerned in the bob and that 4 ran out, 6 ran in and 2 made fourths place (i.e., B ran out, C ran in and A made fourths).

Similarly a bob H from the plain course changes the Coursing Order from 53246 to 52436 (ABC into BCA). You will again see that the three bells we have changed were the three which were concerned in the bob and that 2 ran out, 4 ran in and 3 made fourths place (i.e., B ran out, C ran in and A made fourths).

At the bob Before the tenors run out and in and we only need to know that our last bell in Coursing Order makes the bob and becomes first in Coursing Order.

You may find it helpful to remember that of the three bells concerned in the bob, it is the one that jumps over the other two which actually makes the bob. It is often the ringer of this bell who goes wrong and to be able to establish his position quickly is very useful.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World' February 6th, 1914

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, January 28th, 1914, in 3 hours and 36 minutes

At the Church of All Saints

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS
5,057 CHANGES

Tenor 33 cwt.

Henry G. Naish Treble

John Howes 2

George E. Naish 3

William Shepherd 4

Frederick G. Goddard 5

Charles Slade 6

John H. B. Hesse 7

George Spencer 8

James N. Frossell 9

James Chandler Tenor

Composed by John Wright. Conducted by John Howes.

Rung in celebration of the 81st birthday of Mr. J. Wright, who has been a ringer at the above church for more than 60 years.

[An exceptional span for those days. Mr. Wright, who had begun ringing somewhere about 1850, took part in muffled ringing for the Duke of Wellington's funeral in 1853.]

BEVERLEY & DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETY

Civic Support for Second Annual Dinner

The Society held its second annual dinner on Saturday, January 23rd, in the Market Cross Hotel, Beverley. A total of 50 guests, friends and ringers responded to the good humour of the photographer, who set the event off on a happy tone.

After a good dinner the toast 'The Queen' was proposed by the chairman, Mr. A. E. Sellers, and the diners sat back to listen to the words of wisdom from the speakers.

Mr. C. W. Tye, of Hull, took the listeners back into the past by bringing the historical figures of Cardinal Wolsey, Bishop Alcock, of Ely, and the Beverley-born Bishop Fisher, of Rochester, into his toast of 'Church and State.'

The Society's chaplain, the Rev. G. Storer, responded to Mr. Tye, quoting modern statesmen who were good churchmen and had made their mark as such.

Mr. D. Fewster, of Patrington, welcomed the 'Visitors' and members of the 'Kindred Ringing Societies.' Changes had taken place during his ringing career; he remembered when visitors were tolerated more than welcomed, and the change had been brought about solely through the work of ringing societies.

The Mayor of Beverley, Councillor P. D. Dunn, replied for the visitors. Having taken ringing for granted until New Year's Eve, when he entered a belfry for the first time, he realised that there was more in change ringing than the pulling of a rope. Climbing 60 stairs to a very austere ringing chamber was not a very easy way to make a hobby, especially when compared to the conveniences of a modern club room. The good purposes to which ringing had been used made him proud to give the Society full civic recognition.

THE SPADE WORK

Mr. C. Glenn travelled from Nottingham to speak for 'The Kindred Societies.' He named

six other Societies in Yorkshire which, together with Beverley Society, did the spade work for the Yorkshire Association through their monthly meetings, a total of 84. The Society had also re-awakened interest in bells and ringing in places where no ringing had been heard for years until the Society had visited the towers.

Canon T. H. Tardrew, of Beverley St. Mary, in proposing the toast 'The Beverley and District Ringing Society,' stated that the year had started well from St. Mary's belfry due to a joint effort of the two bands in the town. Amid laughter, the Canon explained how the two Vicars of Beverley had achieved perfect unity even down to the style of collar they wore. As ringers with their bells are the advance party to Sunday services and are heard by everyone, he asked that ringers should make it a point of discipline to start right on time with all the bells and give to visitors and friends alike the feeling that here was a church well worth attending.

Miss A. Davie, of Beverley, replied for the Society. Explaining that the Society was still quite young, she said some of its members were just the opposite. Three ringers present had served the church for 180 years between them and their efforts were an inspiration to the youthful ringers of to-day. The success of the Society depended on the co-operation of the clergy, and Miss Davie thanked them for giving it so generously.

The toast to 'The Chairman' was given by the Rev. R. C. Collwyn Hargreaves. As both gentlemen serve the Minster, Mr. Hargreaves had been able to trace the chairman's career from the old churchwardens' accounts, and he was pleased to congratulate him on reaching his 50th year as a ringer.

The entertainments between the speeches were changes on handbells and a record of changes on St. Mary's bells. The selection by the choir on the other side of the record also received loud applause.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—W. P. Garner 5s., J. L. S. G. 2s. 6d., Anonymous 2s.

Peals.—Bucklebury 2s. 6d., Lyme Regis 5s., Balcombe 2s. 6d., Bethersden 3s., Heavitree 6s., Heytesbury 3s.

Quarter peals.—Goring-by-Sea 3s. 6d., Bruton 3s., Pendleton 2s., Wolstanton 4s., Blackhill 3s. 6d., Hovingham 3s., Harbury 5s., Watford 4s., Evercreech 3s., Huntspill 3s., Warminster 3s., King's Norton 5s., Clyst St. George 3s., Daybrook 2s., Hutton 2s. 6d., Hadlow 3s. 6d., Margate 1s. 6d., Upper Clapton 1s. 9d.

5,300 STEDMAN CATERS — by Frank E. Darby

	123456789	513264978	4	5	11	16
A (213456978)	312456	—	—	—	—	2
	314256	214356	—	—	—	2
	416253	416352	—	—	—	3
	413562	412563	—	S	—	—
	312564	213564	—	—	—	3
	214563	314562	—	—	—	3
	415263	415362	—	—	—	2
	513264	512364	—	—	—	3
B	213465879	—	—	—	—	2
	314265	—	—	—	—	2
	412365	—	—	—	—	2
	413265	S	—	—	—	2
	312465	—	—	—	—	2
	214365	—	—	—	—	2
C	312456789	—	—	—	—	2

A
S1, S2, 3, S9, 13, 14

B
2, 5, 8, 9, 15

C
1, 3, S6, 7, S13, 15, 16, 18, 19

Rung at Beddington, January 9th, 1953.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

Southern District at Horley

Meeting in January are arranged with justifiable trepidation as to the reaction of the elements and it was, therefore, a pleasant surprise to find a fine day for the annual District meeting at Horley on January 16th. This no doubt, helped to attract the 37 ringers who attended, among whom were included visitors from Croydon, Guildford and Turners Hill as well as 25 District ringers representing 12 towers.

Ringling started at about 3.15 and continued until the service at 4 which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Torrens), who gave a very thought-provoking address. After this the company repaired to the Cafe Collette and, all inner needs having been supplied, proceeded to the business meeting, at which the Vicar took the chair.

Nine new members were elected and two elections prior to peals were ratified.

The committee's report, which was presented by the secretary (Mr. C. J. Champion), showed that while all meetings held had been very much enjoyed and some progress had been made, there was still considerable room for improvement in all fields. The statement of accounts for 1953 showed that District funds had remained steady.

The following District officers were elected for 1954:—Ringing Master, Mr. A. P. Cannon; hon. secretary, Mr. C. J. Champion; hon. treasurer, Mr. A. Gear; committee, Miss B. J. Mayers, Messrs. G. Oliver and D. J. Parr; hon. auditor, Mr. M. A. Northover.

After nominations had been received for officers of the Surrey Association for 1954 and matters for the annual general meeting had been discussed, the meeting turned to the programme for 1954, which proved to be the most lively item on the agenda.

The annual District meeting for 1955 was fixed for Dorking, if available, otherwise Godstone, and an invitation from the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association to a joint meeting at Edenbridge on May 1st was accepted. A motion was then placed before the meeting to cut the number of meetings held during the year from twelve to seven or eight. This provoked considerable discussion and when put to the vote was lost by 13 to 10. A further motion that no meetings be held in August or September was carried.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for conducting the service and for taking the chair, and to Mr. A. J. Bull for making the arrangements.

After a collection for the Belfry Repair Fund, which brought in £1 0s. 6d., many made their way back to the tower, where further ringing in a variety of methods up to Superlative Surprise Major was enjoyed until about 9 p.m.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY

Winter Meeting Attracts 78 Members

For the winter meeting on January 23rd the members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford went to the county town of Stafford. The weather was bright but very cold.

The Society's president, Venerable W. A. Parker, Archdeacon of Stafford, is also Rector of the Parish Church of St. Mary, where ringing took place on the pleasing ring of ten bells.

The fully choral service in this fine old church was conducted by the Archdeacon, assisted by the sub-rector. In a short address the Ven. W. A. Parker said that he had arranged for his full choir to be in attendance so that both choristers and ringers would realise how together they played an important part in the services of the church.

An excellent tea was served in the Parish Room, after which Mr. F. Bennett, lay secretary, thanked the Archdeacon, the sub-rector, organist and choir, together with Messrs. R. J. Warrilow and Garbett and the numerous lady helpers for the work they had put in to make the meeting so successful. The attendance of 76 was an indication of the regard which the members of the Society have for their president, the Archdeacon.

In a brief reply, Ven. W. A. Parker said it gave him much pleasure to have the members of the Society holding a meeting at St. Mary's.

Further ringing took place during the evening under the direction of Mr. Maurice Turner, Ringing Master.

The next meeting of the Society will be at Wednesbury in March, the actual date to be announced later.

OBITUARY

MR. WILLIAM J. G. BROWN

With the passing of Mr. William J. G. (Bill) Brown on January 20th at the age of 69 years, the Ipswich St. Mary-le-Tower Society loses one of its best-known members.

Coming to Ipswich in 1928 from Laxfield, where he had done some amount of ringing, he attached himself to the St. Mary-le-Tower Society and with them took part in many famous performances which helped to make ringing history. Amongst these were the first peals of New Cambridge, Yorkshire, Pudsey, Rochester and York Surprise Maximus ever rung; he rang the tenor to the Rochester.

Besides being a good and safe ringer, loving good striking, he was a reliable conductor. He was also a good handbell ringer and rang the tenor to peals of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, the latter being the first in the method for over a hundred years.

He took part in some of the later of the annual tours arranged by the late William Pye, notably the one to Ireland, where he rang peals in several towers. In all he rang about 300 peals, of which 200 were for the Suffolk Guild. His list included 45 peals of Surprise Maximus in seven methods. His last one on tower bells was Stedman Caters at Grundisburgh on September 24th, 1949, since when his health had been gradually failing, and he was seen no more in the belfry. He was, however, always keen and enjoyed talking about ringing and also a touch on handbells, and on these he rang his last peal of all, one of Oxford Treble Bob Major, on December 1st, 1951, when he conducted his own composition.

The cremation service, taken by the Rev. B. F. Hinde, M.C., on January 25th, was attended by Messrs. Charles E. Fisher (vice-president), Charles J. Sedgley (Ringing Master), Cecil W. Pipe (general secretary) of the Suffolk Guild, and George E. Symonds (secretary, St. Mary-le-Tower Society). Also present were Mrs. C. E. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Button, Messrs. William E. Tillett and Charles Woodcock. R.I.P.

MR. J. BEACH

By the death of Mr. Jim Beach at the age of 86 years, Horsmonden, Kent, has lost its oldest ringer.

He was a member of the Horsmonden band who, in 1882, left call changes to start change ringing. A sound ringer and a good striker, he took part in the first peal of Major on Tenterden bells and conducted the first peal ever rung on Lamberhurst bells. He rang his last peal in 1927. Mr. Beach had a long membership of the Kent County Association.

With the assistance of Mr. J. Hammond and Mr. Relfe, the bells of St. Margaret's, Horsmonden, were rung half-muffled in the evening of January 25th, the day of the funeral. Ringing included a course of Cambridge Surprise at the whole pull.

QUARTER PEALS

LONDON, E.C.—On Jan. 17th, at St. O'ave's Church, 1,260 Stridman Triples: H. Bletcher 1. J. Chilcott (cond.) 2. Mrs. C. J. Watts 3. W. J. Rawlings 4. A. A. Huzhes 5. M. V. Chilcott 6. J. Phillips 7. H. M. Page 8.

PITSFORD, NORTHANTS—On Jan. 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Wykes 1. W. Brown 2. D. Griffin 3. J. Griffin 4. A. Millward (cond.) 5.

ROADE, NORTHANTS—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of All Saints', Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob, April Day, Old and 60 Grandsire): T. Osborne (first quarter) 1. T. Baker 2. J. Harrold 3. A. Cozens 4. I. J. Dickinson (cond.) 5.

ROTHWELL, NORTHANTS—On Jan. 16th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: R. G. Black 1. Miss M. Roe 2. D. Haynes (first quarter) 3. L. Tosland 4. J. King 5. C. Locke 6. G. E. Watson (cond.) 7. P. I. Chapman 8. In memoriam Mrs. K. M. Billson.

AN AUSTRALIAN'S VIEWS ON RINGING STYLE

From 'The Ringing Towers' (N.S.W. Association's Monthly)

Style in rope handling seems to be one of the most neglected phases of ringing. One can watch a team ring and see as many different ways of handling the rope (including one-handed ringing) and contortions of the body as there are ringers. Actually, this part of ringing should have been learnt from the beginning. Surely good style in rope handling makes for easier and even more competent ringing. Not only does it seem that very few ringers do ring in a fashion that is pleasant to watch, but that those who do not so ring could not care less about it.

What is good style? I understand it to be standing upright, with only the arms moving or at the most a slight bend from the waist. Frequently one sees excessive movement from the waist which seems to come from the fact that the sally is caught too low or the rope's end not held high enough up and so that the arms are not rising above the head sufficiently for them to pull the bell down, but the body must also help. Incidentally, not holding the rope's end high enough and catching the sally too low, with beginners often (usually) results in the bell coming down before it is expected or bouncing off the stay (even breaking the stay), resulting usually in the bell getting out of control.

This bending is ugly to watch and although I suppose the aim of ringing is to ring the method correctly and to produce the best effects possible to the hearers by correct leading and even striking, there is no excuse for ugliness in producing this effect.

One other small point. There seem to be two ways of holding the rope's end. Some wait until the bell has almost completed its turn at handstroke before bringing the right hand to the rope, others place the right hand above the left (you'll have to read this the other way if you are left-handed) immediately on releasing the sally. Whether it matters or not which way you do it as far as the effect is concerned, it is certain that the second way looks the best. If you doubt it, have a look for yourself.

Finally, it seems rather obvious that style of rope handling should be included when judging ringing for the awarding of shields in competitions. Until this is done, general improvement in this field can't be expected but will lie with those genuinely interested in the improvement of the art of ringing. I. L.

BARNESLEY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

The following towers were represented at the annual meeting of the Society held at Barnesley on January 9th:—Bolsterstone, Cawthorne, Crofton, Darfield, Felkirk, Horbury, Rotherham Parish, Sandal, Silkstone, Shelley, Thrybergh, Wath and the local company.

After tea in the Rectory Rooms, the business meeting was held. In the absence of the hon. president (Canon Morley), the chair was occupied by the president (Mr. N. F. Moxon).

The balance sheets of the Society's funds, the contests and the annual dinner were all adopted unanimously and regarded as satisfactory. The secretary's report for the year ending December, 1953, was also adopted. All the officers were re-elected and ten new members.

It was agreed to arrange the annual outing on July 3rd to Chester and district. The next meeting will be held at Crofton on February 13th.

The usual votes of thanks to all concerned brought the meeting to a close. Further ringing followed until about 8.30 p.m.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meeting is one penny a word, minimum 2s. 6d. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

DEATH

HAYNES.—On January 27th, 1954, at 102, Vicarage Road, Smethwick, Staffs, Dorothy Florence, devoted wife of Frank Eric and loving mother of Pamela, passed away suddenly, and on February 1st, after a service at Holy Trinity Church, Smethwick, was cremated at Lodge Hill, Birmingham. Thanks to all ringing friends for sympathy, messages and flowers. 3903

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

FOR SALE.—Complete set 25 musical handbells, Mears' Nos. 4 to 18. Excellent condition. Also No. 11 G handbell. £75. Seen by appointment.—Davis, Netherby, Monks Road, Virginia Water, Surrey. 3884

PUBLICATIONS

'THE CHURCH BELLS OF OXFORDSHIRE.' Vol. IV. (Final Volume). Price 10s. Supplied to purchasers of previous volumes only. Obtainable from the author, Mr. Frederick Sharpe, Derwen, Lantton, Bicester, Oxfordshire. 3566

'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.

MISCELLANEOUS

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

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

MEETINGS

ANNUAL EAST HARLING DINNER MARDLE.—To Norwich Area and all Norfolk Associations.—Saturday, Feb. 6th, Swan Inn, East Harling, 7 p.m. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each, limited to 50. Bells available: Quidenham (8), North Lopham (8), East Harling (6), Bur Street bell (1) and handbells. Please book early.—Dr. P. Jonason, White House, E. Harling, Norwich.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Annual meeting at Cambridge, Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells: St. Andrew-the-Great (8) 3-4.30 p.m. and evening. Service 4.30 p.m.; St. Benet's (6) 2.30-4 p.m., 6.45-8 p.m.; R.C. (8) 7.30-8.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. in St. Andrew's Parish Room, Emmanuel Road.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 3870

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Feb. 6th, at Chertsey. Bells (8) available 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. followed by business meeting.—R. I. Shepherd, 82, Bond Street, Englefield Green, Egham. 3826

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Feb. 6th, at Watford (10) 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30.—R. G. Bell, 1341, Hamper Mill Lane, Watford. (Tel: Watford 7936.) 3864

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, Feb. 6th, St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, 2.15 to 4.30; St. Mary's, Lambeth, 2.30 to 4.30; Southwark Cathedral 3.45 to 4.45 and after meeting. Service 5. Tea, business and handbell competition in Chapter House, St. Thomas' Street, 6. Names for tea, please. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. HOU 3921. 3841

SUFFOLK GUILD.—General meeting, Bury St. Edmunds, Feb. 6th. Bells (8 and 10) from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting after tea for ratification for altering date of annual meeting and increasing annual subscription to 4s. or adopting sixpenny peal levy. Limited number for tea. Notify Mr. William Stannard, South Cottage, Raingate Street, Bury St. Edmunds.—C W. Pipe. 3848

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Annual meeting at Horsham, Saturday, Feb. 6th, at 3 p.m.—G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley. 3875

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Annual meeting, Carisbrooke and Newport, Feb. 6th. Bells 2.30. Names for tea to Mrs. Guy, Watergate Road, Newport. Business meeting follows. 3862

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting, Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Saturday, Feb. 13th, 3 p.m. Business: Proposed alteration of rules. 3857

BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Crofton, near Wakefield, Feb. 13th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Those requiring teas must notify, not later than Feb. 10th, Mr. F. Townend, Bleak House, Doncaster Road, Crofton, near Wakefield.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec. 3904

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Clifton on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at the Golden Lion at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—L. H. Bywaters, Sec. 3888

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT R.S.—Meeting at Sutton-on-Hull on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in Church Hall 5 p.m. Names for tea, by first post Wednesday, to Mr. C. R. Robinson, 22, Lime Tree Avenue, Sutton-on-Hull. 3889

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Holmes Chapel, Feb. 13th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea must be received by Feb. 10th.—W. Kerr, 26, Davenham Crescent, Crewe. 3895

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Annual meeting, Bakewell (8), Saturday, Feb. 13th, 3 p.m. Own tea arrangements. Business 6.15 p.m. All welcome.—H. E. Taylor, Dis. Sec. 3905

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Tonbridge (8), Feb. 13th. Names to R. Wood, 70, Laverder Hill, Tonbridge. Please let us have any overdue subscriptions for 1953. Annual at East Grinstead, March 13th.—C. A. Bassett. 3890

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch.—Meeting at Hewelsfield (5 bells), Saturday, Feb. 13th. St. Briavels (8) available in the evening. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Names for tea by Wednesday, Feb. 10th, to Mrs. D. Stafford, Staunton, Coleford, Glos. 3894

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Stratton-St.-Margaret (8), Feb. 13th. Tea — Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon. 3897

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The District annual meeting on Saturday, Feb. 13th, at Farnham (8). Ringing from 2-4.30 p.m. only. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in Owen Hall at 5 p.m. followed by the business meeting. Social evening from 7-9 p.m. Inclusive price of tea and social 2s. Names for tea, by previous Wednesday, to Mr. C. W. Denyer, 115, West Street, Farnham.—G. S. Joyce, Hon. Dis. Sec. 3816

HEREFORD GUILD.—Hereford District.—Annual at St. Nicholas', Hereford, Saturday, Feb. 13th, at 4.30. Bells (10) 3-4.15 p.m. Names for tea to J. W. Downes, Hon. Sec., The Cottage, Roundway, South Bank Road, Hereford. 3900

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ledbury District.—Annual meeting at Mathon (6), Feb. 13th. Service 4.15. Names for tea, please, Wednesday, Feb. 10th, to J. Ward, Woodfields, Coddington, Ledbury. 3887

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Bethersden (6) on Feb. 13th. Bells 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea 5 in Village Hall. Names for tea, by Tuesday, Feb. 9th, please, to Mr. H. Jarvis, Cheriton, Ashford Road, Bethersden. 3866

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Meeting at Wateringbury (6), Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimberidge, Ditton, Maidstone 3867

LADIES' GUILD.—N.W. District.—Annual meeting, Town Hall, Manchester, Feb. 13th. Bells 3 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—Frances M. Hibbert, Hon. Sec. 3902

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13th, at Emmanuel, Everton. Bells open 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. followed by business meeting. Names for tea must be sent, before Wednesday, Feb. 10th, to:—Mr. E. Radcliffe, 8, Radnor Road, Tuebrook, Liverpool 6. (Tel.: ANF 2930.) 3853

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—Meeting at Penwortham, Feb. 13th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. followed by meeting. Light refreshments provided.—L. Walmsley, Sec. 3842

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District and Lancaster Branches.—Practice meeting at Heversham on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. P. Handley, Heversham Hall, Milnthorpe, Westmorland. — N. M. Newby, R. Eccles, Branch Secs. 3901

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting at St. James', Milnrow, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Business 6.30 p.m. Cups of tea. Practice method: Cambridge.—F. Pritchard. 3896

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly general meeting at Sileby on Feb. 13th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 in the Pochin Hall, but only for application received not later than Feb. 10th. Names to Mr. W. Draper, Highgate Road, Sileby, near Loughborough.—W. A. Wood, Gen. Sec. 3863

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Llandaff Branch.—Annual meeting, Aberdare, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea, by Feb. 9th, to Mr. G. Kerley, 49, Monk Street, Aberdare.—R. E. Coles, Branch Sec. 3845

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION AND LONDON GUILD.—North and East District.—Annual meeting at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Holborn, W.C.1., on Saturday, Feb. 13th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Business 6 p.m. Tea shops nearby. Bells at St. Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield, E.C.1 3-4 p.m., and St. Margaret's, Westminster, in evening.—T. J. Lock, Sec. 3885

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Diss on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. at the Corn Hall. The usual welcome to Suffolk ringers. Palgrave bells available evening. Names for tea, by Feb. 9th, to A. G. Harrison, 10, Mount Pleasant, Diss. 3873

OXFORD GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Annual meeting, Feb. 13th, Mortimer, St. Mary's (8), St. John's (6), 3 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. Burghfield (6) 6.30 p.m. Service, St. Mary's, 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea, by Monday, Feb. 8th, to Nancie Swann, 49, Whiteknights Road, Reading. 3868

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts District.—Meeting at Blyth (6), Saturday, Feb. 13th. Names for tea, by 9th, to Mr. S. S. Hurst, Park Farm, Blyth, Worksop.—H. Denman. 3860

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Annual meeting at Chichester Cathedral, Saturday, Feb. 13th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 at Assembly Rooms. Meeting 6. Names for tea, not later than Tuesday, 9th, to Mrs. G. W. Tamplin, 26, George Street, Chichester.—W. L. Weller. 3899

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Practice meeting, Milford, Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to Davis, 116, Alma Road, Bournemouth. 3891

HEREFORD GUILD.—Bromyard District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bromyard on Feb. 20th. Bells (6) at 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify me number for tea by Thursday, 18th.—A. S. Tomkins, Harp Cottage, Bredenbury, Bromyard. 3893

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—East Norfolk Branch.—Annual meeting, Loddon, Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Please send names for tea, by Wednesday, Feb. 17th, to Mr. H. W. Barrett, Ferndale, Bungay Road, Loddon, Norwich. Sorry, no names, no tea!—P. Newstead, Branch Sec. 3898

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Annual meeting, Spalding, Feb. 27th. Bells 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by Feb. 20th, to Mr. J. G. Ames, 22, Willow Walk, Spalding. 3892

LONDON UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—The annual dinner will be held on Saturday, March 6th. Circulars and ringing arrangements to follow. Keep the date free.—J. R. Leeming, Hon. Sec. 3886

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QUARTER PEALS

BRISTOL.—On Jan. 4th, at St. Stephen-the-Martyr, 1,383, Stedman Caters: Miss J. Parsons (first quarter of Stedman) 1, A. M. Tyler (cond.) 2, Miss J. Midsley 3, F. G. Leaker 4, D. Smith 5, A. E. Reeves 6, W. Webb 7, R. J. Bowden 8, R. G. Hooper 9, F. C. Mozford 10.

BUCKINGHAM.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Vickers (first of Triples) 1, F. Townsend 2, W. A. Yates (cond.) 3, H. Jones 4, C. Gough 5, F. Vickers 6, G. W. Holland 7, W. H. Yates 8, Rung for the service of dedication of a memorial table to those who lost their lives with the Buckinghamshire Yeomanry, 1939-1945.

BURES, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 24th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: R. Davies (first in method) 1, P. G. Hartley 2, Miss J. Spurzin 3, D. L. Mills (cond.) 4, Mrs. L. Mills 5, S. T. Hume 6, A. W. Cansdale 7, L. D. Mills 8, Rung for the dedication of the Coronation peal table.

CHEPSTOW, MON.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Joyce Johnson (first quarter) 1, Pat Jones 2, Jacqueline Evans 3, M. K. King 4, J. J. Sims 5, J. E. Morgan 6, D. J. King (cond.) 7, C. G. Bryant 8, Rung on the occasion of the Bishop's visit for Confirmation.

COLE, BEDS.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,440 Minor (720 Single Oxford, 720 Cambridge Surprise): Miriam Pettitt 1, Evelyn Steel 2, Mary Stephens 3, Daphne Hare 4, Joan Ashton (cond.) 5, J. M. Stephens 6.

HOVINGHAM, YORKS.—On Jan. 16th, 1,260 Doubles (being 1,020 Grandsire and 240 Stedman): R. Marshall 1, J. Brown 2, T. Wilson 3, P. Bradshaw 4, F. Bishop (cond.) 5, J. Harrison 6, Rung for the wedding at Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal, that day of Mr. John A. Worsley and the Hon. Carolyne Hardinge.

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