THE RINGING WORLD

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SOME THOUGHTS ON INSTRUCTION

IF the art of change ringing is to be extended or even maintained at its present standard, much more attention must be given to the methods of instruction used with beginners. Scores of recruits take up bell-ringing with great enthusiasm and interest which are maintained in the majority of cases until the first hurdle has been negotiated successfully, that is, the acquisition of bell control. Recruits who can ring their bells and strike them correctly in rounds are usually keen to take the next step, although some are quite prepared to 'rest on their oars' and make no further effort.

It is in the negotiation of the second hurdle—which to learners seems such a formidable one—that the help of a really capable and sympathetic instructor is essential. The number of ringers who have the gift of being able to impart the rudiments of change ringing in an interesting and simple manner is comparatively small, while the number who attempt to teach beginners by rough and ready methods is legion.

It need hardly be stated that pupils who have received their initial instruction from a really skilled teacher are potentially capable of proceeding to the most complex ringing if they have reasonable facilities and opportunities, while those who have been unfortunate enough to have been taught by 'rule of thumb' instructors quickly find themselves in a 'cul-de-sac' from which they find that they can extricate themselves only by herculean efforts. Many do not make the necessary effort, but content themselves with ringing the same simple bit of change ringing which they have managed to grasp month after month, until the monotony kills all interest and they drop out of ringing altogether. If the wastage of good material brought about in this way could be determined accurately, the Exercise would receive a shock.

In teaching change ringing, or any other subject, there are at least two important factors: (a) the teacher, and (b) the methods of teaching.

If there should happen to be a 'born' teacher amongst the ringers in any particular neighbourhood who would be willing to teach the youngsters who are ready to be initiated into the mysteries of change ringing, that would be the greatest of good fortune for that particular group. But such teachers are extremely rare, so that most young ringers will probably have to be taught by men of a rather lower standard of excellence.

Up and down the country in all probability there are many ringers who are potentially good teachers, but whose ability in this direction is lying dormant, needing only to be brought to the surface and developed. This brings us to the important question of the ways and means of bringing latent teaching ability to fruition. Surely every Association is interested in, and to a great extent responsible for, the production of the teacher who can not only teach the rudiments of change ringing with clarity and ability, but can, at the same time, arouse such enthusiasm and zeal in his pupils that they will be prepared to give up a great deal of their time and to take endless trouble to master step by step the work brought to their notice, and always with a forward glance to the wonderful vistas looming in the distance, vistas which beckon them on to further achievements.

Let us now turn to methods of teaching our art.

It is common knowledge that in some centres in recent years bands of ringers have made rapid progress in change ringing and have achieved striking results. Such progress as this is undoubtedly due to the two factors stated above, and in every case the able teacher must have used very successfully some methods of instruction which would be of untold value to the Exercise if they were available.

Instructors do not live for ever, and if they pass on without revealing the secret of their success, the Exercise is in a measure impoverished.

One well-known ringer—a member of the select band who have rung a thousand peals—has been heard to say that all ringing is based on hunting. Another—a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild—would not allow his young son to attempt to ring a working bell in any method until he could hunt the treble on twelve bells with ease.

If we assume that (plain) hunting is the first step to be learned by a beginner, we must decide on the method of teaching this step, and also how much use must be made of pencil and paper, blackboard and handbells.

When plain hunting can be rung with ease and confidence on tower bells, the pupil is ready for the next step, namely, that of ringing a working bell. To many learners this step seems to be one of great difficulty, and if the instructor has no experienced change ringer to help him,

he often reluctantly takes the line of least resistance by selecting Grandsire Doubles as the method to be learned because then two of his band will still continue to do plain hunting. What a lot of young bands have fallen into this trap and have never managed to escape from it!

It would be interesting to know in how many Associations the teaching of the rudiments of change ringing takes a high priority in their activities. It would be still more interesting to know how many Associations keep an up-to-date list of proved and qualified instructors in each branch; how much they encourage the various towers in their branches to make full use of these instructors; how much they spend annually on such instruction; and how often they hold courses at which the best brains of the Associations teach would-be instructors how to teach. Surely Associations who neglect these matters are not fulfilling their proper function.

Think of the tremendous amount of time, thought, energy and money spent in coaching rowing crews and league footballers in order that they may reach the highest standard of efficiency. Surely if ringers are to aim at perfection they should have highly skilled coaching. In rowing the skilled coach instructs the oarsmen from the very earliest stage—the tub pairs—and it is only logical that learners in change ringing should have similar opportunities.

Perhaps a new committee of the Council—to be called the Instruction Committee—could be set up for the express purpose of inviting as many successful instructors as possible to reveal particulars of their own methods of instruction, so that they might be preserved and made available for other instructors to use. The committee might also act as a fact-finding committee and obtain information from the Associations relative to the points propounded above, and tabulate the results.

This committee — with the Central Council's financial backing — might also stimulate Associations to initiate instruction courses and, if required, put them in touch with some of the best instructors in the Exercise.

If all (or even some) of the above suggestions were acted upon we should at least help to maintain our present standard and might ultimately make progress. H. M.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 3 Hours and 52 Minutes.
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE AND THE HOLY CROSS,
A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS
Tenor 38¾ cwt.

BRIAN D. THRELFALL	*Treble*	FRANK J. MATTHEWS	7
*MRS. F. J. MATTHEWS	2	ALFRED J. HOUSE	8
RICHARD E. PRICE	3	JOHN S. MASON	9
THOMAS H. FRANCIS	4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS	10
SELWYN H. DEARDEN	5	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD	11
*GEORGE W. MASSEY	6	WILFRED WILLIAMS	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.
* First peal of Maximus.
Rung on the 894th anniversary of the dedication.

TEN BELL PEALS

TEWKESBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Tues., April 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes.
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5079 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor 21¼ cwt.

SHIRLEY V. RYMER (St. Hugh's)	*Treble*
*RUTH M. K. HOW (Somerville)	2
*WILLIAM H. JACKSON (Christ Church)	3
PETER BORDER (Hertford)	4
WILFRID F. MORETON (St. John's)	5
†DONALD H. NIBLETT (Pembroke)	6
*W. GWYN THOMAS (Jesus)	7
*EWART H. EDGE (St. Edmund Hall)	8
RODNEY B. MEADOWS (Exeter)	9
REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG (Keble)	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by PETER BORDER.
* First peal of Stedman Caters. † First peal on ten bells. First peal of Caters as conductor.

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Thurs., April 22, 1954, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes.
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP.
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD	*Treble*	*ROLAND W. MORANT	6
MURIEL REAY	2	TERRY R. HAMPTON	7
A. PATRICK CANNON	3	ARTHUR V. PEARSON	8
JOHN S. WALTON	4	CLIFFORD A. BARRON	9
GEORGE E. FEARN	5	RALPH G. EDWARDS	*Tenor*

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.
* First peal of Surprise Royal. First of Surprise Royal as conductor.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
On Sat., April 24, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW.
A PEAL OF 5040 PUDSEY SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 24 cwt. 18 lb. in D.

MICHAEL G. MORTON	*Treble*	J. EDWARD CAWSER	6
MURIEL REAY	2	†BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY	7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON	3	†ANTHONY AGER	8
*JOHN PINFOLD	4	†CLIFFORD A. BARRON	9
*GEORGE E. FEARN	5	RALPH G. EDWARDS	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSER.
* 500th peal together. † First peal of Pudsey Royal.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Mon., April 26, 1954, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB CATERS
Tenor 8 cwt. 23 lb. in G.

*LEWIS J. LAST	*Treble*	GEORGE A. FLEMING	6
RODERICK W. PIPE	2	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	7
*JOHN W. BLYTHE	3	GEORGE W. PIPE	8
PATRICIA M. CLARKE	4	CECIL W. PIPE	9
JAMES BENNETT	5	*FREDERICK J. CRAPNELL	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by RODERICK W. PIPE.
* First peal on ten bells. First peal of Caters as conductor.

DERBY.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., April 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes.
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL
Tenor 19 cwt.

*PETER J. SKINNER	*Treble*	DENIS R. CARLISLE	6
SAMSON WALKLATE	2	*JOSEPH A. CONSTANT	7
*JOHN B. STENNITT	3	MARK J. BARKER	8
PHILIP H. WHITAKER	4	FRANCIS R. LOWE	9
ALAN TAYLOR	5	HAROLD TAYLOR	*Tenor*

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by DENIS R. CARLISLE.
* First peal of Royal.
Rung half-muffled as a memorial peal to Pilot Officer John F. Wilkinson, accidentally killed whilst serving with the R.A.F.

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INVERARAY, ARGYLLSHIRE.
THE SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 3 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 41 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb.

HENRY O. BAKER	*Treble*	ALAN A. POTTS	6
FRED DUNKERLEY	2	GEORGE FEARN	7
BAZIL JONES	3	RODNEY B. MEADOWS	8
JOHN E. BIBBY	4	JOHN WORTH	9
C. KENNETH LEWIS	5	EDWARD JENKINS	*Tenor*

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
The first peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal in Scotland.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,
A PEAL OF 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS
Tenor 26¼ cwt.

*STELLA HUGHES	*Treble*	GEORGE W. HUGHES	6
ERNEST STITCH	2	WALTER R. HUGHES	7
WILLIAM DAVIES	3	†MAURICE G. TURNER	8
SAMUEL BIRCH	4	†HOWARD HOWELL	9
EDWARD V. RODENHURST	5	‡GEORGE DEAN	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. HALEY. Conducted by MAURICE G. TURNER.
* First peal at first attempt (14 years old). † 225th peal together.
‡ First peal on ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

OXFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., March 19, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE.
A PEAL OF 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 4¾ cwt.

LAURIE BUSBY	*Treble*	FREDERICK A. H. WILKINS	5
MALCOLM S. CLOKE	2	JOHN ADAMS	6
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS	3	HORACE MAIR	7
M. ANGELA CARTER	4	BRIAN BLADON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by BRIAN BLADON.
Rung within the octave of the feast of St. Patrick.

CAYTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., April 22, 1954, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VINCENT,
A PEAL OF 5152 EVINGTON SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt.

NANCIE E. SWANN	*Treble*	GEOFFREY R. PARKER	5
BETTY BROWN	2	GEOFFREY PAUL	6
MARGARET A. SWANN	3	JOHN E. COOK	7
*OWEN A. NEEDHAM	4	JOHN FREEMAN	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.
* 50th peal for the Guild. The first peal in the method.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., April 22, 1954, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 22 cwt.

J. GORDON	*Treble*	D. JORDAN	5
G. BISHOP	2	A. H. WEBB	6
M. BISHOP	3	W. CORDEROY	7
*A. WOODLEY	4	J. NAPPER	*Tenor*

Conducted by A. H. WEBB.
* First peal 'inside.'

ANSTEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 24, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. in G.

*BRIAN G. WARWICK	*Treble*	DAVID S. HARRIS	5
†RALPH ELKINGTON	2	NORMAN MALLETT	6
WINIFRED M. BURTON	3	‡S. ANTHONY JESSON	7
MRS. H. J. POOLE	4	PETER J. STANIFORTH	*Tenor*

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by S. ANTHONY JESSON.
* 200th tower bell peal. † First peal in the method. ‡ 150th peal.
A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Jeanette M. Simpson, a ringer at this church.

GODMANCHESTER, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 24, 1954, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 21½ cwt. in E.

MARIE K. ROBERTS	*Treble*	T. REGINALD DENNIS	5
ERNEST G. HIBBINS	2	MANSFIELD GINN	6
GEORGE E. CRISP	3	ROBERT H. BROOKER	7
JOHN G. GIPSON	4	PETER BORDER	*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by PETER BORDER.
The first peal of Surprise on the bells.

MILVERTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 24, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 19 cwt.

A. GALE	*Treble*	*G. DAVIS	5
H. PURCHASE	2	C. W. J. TARR	6
S. N. BRISTOW	3	H. W. LLOYD	7
*D. SMITH	4	H. COMMINS	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. W. J. TARR.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples.

BARROW-UPON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., April 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr.

JOHN W. TOMLINSON	*Treble*	JACK BRAY	5
*NORMAN BELL	2	ARTHUR W. HOODLESS	6
W. MARTIN WALKER	3	ARTHUR W. CROWDER	7
WALTER M. GODDARD	4	PHILLIP BARNES	*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by WALTER M. GODDARD.
* First peal on eight bells. First peal on the bells after being re-hung in new steel frame, with two trebles added.
Rung as an appreciation to the Vicar, Rev. E. S. Owen, the churchwardens and all other residents of Barrow who contributed to the work in the tower. Also a tribute to the Mothers' Union of this parish who gave the new second bell.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., April 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS.
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
J. J. Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation).
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in F.

BRIAN P. MARSHALL	*Treble*	*BRIAN S. CHAPMAN	5
MRS. H. J. POOLE	2	ERNEST J. JELLEY	6
BRIAN G. WARWICK	3	JOHN M. JELLEY	7
JOHN A. ACRES	4	WINIFRED M. BURTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples.
A welcome home to Brian Marshall from National Service in Egypt.

HALESWORTH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Wed., April 28, 1954, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 18 cwt. 26 lb. in E.

*WALTER KERRISON	*Treble*	*REGINALD J. DARCH	5
STANLEY W. COPLING	2	*E. JACK THURLOW	6
C. JACK GIBSON	3	H. WILLIAM BARRETT	7
MARGOT R. THOMPSON	4	JOHN W. BLYTHE	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN W. BLYTHE.
* First peal of Treble Bob Major.

LONDON, E.C.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., April 29, 1954, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE.
A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 20 cwt.

RICHARD F. B. SPEED	*Treble*	CHARLES E. WILLMINGTON	5
*REGINALD K. C. WILKINGS	2	ALICK CUTLER	6
JOHN H. CRAMPION	3	ALFRED J. HOUSE	7
GEORGE W. MASSEY	4	BRIAN D. THRELFALL	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.
* First peal of Major.
Rung to mark the induction of the Rev. Hubert H. Treacher as Rector of St. Botolph's.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., April 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
Pitstow's Transposition. Tenor 6½ cwt.

PAUL L. TAYLOR	*Treble*	*HORACE MYALL	5
WINIFRED M. BURTON	2	HUBERT EPLETT	6
SHIRLEY BURTON	3	G. RONALD EDWARDS	7
CLEMENT GLENN	4	HAROLD MARCON	*Tenor*

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.
* First peal of Stedman. The conductor's 150th peal of Stedman Triples, conducted 122.

ALREWAS, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
Heywood's Transposition. Tenor 12 cwt.

DENNIS BERESFORD	*Treble*	JOAN BERESFORD	5
EDMUND MALIN	2	WALTER J. COPE	6
*BERNARD J. TOWNSEND	3	GEORGE E. OLIVER	7
JEFFREY B. WEBB	4	†ALEC A. KENT	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.
* First peal on eight bells. † First peal. 50th peal as conductor.

EARDISLAND, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb.

MICHAEL P. MORETON	*Treble*	FREDERICK R. HARRIS	5
*JEAN POWELL	2	DONALD G. CLARKE	6
REGINALD T. JONES	3	LESLIE EVANS	7
*BRIAN WERRY	4	WILFRID F. MORETON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.
Rung for the Feast of SS. Philip and James.

EATON SOCON, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 13¾ cwt.

BRYAN F. SIMS	*Treble*	RONALD J. SHARP	5
*GEOFFREY MAYES	2	LEWIS H. BYWATERS	6
CHARLES H. HARDING	3	ANDREW C. SINFIELD	7
A. LESLIE MARDLIN	4	ROY V. BELDOM	*Tenor*

Conducted by LEWIS H. BYWATERS.
* First peal of Triples 'inside.'

LONGSTANTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

R. J. W. HOUSDEN	*Treble*	C. W. WOOLLEY	5
P. A. F. CHALK	2	R. BEAUMONT	6
*REV. A. C. BLYTH	3	REV. A. G. G. THURLOW	7
F. E. ROBERTS	4	C. M. P. JOHNSON	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.
* First peal in the method. First tower bell peal rung by members all of one college (Selwyn).
Birthday peal for the ringer of the 2nd.

MONKS KIRBY, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITH.
A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 24¼ cwt. in D

*BARBARA A. ENDALL	*Treble*	†SAMUEL J. HAINES	5
†ANNIE E. HUMBERSTONE	2	ALAN CATTELL	6
JOHN B. BENNETT	3	ERNEST MORRIS	7
†KENNETH A. ROE	4	†COLIN P. WALKER	*Tenor*

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON. Conducted by COLIN P. WALKER.
* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method. First peal as conductor.
Rung as birthday compliments to Miss D. L. French, of Desford, and Mr. W. H. Humberstone, of Wigston Magna.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. in E flat.

S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT	*Treble*	TOWER R. TAYLOR	5
*ROGER BALDWIN	2	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD	6
WINIFRED KEYS	3	BRIAN J. LUFF	7
†ROBIN G. LEALE	4	FREDERICK W. BURNETT	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by FREDERICK W. BURNETT.
* First peal of Cambridge Surprise 'inside.' † First peal of Surprise 'inside.'

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF 5152 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr.

SYDNEY J. MERRY	*Treble*	ALBERT E. THOMPSON	5
FRANCIS R. LOWE	2	MARK J. BARKER	6
HAROLD TAYLOR	3	JACK BAILEY	7
W. RODNEY HARRISON	4	DENIS R. CARLISLE	*Tenor*

Composed by GORDON HALLS. Conducted by DENIS R. CARLISLE.
First peal in the method by all the band, for the Association, and on the bells.
Rung with the bells half-muffled, in memoriam Pilot Officer John F. Wilkinson, who was accidentally killed while serving with the R.A.F.

SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

ALAN A. ELSMORE	*Treble*	DEREK K. KNOWLES	5
HARRY GRIFFITHS	2	CLIFFORD A. BARRON	6
F. HECTOR BENNETT	3	*WILLIAM A. FARMER	7
ERIC E. SPEAKE	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	*Tenor*

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.
* First peal in the method.

STRATFIELD-MORTIMER, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

MRS. A. DISERENS	*Treble*	*JOHN N. DISERENS	5
RONALD F. DISERENS	2	FRANK W. LEWIS	6
AUDREY B. DISERENS	3	DAVID BEACHAM	7
ALBERT DISERENS	4	NOEL J. DISERENS	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by RONALD F. DISERENS.
* First peal of Surprise on an 'inside' bell. First peal as conductor.
Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of 5th and 7th.

WEST HALLAM, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., May 1, 1954, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED.
A PEAL OF 5184 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Ilkeston Variation. Tenor 9¼ cwt.

EDWARD C. GOBEY	*Treble*	*MAURICE BAILEY	5
ALFRED MOULD	2	HAROLD TAYLOR	6
*ELIZABETH GRIME	3	*JAMES MOULD	7
RODNEY HARRISON	4	EDWARD F. GOBEY	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by EDWARD F. GOBEY.
* First peal in method.

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Mon., May 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes.
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH.
A PEAL OF 5184 KENDAL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

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

Composed by HAROLD G. CASHMORE. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.
First in the method for the Guild and by all.
Rung as a compliment to Albert Walker on his 78th birthday.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

HEMINGBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., April 16, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 4 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Plain Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, and two different extents each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

*MRS. J. J. TAYLOR	*Treble*	*JOHN J. TAYLOR	4
JOHN WARDLE	2	*A. H. HAWCROFT	5
FRED TERRY	3	LESLIE M. WOODHEAD	*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE M. WOODHEAD.

* First peal in five different methods.
Rung with the bells half-muffled.

ANGMERING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 24, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 48 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

HENRY WEAVER	*Treble*	LEONARD STILWELL	4
*DOROTHY K. SAUNDERS	2	GEORGE FRANCIS	5
†JUNE M. CLEMENTS	3	W. LESLIE WELLER	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. LESLIE WELLER.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor.
Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 5th and tenor.

HAMMERWOOD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 24, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 35 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being eight 120's of April Day (three callings), twelve of Grandsire (ten callings and one Morris 240) and twenty-two of Plain Bob (four callings). Tenor 7¾ cwt. in A.

*DAVID A. CORNFORD	*Treble*	*ROSEMARY J. PARSLOE	3
*ELSIE F. FELTWELL	2	FRANK H. HICKS	4
*IVAN A. C. BUTCHER	*Tenor*		

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

* First peal in three methods. The conductor has now 'circled' the tower.
Rung as a farewell to the Rev. H. F. Burroughs, Vicar of Hammerwood with Holtye, who retired from the Ministry the following day, and also his son Geoffrey, who was largely responsible for re-introducing a local band after the bells had not been rung for Sunday services for over 20 years.

FOLKINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 24, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 50 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven 720's in 14 methods: (1) Cambridge, Ipswich, (2) Norfolk, Primrose, (3) York, Durham, (4) Beverley, Berwick, (5) Surfleet, Hexham, (6) Lightfoot, Rossendale, (7) Wearmouth, Stamford. Tenor 13 cwt.

*JAMES W. HAW	*Treble*	LEONARD C. BLANCHARD	4
CECIL WADE	2	WILLIAM H. OLDMAN	5
ALBERT E. SCOTT	3	JAMES H. MUSSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by CECIL WADE.

* 50th peal.

WAREHORNE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 24, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 32 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD	*Treble*	GEOFFREY PEARSON	4
*CYRIL A. WRATTEN	2	WILFRED W. RING	5
JOHN R. COOPER	3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH	*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS CULLINGWORTH.

* First peal in seven Minor methods.

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BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON

TYBERTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., April 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being five extents each of St. Martin's, Reverse St. Bartholomew, St. Nicholas, Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Winchendon Place Bob, and six extents each of St. Simon's and Grandsire.
Tenor 6½ cwt.

*PHILIP G. MORGAN	*Treble*	LESLIE EVANS	3
WILFRID F. MORETON	2	*AUSTIN T. WINGATE	4
*REGINALD T. JONES	*Tenor*		

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.
* First peal of Doubles in eight methods.
Rung in honour of St. George.

SALTWOOD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., April 28, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising one extent each of Primrose Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 13 cwt.

CYRIL A. WRATTEN	*Treble*	JOHN R. COOPER	4
ROBERT SWIFT	2	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD	5
GEOFFREY PEARSON	3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD	*Tenor*

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

SAPCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(Hinckley District.)
On Wed., April 28, 1954, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb. in A flat.

*ALLAN CHAPMAN	*Treble*	CHRISTINE STRATFORD	4
*DOROTHY STRATFORD	2	†MICHAEL E. BROWN	5
RITA STRATFORD	3	ROY HALL	*Tenor*

Conducted by MICHAEL E. BROWN.
* First peal of Surprise. † 100th peal. First peal of Surprise to be rung by a Sunday service band of this church.

WILLINGTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., April 28, 1954, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of Norwich Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Single Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

C. EDWARD JEFFRIES	*Treble*	HAROLD S. PEACOCK	4
JOHN W. SINFIELD	2	CHARLES H. HARDING	5
DEREK W. JONES	3	*BRYAN PATTISON	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.
* 25th peal.

ROGATE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., April 29, 1954, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Single Oxford, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. in A.

LEONARD STILWELL	*Treble*	E. JOHN WELLS	4
*EILEEN M. TURNER	2	ROLAND W. MORANT	5
†ANN M. COX	3	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.
* First peal of Minor 'inside.' † 25th peal. First peal on these bells since 1905.

STEDHAM, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., April 29, 1954, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise, and six 720's of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in G.

LEONARD STILWELL	*Tenor*	ROLAND W. MORANT	4
EILEEN M. TURNER	2	E. JOHN WELLS	5
ANN M. COX	3	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN WELLS.
The first peal on these bells since 1905.

WHITBOURNE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., April 29, 1954, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

LESLIE EVANS	*Treble*	FREDERICK R. HARRIS	4
AUSTIN T. WINGATE	2	*THOMAS COOPER	5
*JOHN CLEMENTS	3	WILFRID F. MORETON	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.
* First peal of Minor in seven methods.

UPCHURCH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., April 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being four different extents of Plain Bob, and three different extents of Single Oxford Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

EMILY B. P. WALKER	*Treble*	GEORGE A. NAYLOR	4
FRANCIS J. CHEAL	2	GEORGE KENWARD	5
*EDWARD C. BARTON	3	CYRIL S. JARRETT	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.
* First peal in two methods 'inside.' Cyril S. Jarrett has now 'circled the tower.'
A birthday compliment to Emily B. P. Walker.

BUNWELL, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., May 2, 1954, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford and St. Clement's and two extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

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

Conducted by CEDRIC F. W. PHILLIPPO.
Rung to welcome the new Rector, the Rev. C. J. Warren, and Mrs. Warren.

HANDBELL PEALS

BOURNEMOUTH.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., April 21, 1954, in 2 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor size 15 in C.

BRIAN BUSWELL	1—2	JAMES E. DANIELS	5—6
DANIEL T. MATKIN	3—4	MRS. F. J. MARSHALLAY	7—8

Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.
Arranged for Brian Buswell, from Nottingham.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Mon., April 26, 1954, in 2 Hours and 4 Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW THE GREAT,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Tenor size 13 in E.

G. A. SMITH (Newnham)	1—2	W. J. RIDGMAN (Queens')	3—4
R. J. W. HOUSDEN (Selwyn)	5—6		

Conducted by R. J. W. HOUSDEN.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., May 2, 1954, in 1 Hour and 39 Minutes,
IN THE CATHEDRAL RINGING CHAMBER,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores, four different callings. Tenor size 14 in D.

ROGER BALDWIN	1—2	ROBIN G. LEALE	3—4
*RICHARD H. SMITH	5—6		

Witness: A. YORKE-BRAMBLE. Conducted by ROGER BALDWIN.
* First peal on a working bell, and of Plain Bob. First peal of Doubles and on handbells by all the band. Average age of the band is 16½ years.

ALVERSTOKE, HANTS.—On May 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss D. Banks 1, F. G. Barron 2, R. H. R. Parker 3, Miss S. K. M. Knight 4, H. A. Nobes 5, R. C. Beale (first in method 'inside') 6, F. W. Burnett 7, R. G. Leale (first of Major as cond.) 8.

BILTON, RUGBY, WARWICKS.—On Jan. 18th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 360 April Day, 420 Grandsire): W. E. Burnell 1, Ruth M. Cooper 2, Phyllis Burnell 3, J. A. Tole 4, D. G. Thrush (cond.) 5, P. C. Taylor 6. A birthday compliment to the conductor before returning to Gibraltar. Also on April 25th, 1,260 Doubles (120 Norfolk, 360 Plain Bob, 360 April Day, 420 Grandsire): P. C. Taylor 1, W. E. Burnell 2, Phyllis Burnell 3, Ruth M. Cooper 4, J. A. Tole (cond.) 5, A. Campden (first quarter) 6. Rung for St. Mark's Day.

BRAMPTON, HUNTS.—On April 23rd, 1,440 Doubles (an extent each of Stedman, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, Winchendon Place, St. Nicholas', Reverse Canterbury, New Bob, All Saints', St. Bartholomew's, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire): J. Allen 1, Lucy Allen 2, Elizabeth Smith 3, E. Whiting 4, R. F. Baker (cond.) 5. First in 12 methods by all. Rung for St. George's Day. Also on April 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. F. Baker (cond.) 1, E. Whiting 2, Lucy Allen 3, J. Allen 4, C. Clarke 5. Rung as a wedding compliment to Elizabeth Smith, ringer and member of the ladies' choir, and Tom Graham, server and chorister at this church.

CLITHEROE, LANCS.—On May 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Elizabeth Downing (first quarter) 1, Rosemary Parkinson (first quarter 'inside') 2, Jean Dawson 3, E. J. Gower 4, J. P. Norman 5, Diana R. Banks 6, W. E. Wilkinson 7, Patricia M. Bourn (first as cond.) 8. First quarter by a local band. Rung for Evensong.

CORSTON, SOMERSET.—On April 25th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: E. J. Taylor 1, Miss M. J. Taylor 2, S. G. King 3, Miss M. L. Hannam 4, C. J. A. Brown 5, Mrs. H. L. Parfrey 6, L. R. G. Taylor 7, H. L. Parfrey (first of Major as cond.) 8. First quarter of Plain Bob Major for 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7.

DAWLEY MAGNA, SALOP.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Doubles (360 Plain Bob 900 Grandsire): Miss M. Bailey 1, S. Rushton 2, R. M. Barnett 3, S. R. Douglas 4, A. V. Edwards (first as cond.) 5, H. Douglas 6. Rung for the Easter festival, and as a compliment to Mr. I. Birch, who has completed 50 years as sexton, verger and bellringer at Holy Trinity Church.

QUARTER PEALS

DEVIZES, WILTS.—On May 3rd, at St. John's, 1,376 Yorkshire Surprise Major: J. Romain 1, Mrs. G. R. Eyles 2, R. Southwood (first of Surprise) 3, P. W. J. Harding 4, J. Gilbert 5, G. R. Eyles 6, F. S. Slatford 7, C. F. Andrews (cond.) 8. Rung as a 79th birthday compliment to Mr. Edward Marlow, of Warminster.

GLOUCESTER.—At the Cathedral, on May 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Blowen 1, T. Newman 2, S. Harrison 3, R. Forster 4, R. Hazell 5, J. Whiting 6, L. Barry (cond.) 7, H. Newman 8.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On April 18th, 1,440 Surprise Minor (240 each London, Wells, York, Durham, Norwich and Annable's London): W. Todd 1, G. Cherry 2, J. Church 3, E. Winters 4, P. Croft 5, F. Croft (cond.) 6.

HELLINGLY, SUSSEX.—On May 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss A. Tanner 1, Miss L. Beeney (first in the method) 2, G. Akehurst 3, B. Stepney 4, G. Beeney (cond.) 5, F. Beeney 6.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—On May 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss C. M. Jupp 1, Mrs. C. A. Cruttenden 2, F. E. Cruttenden 3, E. F. Packham 4, F. W. Parsons 5, B. W. White 6, D. J. Parsons (cond.) 7, R. Langridge 8. First in method for 1 and 7.

HENLOW, BEDS.—On May 2nd, 1,260 Bob Minor: A. Gentle 1, G. Dear 2, L. H. Bywaters (cond.) 3, D. J. Hare 4, M. Orme 5, D. P. Jones 6.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On April 25th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: L. Fidler 1, C. Hare 2, P. Croft 3, W. Todd 4, G. Cherry 5, E. Winters 6, F. Croft (cond.) 7, K. Timbury 8.

HUTTON, ESSEX.—On May 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): Barbara M. Forster 1, M. Baker (cond.) 2, E. M. Baker 3, W. T. Hill 4, B. E. Shedel 5. Rung for the morning service and to commemorate the 13th centenary of St. Cedd of Essex.

IFFLEY, OXON.—On May 2nd, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: M. Harding 1, Miss C. Hall 2, C. Bennet 3, W. Fern 4, J. Adams (first in method as cond.) 5, H. Moir 6. First in the method for 1, 2 and 3. Rung for Evensong.

ILMINSTER, SOMERSET.—On May 1st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. H. Poole 1, Mrs. M. M. Godley 2, A. H. Reed 3, P. H. Hull 4, W. G. Gigg 5, D. V. Gare 6, H. J. Gaylard (cond.) 7, J. W. Drew 8.

PRESTBURY, GLOS.—On May 1st, 1,260 Doubles (480 Reverse Canterbury, 480 Plain Bob, 300 Grandsire): A. Elliott 1, R. Taylor 2, C. Rouse (cond.) 3, R. Dowdeswell 4, D. Surman 5, F. Pendry 6. Rung for the opening of the new playing field.

ROTHERHAM, YORKS.—On May 2nd, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: D. Burling 1, R. Birch 2, W. Holland 3, Woodall 3, T. C. Ryder 4, P. Coote 5, F. Fisher 6, A. Firth 7, N. Chaddock (cond.) 8. First quarter by 1 and 3

RUARDEAN, GLOS.—On April 22nd, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: R. B. Meadows (cond.) 1, Miss R. M. K. How 2, Miss S. V. Rymer 3, G. Harper 4, G. F. Jenkins 5, J. H. Smart 6, W. F. Moreton 7, E. H. Edge 8. Rung as a 71st birthday compliment to Mr. W. Beard, captain of the tower.

SHEDFIELD, HANTS.—On April 27th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: W. H. Harrison 1, Miss D. G. Smith 2, J. M. N. Lakin 3, Miss B. J. Daysh 4, A. Tumber 5, P. Nash 6, J. A. C. King 7, R. F. Brewer (first as cond.) 8. A birthday compliment to Miss Betty Daysh and Adrian Tumber.

STOGUMBER, SOMERSET.—On Easter Monday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. E. Welsher 1, R. Bex (first quarter) 2, R. Hawkins (first quarter) 3, C. W. J. Lock 4, R. E. Colman (cond.) 5, W. Chidley 6. Rung with the best wishes of the company to Mr. Charles Jewell (Crowcombe band) and Miss Barbara Criddle, following their wedding at this church.

SWINDON, WILTS.—At Christ Church, on May 2nd, 1,299 Stedman Caters: C. J. Gardner 1, R. G. Townsend 2, P. Manning 3, W. Sidwell 4, H. W. Bishop 5, J. Berry 6, F. G. Wilton 7, E. Sutton 8, T. Townsend (cond.) 9, E. Vincent 10.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—A quarter peal of Bob Major: R. Lumsden (first of Bob Major) 1, J. A. Hales 2, H. Rumens 3, A. J. N. Boyack 4, J. R. Kettering-ham (first of Bob Major as cond.) 5, J. Hales 6, E. E. Holman 7, C. T. W. Coles 8. Rung for Evensong.

WANDSWORTH, S.W.—On May 2nd, at Holy Trinity Church, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: H. M. Page 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, W. Rawlings 3, W. S. Langdon 4, J. Waters 5, J. Stephenson 6, H. Belcher 7, J. Phillips (cond.) 8. Rung for Evensong and as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

WITHAM, ESSEX.—On May 2nd, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Miss W. Mellin (first in the method) 1, W. S. Butler 2, J. Warner 3, W. H. P. Mellin 4, S. Bones 5, E. Bright 6, A. R. Syder 7, T. Earle (cond.) 8. Rung for evening service.

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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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

It was a great pleasure to ringers at the meeting at Edenbridge to meet the curate, the Rev. J. Shepheard-Walwyn, who although blind has peals to his credit. He rang and also preached the sermon.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The friendship of the peal is well known. Mr. John Penfold and Mr. G. E. Fearn, of Birmingham, have rung 500 peals together. We should be pleased to hear of other associations in peals beyond the 500 mark.

The Good Friday peal at Hemingbrough, Yorks, was rung at the request of the Vicar, a start being made after 3 p.m.

An interesting feature of the peal at Inverary on May 1st is that Edward Jenkins, who was one of the band, called the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Major rung in Scotland.

Something new in University ringing has been established by past and present members of Selwyn College ringing a peal. This is the first University college to score a peal from its own members.

Fourteen-year-old Miss Stella Hughes received many congratulations on her first peal — one of Grandsire Caters at West Bromwich. Her father and grandfather were members of the band.

Mr. D. G. Thrush, of Bilton, Rugby, is doing his National Service at Gibraltar. He says the bells there are disgusting, just clanging together like a tramcar clattering down the street.

The ringer of the third in the peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus at Birmingham on April 20th was Margaret E. L. Beamish, and not Mrs. Beamish, as reported on page 274. Mrs. Beamish writes: 'I am afraid that I shall never emulate my daughter.'

The series of articles by Mr. H. V. Frost on 'Ringing in Hertfordshire' have been reprinted in booklet form and are being sold for the benefit of the Hertford County Association. The cover is particularly attractive, showing the bells and ringing chamber of St. Peter's Church, St. Albans.

The Rev. H. A. James, Vicar of St. Bride's Major, Bridgend, Glam, writes expressing his parishioners' gratitude to the ringers of St. Illtyd's Church, Bridgend. On Easter Day these ringers rang in their own church at 5.15 a.m. and then came to St. Bride's at 7.30 a.m. to ring for the 8 a.m. service of Holy Communion. This is real service to the Church.

At the time of writing there is no certainty that there will be a television broadcast of ringing on May 15th for the Queen's return.

Birthday greetings to Mr. E. F. Marlow, who rang a quarter for his 79th birthday at Longbridge Deverill, Wilts. We shall look forward to his 80th. Keep it up!

All the band who rang the peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at Sapcote, Leics, on April 28th, were taught to handle a bell in the tower. Their average age was 18½ years.

Leading counties in drive for new postal subscribers are: Essex 9, Birmingham 7, Leicester 7, Surrey 6, Herts 5, London 5, Wales 5.

Mr. H. H. R. Glover (Merton College) has been appointed 'The Ringing World' representative for Oxford University Society. Mr. G. F. Jenkins (Keble College) is the new secretary.

Regarding the claim that the peal at St. George's, Bristol, was the first on eight bells, a correspondent informs us that a peal of Stedman Triples was rung there on December 21st, 1899.

The peal at Ecclesfield on April 19th was the first there for 23 years, whilst the recent ones at Coln St. Aldwyn and Ardleigh were the first for 19 years in those towers. Worsley's recent peal was the 199th in the tower since 1881, and the one at Willesden was the 299th (excluding the false peal rung a few years ago).

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CAMBRIDGE ROYAL ON INVERARAY BELLS

MANCHESTER, London Road Station, on Friday, April 30th, was the meeting place of six Cheshire, two Lancashire and two Birmingham ringers for the long car journey to the West Highlands of Scotland. Through Manchester, Preston and Lancaster across Shap summit to Carlisle, over Beattock in the twilight, through Glasgow with its garish street lighting and clanking orange-coloured trams, Fred Dunkerley and John Worth, at a scorching pace and safely, drove the party to their night's lodging at Balloch, on Loch Lomond, soft snow pelting on the windscreen, unfittingly to usher in the first immature minutes of May Day.

In the morning the drive through snow-crested mountains to Inveraray was leisured and enchanting. There the village nestles on the shore of tidal Loch Fyne, dominated by the tower, whose church is yet to be built. Within is one of Taylor's finest, the second heaviest ringable ten in the world, given by the late Duke of Argyll. Beside the tower, which stands as a detached campanile, is the little Church of All Saints. The bells in this climate are scarcely touched by grime or grit, and hang, unrung except on rare occasions, yet in appearance as though installed a mere six months ago.

Below, in the ringing chamber, one finds something akin to a disused railway station on a closed branch line, chiming apparatus, ten holes in the ceiling, three boxes marking a small sequent of the circle 'at the heavy end,' but no ropes. Anon this ghost chamber was re-animated, amid sorting, fitting and stretching of ropes brought from home towers, incoherent shouting up and down stairs to the guiding hands on the intermediate floor, looking over the frame and fittings and pulling the bells up.

One of the most famous ringers of all time went up and down the stairs four times to turn the clapper of the seventh, four times pulled up 'wrong side.' In the first experimental rounds this bell was discovered by the writer of these notes to be not only a mile wide at hand, but a mile wide at back as well. Without reluctance he graciously bequeathed it to George Fearn, as being the potent antidote. In truth, this must have been a wicked bell to strike for a course or two, until the oiling took effect and the clapper swung less stiffly. A tribute to the bellfounders is that this was the only lubrication, or attention of any sort, that the bells required.

After lunch the peal began. Almost at once it became clear that, despite nearly 42 cwt. of tenor, the pace was to be not lonto con amore, but allegro con brio. Ted Jenkins fashions a peal like a master craftsman, with splendid overall design and punctilious attention to detail. The rhythm was soon established, though a concrete floor confuses the sound of these fine bells and detracts much from the pleasure of the performers inside the tower. With scarcely a flutter Cambridge Royal was brought to a triumphant conclusion in 3 hours and 38 minutes, and the ringers of the two back bells shook hands, the conductor some years ago of the first Cambridge Major peal in Scotland, with his newly-fledged counterpart in Cambridge Royal. Bells were lowered ropes rapidly removed, belongings collected and the tower reverted to solitude. At the George Hotel champagne accompanied dinner, followed by the evening drive back to Loch Lomond for the night.

Sunday brought the long journey southwards through much heavy rain, but under brighter skies in the afternoon, when a detour by Ullswater and Windermere was decided at the last minute. The finish was Manchester, London Road Station, again, at 6.30 p.m. A collective total of over 6,000 miles was travelled through seven English and five Scottish counties by ten ringers to share in this memorable peal. George Fearn did as much mileage for one peal this week-end as he usually does for a hundred a year. His verdict: 'Why not every week-end!'

R. B. M.

The Queen's Homecoming

We are planning to devote the issue of May 28th to a comprehensive record of ringing for the Queen's homecoming on May 15th. Special incidents about the ringing will help to make a national story that will be memorable.

Reports of peals and quarter peals should be forwarded as early as possible.

Please write these reports on one side of a sheet of paper, and don't forget the name and address of the sender. If you follow 'The Ringing World' style the time of the Editor is saved.

Extra copies should be ordered at the time of writing. Make certain that those ringing their first peal or quarter peal have a copy of the journal as a memento.

A MEMORIAL TO GEORGE MARTIN

Dear Sir,—It is our intention at All Saints', Boyne Hill, to have our eight bells retuned, completely overhauled, fit new wheels, iron headstocks, etc., and have them rehung on ball bearings as a memorial to George Martin. It is also intended to erect a tablet to his memory.

This scheme is to cost £750, and we feel that many of George's ringing friends would like to be associated with his memorial.

Should readers feel they would like to send a donation, no matter how small or large, it will be most gratefully acknowledged by our chairman, the Rev. Eric Perkins, All Saints' Vicarage, Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, or by Ernest E. Gosling, hon. treasurer, 85, High Street, Maidenhead, Berks.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

Presentation to Mr. W. E. Clarke

At the annual meeting of the Eastern Branch held early in April, Mr. W. E. Clarke, of Boston, was presented with an electric clock to mark his services as secretary for 20 years.

In making the presentation Mr. J. R. Young, Branch Ringing Master, spoke of the good work that had been done by Mr. Clarke.

Thanking the members for their gift, Mr. Clarke said that he had been Branch Ringing Master for eight years and secretary for 20 years and had only missed one meeting during that time. When first elected as secretary his aim was to see the membership at the 100 mark and this number had been reached during the last two years.

Mr. Clarke told the members that he thought that they should now elect a younger man for this post, but at the election of officers he was again elected for another year. W. E. C.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES

Organisers of outings are asked to give Henley-on-Thames Church a miss this year. The tower is in a dangerous condition and a minimum of £10,000 is required to make it safe. Mr. Hubert Hatto writes: 'I am sure there must be many ringing friends, known and unknown, who would like to help us in saving this tower, which is also an historic landmark. Donations should be sent to Canon E. C. Crosse, The Rectory, Henley-on-Thames.'

SUSSEX REPORT SUNDAY RINGING WELL MAINTAINED

The 69th annual meeting of the above Association was held at Brighton on May 1st. The bells of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' were available for ringing from 2.30 p.m. and in the evening: The Good Shepherd from 7.30 to 9 p.m.

The service was held at the Church of St. Nicholas with an address by the Vicar (the Rev. D. M. I. Walters). The Vicar of St. Peter's was unable to attend.

Tea was held in the Union Church Institute Hall and over 100 members and friends attended. After tea the Master (Mr. S. E. Armstrong) took the chair at the business meeting.

The Master's report showed that Sunday service ringing was being well maintained, but some towers were experiencing difficulty as the increasing number of Sunday morning services were curtailing ringing time.

The peal secretary's report recorded 51 peals rung during the year, 22 conductors, and 23 who had rung their first peal. The Divisional reports indicated that ringing was being maintained but could be improved by better attendances at practice meetings. The bells of the county were in very good repair.

The treasurer gave his report, which found the Divisions in a good financial position. Owing to the Central Council meeting at Newcastle and the forthcoming 70th birthday the levies this year would be 80 per cent. of the year's income. Four new members were elected.

The president (the Bishop of Chichester) and vice-presidents were re-elected with the addition of the Rev. Canon H. J. Mogridge, M.A., Rector of St. Leonard's, Aldrington. The Master was re-elected, as were the other officers, with acclamation.

The Central Council delegates were elected as follows:—Mr. L. Stillwell (Northern), Mr. Dallaway (Eastern), Mr. Stalham (Southern) and Mr. Blackman (Western).

The hon. general secretary gave details of the arrangements made so far in respect of the 70th birthday anniversary celebrations to be held on January 28th, 1955. Details were also given by the secretary regarding the printing of a full report this year. Very acceptable quotations were presented and accepted without a division.

On a request by the Western Division, badges would be obtained when more details were available from the secretary.

The hon. general secretary (Mr. R. W. R. Percy) read a circular letter from the secretary of the Central Council (Mr. E. A. Barnett) regarding 'The Ringing World.' It was decided that each Division should elect at its next quarterly meeting a member to deal effectively with this very important matter.

The ringers who rang handbells at the 700th anniversary of St. Richard's, Hove, were warmly thanked by the Master for their excellent performance.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the clergy for the use of their bells during the year and for conducting the services.

R. W. R. P.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Hemel Hempstead Popular Venue for Annual Meeting

A NEW departure was the holding of the annual general meeting of the Association at Hemel Hempstead, this being the first time it had been held in the Western District. The choice was very popular, the attendance being above the average.

The new ring of six at Redbourne, the light eight at King's Langley and the Apsley six were open in the morning and were especially appreciated by a coach party from the Northern District led by Mr. E. G. Buck. Apparently the number for lunch exceeded expectations and had to be catered for at the school, but no doubt the 'salmon' was not missed.

In the afternoon the towers of Apsley, Great Berkhamsted and Hemel Hempstead were visited, previous to the service in St. Mary's Parish Church, Hemel Hempstead, which is said to be one of the finest Norman churches in the country. The Vicar (the Rev. A. Malley) officiated and the lesson was read by the Mayor (Ald. W. G. S. Crook). The Vicar of Apsley (the Rev. J. H. Dominey) gave the address. The singing of the hymns and psalm was in the best traditions of the Western District and taken from the Association's service booklet. Mr. Lewis was at the organ.

A meat tea, which was waiting in St. Mary's Hall, had been arranged by Don Cartwright with the assistance of the wives of the local ringers.

The Mayor and the vicars were greeted by the music of Grandsire Caters in C (size 22), in which the president of the Central Council and Mr. W. Ayre could be seen taking part.

After tea the president of the Association (Mr. Sidney F. Carter) was installed as chairman, and welcomed the members and guests. He thanked the clergy for the use of the bells and spoke of the debt that ringers owed to the clergy.

The Mayor welcomed the Association to the Borough of Hemel Hempstead and congratulated the ringers on keeping the art flourishing. The Vicars of Apsley and Hemel Hempstead also responded, the former giving the information that when the new church is completed it will be the first of the new churches in the country to have a ring of bells, although that would be some time in the future.

The hon. general secretary (Mr. H. V. Frost) read out the names of those who had passed away since the last annual meeting, and the members stood for a moment in memory of Mr. G. W. Cartmel, who held various offices for 56 years and had been a member of the Cathedral Society since 1884, also Messrs. F. J. Reeve, W. H. J. Hooton, F. H. Crook, W. Crowsley, E. Hookham, T. Werrett, J. Newbury, F. G. Springham and E. Compton.

Apologies for absence were read from Mr. J. M. Kemp (Eastern District secretary) and Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Lock (North Mymms).

The annual report recorded that in commemoration of the Coronation the bells at Redbourn had been recast and rehung in a steel frame; two new trebles has been added to St. Michael's, St. Albans, making a fine ring of eight; a treble and tenor had been added to Great Amwell and a sixth bell was being provided.

The tower of All Saints', Hertford, had been restored and it was hoped to resume ringing shortly. Essendon bells were being rehung and the spire of St. Stephen's, St. Albans, was to be strengthened.

During the year 69 peals had been rung, an increase of 25 over last year. Nineteen members were 'first pealers' and there were three new conductors. Mr. W. Ayre headed the list of 27 conductors with 17 peals followed by Mr. G. W. Seaman with nine.

A handsome new peal book had been presented to the Association by Mrs. R. A. Plumbe, of King's Langley, who had been made a life member. Miss C. L. Sharp had asked to be relieved of the task of writing the peals. She was thanked for her past services. The work was now being done by Mr. J. H. Green (St. Albans) with no charge for his services.

The report was adopted on the proposition of Mr. J. M. Page and seconded by Mr. J. Hobbs.

BOB TRIPLES

Mr. W. Ayre intimated that two peals of Bob Triples rung during the year might not be acceptable to the Central Council, and this matter caused some discussion. It was stated by Mr. J. Dear that in the Northern District they found Bob Triples very useful in helping beginners on from six to eight bells, and he hoped that the representatives of the Association would bear this in mind, if necessary, at the forthcoming Central Council meeting. He was supported by the hon. general secretary, who knew of no ruling which could exclude peals of Bob Triples, but if there was, they would have to abide by it.

The hon treasurer (Mr. G. W. Debenham) revealed that the Benevolent Fund now amounted to £17 10s., and the Bell Restoration Fund totalled £43 18s. 2d. No applications had been received for assistance from either fund during 1953. The balance of the year's working in the General Fund was £28 17s. 5d. Special donations amounted to £51 1s. 9d., and the Reserve Fund (including a special donation of £8 2s. 6d.) totalled £59 9s. 1d. The accounts were adopted. It was decided to repay another £50 of the original £150 loan, thus leaving £25 to be repaid. A grant of five guineas to the Great Amwell Bell Fund was agreed to on the proposition of Mr. T. J. Southam. These bells have now been augmented from three to six.

The hon. general secretary reported on his efforts to obtain designs and estimates for an Association badge. After some discussion it was decided that the General Committee appoint a sub-committee to go further into the matter.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

On the proposition of Mr. H. V. Frost, Mr. J. Hobbs, of Redbourn, was elected president amid acclamation, and the silver badge of office once more changed hands as the new president took the chair. Mr. S. Carter, the retiring president, was thanked for his services during his year of office. The hon. general secretary (Mr. H. V. Frost) was re-elected, also the hon. treasurer (Mr. G. W. Debenham) and the assistant secretary (Mr. T. J. Southam, hon. librarian (Mr. C. F. Sayer), and hon. auditor (Mr. H. H. Hole, C.A.). A ballot had to be taken for the election of the four Central Council representatives. Mr. H. G. Cashmore did not seek re-election and was thanked for his past services. The representatives are Messrs. W. Ayre, R. G. Bell, E. Edmondson and C. W. Woolley.

A resolution from the St. Albans District moved by Mr. J. M. Page that the Hertford County Association of Change Ringers deplore the present tendency for recorded or synthetic bells to be used where it is possible to install ringable bells. The Association would welcome the opportunity of discussing with the Diocesan authorities concerned this question in general terms and seek the opportunity to make representations in any particular case.. The resolution was adopted by the Association and the hon. general secretary was instructed to send a copy to the Diocesan authorities.

The letter concerning the future of 'The Ringing World' was read by the general secretary, who reported that it would be submitted to each District and that the representatives would be elected and their names forwarded by him.

Mr. W. Ayre appealed for all towers to ring on May 15th, when H.M. the Queen arrived home. It was not often, he said, that we were asked to ring by the Government, so we should rise to the occasion and arrange to have as many bells ring as possible.

A vote of thanks to the organist, and the ladies who had assisted with the tea arrangements was proposed by Mr. W. C. Hughes, who also expressed the feelings of the Western District, who were delighted to have the Association annual meeting at Hemel Hempstead, and hoped it would not be long before the meeting came again.

The hon. general secretary replied on behalf of the committee and said that the Western District had done everything in their power to ensure the success of the meeting; the District committee had made all the arrangements for him and he thought it had been one of the best meetings they had held.

EIGHTEEN TOWERS ON EASTER MONDAY

The programme was honest! It said, 'This is not an outing, it is purely a 'tower-grab,' but the organiser (Pat Chapman) kept everyone to time so efficiently that it was not a bit tiring, and proved that it is possible to visit a large number of towers in a day quite comfortably.

The first tower was South Kilworth, Leics, reached punctually at 8.45 a.m. and has soon followed by two 'fives' in Northants, Stanford-on-Avon and Lilbourne. Then into Warwickshire at Clifton-on-Dunsmore and Newbold-on-Avon.

After a pull on the five in the west tower of Rugby we had hopes of a visit to the eight in the north-west tower, as they had been rung on Easter Sunday. However, permission for visiting parties to ring on these will not be given until they have been rehung. The last tower before lunch was Willoughby, where we were met by the brothers Hancock.

At 1 p.m. we were ringing London Minor at Bilton. Two more sixes were visited at Church Lawford and Brinklow, the latter being rung from the ground floor, which has a marked slope downwards from east to west.

The next tower was the heaviest ring for the day—the fine tower of Monks Kirby, which contains a good ring of eight (tenor 24½ cwt. in D), on which a reasonable course of Yorkshire was rung. Then on to Shilton, a merry six, and Bulkington, a handy peal-ringing eight, where we scored Superlative with a fast beat.

Tea consisted of cakes and a cup of tea, and at 5.15 p.m. we were ringing Cambridge Major at Bedworth, whose bells are rather too quiet, in the ground-floor ringing room.

Another merry six was found at Exhall, once the home of the Rev. Malcolm Melville, whose father was Vicar here. A roundabout journey through Coventry brought us to Allesley, where Frank Perrens helped us through a course of London Major on the very lively eight.

At 7.30 p.m. we still had two more churches to visit. Berkswell has a very fine six, but unfortunately the organ occupies three-quarters of the tower, which makes a circle impossible. The last tower, Kenilworth, was reached at 8.30 p.m. and we were finished by 9 p.m.

Our thanks are due to all incumbents, local ringers who kindly met us, our chauffeurs who provided transport. Messrs. B. S. Cope, W. P. Jones, K. R. Holtom and R. C. Noon, and lastly to Pat Chapman for all his work beforehand to ensure a very enjoyable day. We are now looking forward to our next venture of 20 towers in a day!

A. P. C.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE FOUNDER'S DIFFICULTIES

Dear Sir,—It is not for me to comment on the general tenor of Mr. T. W. Sheppard's letter, but the implication that 'The Ringing World' was a financial success whilst owned by Mr. Goldsmith must be refuted, since it is completely untrue.

There are perhaps many ringers now who are not aware of the grievous difficulties experienced by the founder of the paper. The best testimony of these difficulties came from Mr. Goldsmith himself. In the issue of July 10th, 1942, after Mr. Goldsmith's death, Mr. J. A. Trollope quoted the following from a letter he had left for him:—'I can tell you now that the paper has never really been a financial success, and I am afraid there will be a fairly heavy call on what little I have left to square it up.'
—Yours faithfully, E. A. BARNETT.
Crayford.

THE COUP-DE-GRACE—A SIXPENNY 'RINGING WORLD'

Dear Sir,—First may I congratulate Mr. T. W. Sheppard on his letter, especially the final paragraph. 'The Ringing World' is not a ringer's paper, it is a sop to peal ringing. The first three or four pages are given over to peals; 'Belfry Gossip' is, on the average, 50 per cent. about peals; and even the obituary notices have to have peals dragged into them. . . . This paper is not worth 4d., much less 6d. A case might be made out for 3d. but its real value is about 2d. If it ever goes up to 6d without a corresponding increase in interest and/or size, it will cease to enter my house. . . .

I think that the paper could be made to pay its way and will now suggest how.

(a) A charge should be made for every peal or quarter peal inserted. Those who are anxious to have their names in print should pay for the privilege and a fair charge would be 4d. per rope for peals and a flat rate of 1s. per quarter peal inserted. Taking the last four issues of 'The Ringing World' this would produce £6 5s. per week.

(b) Crossword puzzle with a charge of 6d. per entry, as is done in the national Press. Prizes could be awarded for the first three correct solutions opened.

(c) A good serial always stimulates and sustains interest.

The paper quite definitely lacks general interest. Tastes change, but the lay-out is much the same as the old 'Bell News'—50-odd years of stagnation. Efforts must be made to bring 'The Ringing World' into line with 1954 taste. The wonder is that it has survived as long as it has, not that it is now in financially low water. I am of the opinion that to increase the price to 6d. would effectively administer the coup-de-grâce to this financially sick paper. What we non-peal ringers want is to get our 4d. worth and not to have the price increased without a corresponding increase in size and/or interest.—Yours faithfully, T. V. LISTER.
Apperley House,
Apperley, Glos.

Note.—This letter has been abbreviated to salient points but the full text has been passed on to the convener of the Editorial Committee. —Ed.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PEAL WITHDRAWN

Dear Sir,—A peal of Bob Triples was rung at Littleport, Cambs. on November 7th, 1953, for the Cambridge University Guild.

As conductor, I write announcing the decision of the Guild at its annual meeting on April 28th, to exclude this performance from its peal records.—Yours sincerely,
F. E. ROBERTS.
Cambridge.

CHARGES FOR PEALS AND QUARTER PEALS ADVOCATED

Dear Sir,—From statements and correspondence recently appearing in 'The Ringing World' about its finances, the following facts appear:—

	1952	1953
Surplus	£136	£40
Donations	£250	£310
Deficit but for donations ..	£114	£270

At last year's Central Council meeting, appreciation was expressed for the generous voluntary support given to the journal in the form of donations, and the idea of a **compulsory** charge for publishing peals and quarter peals was rejected. It was then suggested that the most difficult period for 'The Ringing World' might be almost over, but the above figures indicate that this is not yet so.

In spite of energetic efforts the drive for new postal subscribers has brought in only a small fraction of the required number. When hampered by financial difficulties it is not easy to attract a wider section of readers. 'The Ringing World,' for instance, cannot afford to publish illustrations, photographs or diagrams unless the blocks are loaned free by some other publication. There is much to commend Mr. Woolley's suggestion to make the price of 'The Ringing World' 6d. post free—a uniform price to all, though the wish in increase circulation is hardly likely to be satisfied if the price is increased.

If a sum equal to 4d. per ringer was submitted in connection with every peal report, and 2d. per ringer with every quarter peal report, and all Associations, Guilds, etc., made an annual contribution of not less than £1 per 100 members, the producers of 'The Ringing World' would have at their disposal funds to make the paper attractive to a wider section of ringers. This might result in a greatly increased circulation and so avoid an increase in price. Indeed, the way might be paved for a slight reduction in postal rates, attracting more postal subscribers and thus increasing the income of 'The Ringing World.'

Whatever decisions are reached on this matter, obviously something must be done to ensure the solvency of the paper in the immediate future.—Yours, etc.,
N. CHADDOCK.
Rotherham, Yorks.

GOOD FRIDAY RINGING

Dear Sir,—I, too, like Preb. E. V. Cox, ask the question, 'Is peal ringing during Holy Week necessary?'

It does seem a pity that the ancient custom of which he speaks, of ringing half-muffled on Good Friday, is not more practised. What would be more in keeping than to hear the bells ringing half-muffled for the 11 a.m. service? Many more people are not at work on that day than years ago, so it should be much easier to ring for this service.

We ring half-muffled when the death of the reigning monarch occurs, members of the Royal Family, leading statesmen, the clergy, in fact for the death of most people who have been a 'somebody' in the service of the community. But we seldom think of paying the same respects to mark the anniversary of the death of our Lord and Master.

It seems all wrong to my way of thinking things out. Is it that ringers are forgetful and do not remember the week before Easter Day is Holy Week? I hope not. No ringing has taken place during Holy Week for practice at my tower within living memory. This is how it should be, except for half-muffled on Good Friday as I have suggested. No ringing during Holy Week, if you please.—Yours faithfully,
R. NEWMAN.
Holloway, N7.

BELLS IN HOLY WEEK

Dear Sir,—There seems to be some confusion re bells in Holy Week. They may certainly be rung until Maundy Thursday according to the ancient usage, but from then until Holy Saturday we see they were silent, but bells were rung for Vespers on that day, so there is precedent for peals that afternoon, and other ringing. But we have no authority for the morbid and objectionable customs of muffled ringing on Good Friday or of tolling a bell at 3 p.m.—Yours truly,
STEPHEN IVIN.
Bedford.

BEDFORDSHIRE BELLS

Dear Sir,—I am very grateful to Mr. Amos for his information about Wymington, Beds. As I suggested in my first article, there are bound to be some mistakes which those with local knowledge will 'spot,' like this one, and I hope that any such will be pointed out so that they may be noted by those who are unfamiliar with the tower concerned. I am sure Mr. Dove will be pleased for this information for the next edition of his excellent book.

Mr. Amos is quite correct in his surmise that Odell is one of the five-bell towers where no peal has been rung (from what he says there is not much likelihood, either!). For those interested, the other ten peal-less towers are:—Cranfield, Dunton, Felmersham, Flitwick, Upper Gravenhurst, Harlington, Kensworth, Marston Morteyne, Stanbridge and Swineshead.—Yours sincerely,
K. W. H. FELSTEAD,
Southampton.

CORRECTION OF MILESTONE

Dear Sir,—With regard to the account of a peal of 5,008 New Cambridge Surprise Major rung at All Saints' Church, Leicester, on March 4th, 1954, and published in your issue of March 19th, the inscription on the milestone should have been: A Peal of 5008 Spliced New Cambridge and Plain Bob Major (two changes of method). Here are the figures of the composition:—

	23456	3/4	M	W	H
	45623	x			2
	65324		—		3
P. Bob between	42356		—	—	—
5/4 gives 5,456.	32654		—		3
For 5,008 omit	62453		—		3
any one block of	54326		—	—	3
3 homes.	34625		—		3
	52643		—	—	—
	64523			—	—
	25346		—	—	3
	23456			—	2

ALAN CATTELL.
Leicester.

R.A.F. PEAL ATTEMPT

Dear Sir,—The report of an R.A.F. peal attempt in 'The Ringing World' of April 30th, page 285, states that this 'would have been the first tower-bell peal by serving R.A.F. personnel.' I would like to point out that a peal of Minor (three methods) was rung by R.A.F. personnel at Broad Hinton, Wiltshire, on May 10th, 1948, conducted by Mr. Eric Dench. The report of this appears in 'The Ringing World' of June 4th, 1948, page 229. In 'Belfry Gossip' this was claimed as the first R.A.F. peal, and, if my memory serves me right, they were all men stationed at R.A.F., Yatesbury, Wilts. Several of that company were posted to Cranwell, Lincs, but I am not sure whether any more peals were rung there. Previous to the Broad Hinton peal a quarter peal of Doubles was rung at Yatesbury, in Wiltshire.—Yours sincerely,
JOHN W. BLYTHE.
Southwold.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

Prospect of Reduced Subscription

THE attendance was encouraging at the eighth annual meeting of the Southwell Diocesan Guild held in Nottingham on April 24th.

Ringing took place at St, Mary's and St. Peter's Churches. Both rings of bells are well known, St. Mary's being a heavy and noisy ten (tenor 35 cwt.) in a massive central tower. It was in this tower that the celebrated Nottingham ringer, Doubleday Crofts, and his skilful band made early ringing history. St. Peter's are a medium, fast-ringing ten (tenor 21 cwt.). Owing to the situation of the church in the shopping centre, ringing meetings are a rare privilege.

A service was held in the choir of St. Mary's conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon R. Hawkins.

The business meeting, following tea, was presided over by the chairman, the Rev. Canon R. F. Wilkinson. A minute's silence was observed for two members who had passed away during the past year, namely, Mr. William Russon, of Shireoaks, and Mr. J. P. Vessey, of Barnby-in-the-Willows. Apologies for absence were voiced on behalf of Mr. Harold Stevenson and Mrs. Pailing.

DISTRICT REPORTS

This year each District secretary submitted a written report in addition to the general secretary, and these were adopted by the meeting.

The report of the Newark District showed that the District had suffered a recession during the past year but that there were signs that the corner had been turned and that the remarkable progress of earlier years was recovering its momentum.

The North Notts report showed that ten meetings had been held during the past year with an average attendance of 28. More methods were being rung and the quality of striking maintained. Restorations included rehanging of the five bells at Dunham-on-Trent and the eight at Worksop Priory Church and the addition of two new bells, making eight, at Tuxford.

Nottingham District revealed that the subscriptions of 16 members were outstanding. Eleven meetings had been held, but out of a membership of 90 the highest total of members attending any one meeting was 19, which left much to be desired. Restorations included the rehanging of the five at Granby and six at Wollaton and the addition of two trebles at Attenborough to complete the octave.

The general secretary, in his report, commended the work of the District secretaries and stated that without the hard work and loyalty of the District secretary the Guild would soon wilt and activities come to a standstill. Warsop had won the Crawford Cup for the fifth consecutive year, and he extended congratulations to the Warsop company and in particular to their talented leader, Mr. Herbert T. Rooke.

The treasurer's report and accounts revealed a healthy state of affairs, a surplus of £15 5s. 11d. being shown on the year's working. It was resolved that if, when making up the accounts for 1954, a greater surplus than £10 be shown, subscriptions should automatically revert from 3s. to 2s. 6d. for 1955, but that the peal booking fee remain at sixpence per rope. The sum of £10 was authorised to be transferred from the General Account to the Bell Repair Fund.

During the year donations had been made towards restoration schemes at Dunham, Granby and Worksop Priory Church, and the balance of the Bell Repair Fund stood at £55 10s. 2d.

FOURTEEN CONDUCTORS

The report of the Peal Committee (Mr. Clement Glenn and Mr. John Segar) stated that 41 peals had been rung. This figure included peals of Trinity Sunday Treble Bob Minor, Worcester variation of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major and Kirklington Surprise Major, which were new to the Guild. Fourteen conductors shared the conducting. Two 'first as conductor' were particularly gratifying.

Messrs. T. O. Greasley, J. D. Clarke, T. G. Goodwin and T. A. Goodwin, of Whatton-in-the-Vale, Mr. A. Foster, of Orston, and Mr. J. Roberts, of East Drayton, were elected or confirmed as new members, and Mr. Richards, of Bulwell, and Canon Leeper, of Southwell Minster, were elected vice-presidents.

The officers of the Guild were re-elected en bloc, namely, Canon R. F. Wilkinson (chairman), Mr. F. W. Midwinter (vice-chairman), Mr. Walter Nichols (hon. treasurer), Mr. J. W. Raithby (hon. general secretary), Messrs. Clement Glenn and John Segar (Peal Committee), Mr. Walter Nichols and Canon Wilkinson (trustees). Messrs. B. N. Buswell and Frank Dakin were elected auditors. Messrs. J. W. Raithby, John Segar and Clement Glenn were elected to represent the Guild on the Central Council.

PEAL BOOKING FEES

Certain revisions of Rules came up for discussion. These were mainly a tidying up process in the light of eight years' working experience and were passed unanimously.

Rule 13 was the only major alteration, the original being entirely deleted and the following substituted, namely:—

> 'Before a peal can be acknowledged and recorded by the Guild, the subscriptions of the ringers shall be paid by the end of the year in which the peal is rung: the conductor shall forward the figures to the peal secretary and remit the booking fee of sixpence per bell to his District secretary within one month of the peal being rung. The peal shall comply with Central Council rulings (see Rule 8).'

The request from the Central Council that in each District an enthusiastic member be appointed to act as representative and correspondent of 'The Ringing World' caused varied comment, both adverse and favourable. One potent argument was that it was not human nature to pay several shillings in advance for a copy through the post when it could be obtained for a mere fourpence per week from a newsagent, that the copy received through a newsagent was generally cleaner and in better condition than its postal counterpart, and many youngsters would find it a hardship to pay the subscription in a lump sum.

It was finally agreed in principle to the Central Council's request and to refer the matter of correspondent to the respective District meetings and instruct each District to appoint a correspondent.

MEETING PLACE DISCUSSION

The most controversial item of business at the meeting was the proposal that in future the annual general meeting should be held at Southwell Minster, the Mother Church of the Diocese. This proposal evoked lively comment both for and against the motion and in the end the traditional English method of settling a dispute by a compromise was adopted.

Since the formation of the Guild the annual general meeting had always been held in each District in turn, and it was finally decided that the rota 'Nottingham, Newark and North Notts' should be adhered to but that every alternate year the annual general meeting be held at Southwell Minster This amendment was carried by 24 votes against 17. Those speaking in favour of the original motion included Canon R. F. Wilkinson, Mr. F. W. Midwinter, Mr. F. G. Hooper and Mr. J. K. Wagstaff. Those against included Mr Ernest Preston and Mr. H. T. Rooke.

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting. J. W. R.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY

The glorious ring of twelve at Leeds Parish Church was available for the 65th annual meeting of the Society on April 24th, when the following towers were represented:—Armley, Bramley, Collingham, Drighlington, East Ardsley, Elland, Guiseley, Headingley (St. Michael's and St. Chad's), Horbury, Huddersfield, Leeds Parish Church, Northowram, Ossett, Rothwell, Queensbury, Thorner and Tadcaster. The bells were raised at 2.30 and fully occupied till 9 p.m. apart from breaks for refreshments and the business meeting.

The Rev. T. V. Thomas (Precentor of Leeds Parish Church) personally brought an apology from Canon C. B. Sampson, Vicar of Leeds, who was 'down south' for the christening of his grandchild. On behalf of the Vicar and church authorities he welcomed the ringers and hoped they would have an enjoyable day.

The president, Mr. T. W. Strangeway, was in the chair for the business meeting, and it is interesting to note that he has been an officer of the Society since 1927. Apologies were received from Canon C. B. Sampson and Misses M. Barker, E. Murray and S. Dinsdale, all of Collingham. Members stood in silence in memory of F. Hutchinson, of St. Chad's, who passed away the previous day. He was a vice-president of this Society from 1945 to 1951.

New members elected were: Fred Overfield (Hunslet), Graham Hawkes (St. Michael's, Headingley) and Nancy Hartley (Thorner).

The secretary's report was accepted on the proposition of Mr. H. Lofthouse, seconded by Mr. L. Drake. This showed that the usual 11 meetings were held. He asked for more support from the members and thanked all those who in any way had helped to make the secretary's task an easy one.

The balance sheet showed that income for the year exceeded expenditure by 8s. 11½d. and the bank balance stood at £23 6s. 10d. The balance sheet was adopted on the proposition of Mr. A. Cole, seconded by Mr. H. Lofthouse.

Mr. J. Roberts having withdrawn from the list of nominations for vice-president, the following were declared elected:—President, Mr. T. W. Strangeway (Rothwell): vice-presidents, Mr. S. Barrow (Drighlington), Mr. H. Lofthouse (Armley), Mr. W. Dixon (Guiseley): Ringing Master, Mr. L. Drake (Leeds); secretary and treasurer, Mr. I. Slack.

The president moved the vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and local company for the use of the bells and other arrangements. This was seconded by Mr. W. Dixon and carried unanimously. The secretary suitably replied.

Mr. F. Bennett proposed a vote of thanks to the president for the efficient handling of the meeting and for his service to the Society during the past year. Mr. G. Robinson seconded and the proposition received the hearty endorsement of the meeting.

Under any other business the suggestion was made that members should get together and ensure that as many rings of bells in the area as was possible rang out on May 15th. This was left in the hands of Mr. H. Lofthouse to arrange.

The next meeting will be at Guiseley on May 29th. I. S.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD

Higher Standard of Ringing Reported

THE annual general meeting of the Coventry Diocesan Guild was held in Coventry on April 24th and attended by over 80 members and friends. The bells of St. Michael's, Stoke, and All Saints', Allesley, were in use during the afternoon until 4 o'clock. Demonstrations were given by Mr. C. H. Webb on the eight chiming bells of Holy Trinity Church housed in a wooden campanile in the churchyard, after which others exhibited their skill. The service was conducted by the Vicar, Canon G. W. Clitheroe; Mr. J. L. Garner-Hayward read the lesson and Miss Margaret Bailey was organist.

Tea in the Council House followed, by kind invitation of the Lord Mayor of Coventry. The president of the Guild (the Rev. R. R. P. Rigby), the Master (Mr. F. W. Perrens), the hon. general secretary (Mrs. D. E. Beamish) and the hon. Northern District secretary (Mr. J. L. Garner-Hayward) were presented to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress in the Mayor's Parlour and then all joined the assembled company for a buffet tea.

The business meeting took place in the Council Chamber, presided over by the Rev. R. R. P. Rigby. The Lord Mayor made a few welcoming remarks before leaving to attend another function. Apologies were read from the Patron, the Bishop of the Diocese, the Assistant Bishop (the Right Rev. N. J. W. Newnham Davis), the Rev. Canon N. Prentice (Vicar of Stratford-on-Avon), the Rev. F. W. Moyle (Vicar of Allesley), the Rev. F. S. Herbert (Vicar of Nuneaton) and Mr. and Mrs. E. Sibley. The balance sheets, showing £22 11s. 9d. in hand in the General Account and £22 2s. in the Bell Repair Fund, were adopted.

The hon. general secretary's report for 1953 gave the number of fully paid up members as 220, made up by 15 honorary life members, eight honorary members and 197 resident members. There were 17 resident and 28 non-resident members elected during the year. Twenty-six peals were rung, four of them being in honour of the Coronation of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II. Four handbell peals were included in the total. A notable achievement was the peal of Grandsire Doubles at Hatton on January 31st. It was the first peal by all the band, whose average age was 18½ years. Mr. A. Roberts was congratulated upon scoring his 100th peal for the Guild (at the age of 83 years) at Chilvers Coton on July 28th. The 22 tower-bell peals were rung in 12 different towers.

The loss of Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, of Tring, a former enthusiastic resident member, and of Mr. T. W. Dillam, an honorary life member and a churchwarden of Chilvers Coton, were much regretted.

The hon. secretary of the Southern District (Mr. J. L. Garner-Hayward) reported that the standard of ringing at meetings had been high and that interest had been created by the introduction of a special method at each meeting.

The hon. secretary of the Southern District reported that interest had been awakened in a number of five-bell towers in the area and new members had been recruited. Much pioneer work had been done but there remained a great deal to do.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, the Rev. W. Colston Maggs (Vicar of Bedworth, who began ringing soon after his induction to the living, 18 months ago): vice-presidents, the Rev. R. R. P. Rigby (the retiring president), the Right Rev. N. W. Newnham Davis, Canon N. Prentice, Canon F. S. Herbert, the Rev. F. W. Moyle, the Rev. J. H. Dingley, Councillor H. Weston and the following five former Masters of the Guild—Messrs. E. H. Adams, A. Roberts, F. E. Pervin, A. H. Beamish and F. W. Perrens; Master of the Guild, Mr. R. J. Edden (former Southern District hon. secretary): hon. general secretary, Mrs. D. E. Beamish; Northern District secretary, Mr. J. L. Garner-Hayward: Southern District joint secretaries, Messrs. H. Windsor and R. Barrett; hon. auditor, Mr. F. E. Pervin; Central Council representatives, Mrs. D. E. Beamish and Mr. F. W. Perrens.

The proposal to increase the grants to the Central Council representatives received unanimous support. Instead of the former amount of one guinea towards expenses it was decided to allow the third-class return fare.

The letter from the general secretary regarding the finances of 'The Ringing World' was read and the District secretaries were appointed as correspondents with instructions to boost the sale of the journal.

The meeting stood in silence for a few moments as a mark of respect to a former Master and, in his earlier days, a most enthusiastic worker for the Guild, Mr. J. H. W. White, who passed away on February 10th.

After closing prayers the members dispersed to the two towers open for further ringing, and a happy social hour spent at the Golden Cross in tune and change ringing brought to an end a very successful meeting.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD

Peal Levy Agreed To

THE annual general meeting of the Suffolk Guild was held as usual at Ipswich on Easter Monday and could be considered fairly successful. With the exception of one member, the committee was in full force and a lengthy agenda was soon disposed of. The service was held at St. Lawrence's, conducted by the Rev. C. P. Newell, who gave an interesting address stressing the fact that ringers always had a large audience. This message must be taken to heart by all ringers for we never know who is listening to our efforts. The lesson also, which was read by Mr. Max Page, had an important message—Charity. Be charitable, not only to our neighbours but to our cause. It is to be hoped that those ringers who usually miss our services may realise that they are not arranged as a matter of form.

The business meeting was fairly well attended and once again 'things got done' not entirely by 'Yes-men,' but with discussion and argument, and the Guild is undoubtedly better off for those deliberations. Reports were received from the Ringing Master and the general secretary and treasurer. The funds of the Guild had increased and it was reported that 21 bell restorations had taken place in the Diocese since the war.

OFFICER FOR PEAL LEVIES

All officers were re-elected and a new office, that of peals secretary, was created in order that peal levies and all matters pertaining to peals be dealt with under a separate heading. Mr. John W. Blythe, of 15, Barnaby Green, Southwold, was elected to this office. Mr. H. Claude Rush, of Eye, was unanimously elected a vice-president. It was agreed that £100 be allocated from the General Fund to the Bell Restoration Fund and in future, and so long as funds permit, two per cent. of the cost of a bell restoration be made to applicants. The sum of £15 was, therefore, immediately voted to the Stonham Aspal Bells Fund.

A discussion arose on the legality or validity of a new rule made at a general meeting at Bury St. Edmunds on February 6th, when it was unanimously decided to introduce a levy of 6d. per person per peal. Mr. Leslie G. Brett said the decision was not fair and he wanted an endorsement of it from the members present. It was pointed out that three proposals were given three months' notice at Halesworth, and whether or not those attending the Halesworth meeting agreed with the proposals, the decision at the Bury meeting must necessarily be final. To prevent a 'miscarriage of justice,' it was agreed to a show of hands whether the decision to fix a peal levy be proceeded with. Thirty-six agreed to the levy and six were against.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded and the meeting then closed. Further ringing took place including a half-course of Cambridge Maximus, Stedman Cinques, Surprise Royal and Major. C. H. P.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION

Chew Deanery at Clifton

Ringers from a wide area of Somerset with visitors from Devon, Staffordshire and Warwickshire met at Clevedon on April 24th for the quarterly meeting of Chew Deanery Branch.

In the absence of the Vicar (Preb. J. E. Pugh), the service was conducted by the Rev. W. Bathurst-Soole, who welcomed the company on the Vicar's behalf, and in the course of a refreshingly original address related how, during his incumbency at Emmanuel, Clifton, a band of ringers had been formed from the staff of Bristol Zoo, which came within his parish.

Owing to the church's isolation from the town, catering has always been difficult at previous meetings, but this year an excellent tea was provided at Salt House Hotel

Mr. H. W. Knight presided at the business meeting, when it was resolved to hold the next quarterly meeting at Wraxall, with intermediate monthlies at Easton-in-Gordano and Butcombe (all subject to permission). The members heard with regret that two towers, Weston-in-Gordano and Clevedon, had lapsed from the Association, the latter after a continuous affiliation dating back to 1925 when the bells were hung.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

District Meeting at Betchworth

Despite the fine weather only about 20 ringers came to the quarterly meeting at Betchworth on April 10th. As a result the ringing did not rise to any great heights, Double Norwich being the most advanced method rung.

Eight new members were elected at the business meeting. Nominations were then requested for the offices of Master of the Association and Liaison Officer with the Guildford Diocesan Guild, which had fallen vacant on the death of Mr. D. D. Cooper, and the following names were put forward:— Master, Mr. R. Davies: Liaison Officer, Mr. H. N. Pitstow and Mr. A. P. Cannon. (Mr. Pitstow has since intimated that he is not willing to accept nomination.)

The general secretary read a letter from the secretary of the Central Council about the circulation of 'The Ringing World.' In commenting, he stressed the need for more postal subscribers and the advantages of being one. A useful discussion followed, at the end of which the District secretary, Mr. C. J. Champion, agreed to act as the correspondent for the District.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The generous response of ringers to meet the cost of producing 'The Ringing World' is much appreciated by the Editorial Committee. The following are acknowledged:—

Personal.—Guild of Clerical Ringers 10s., 'Miss Kitty,' Great Budworth, 3s., Anon. 5s., Norton Band 4s., J. Harmsworth 2s.: W. H. Coles 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Tarporley 4s., Corston 4s., Barton-upon-Humber 5s., Upchurch 3s., West Hallam 2s., Manchester 6s., Monks Kirby 4s., Helmingbrough 3s., Harrow-on-the-Hill 2s. 6d.

Quarter peals.—Canterbury 5s., Shedfield 3s., Gloucester 2s., Rotherham 2s., Clitheroe 2s. 6d., Longbridge Deverill 2s., Hellingly 2s., Bilton 6s., Walthamstow 4s., Ilminster 2s., Prestbury 3s., Ingatestone 3s., Swindon 2s. 6d., Devizes 4s., Brampton 5s., Henfield 2s., Hutton 2s. 6d.

OBITUARY

MR. HARRY T. HIGGINS

St. Matthew's Church, Walsall, Staffs, has suffered a great loss in the death on April 21st of Mr. Harry T. Higgins at the age of 49 years. He was a loyal worker, ringer and member of the choir.

'Harry,' to his brother ringers, was a member of the Walsall band for upwards of 33 years, joined the Staffs Archdeaconry Society in 1922 and, up to the beginning of this year, a staunch Sunday service ringer, a regular member of the choir and also a valued member of the Walsall Male Voice Choir.

He rang very few peals owing to business, his last being one for the Queen's Coronation at Walsall, bringing his total to sixteen, mostly Stedman.

The sympathy of the ringers goes to his wife, son and daughter and also to his parents, who mourn the loss of a devoted father and son, and his brother ringers will miss a valued member of the band.

The Walsall band was well represented at the funeral service at St. Matthew's, which was fully choral, and the bells were rung half-muffled as the cortege moved off to Perry Barr, Birmingham, for cremation.

A peal of Stedman Caters was rung on April 29th with half-muffled clappers as a token of respect and to his memory.

PILOT OFFICER JOHN F. WILKINSON

With deep regret we record the death of Pilot Officer John F. Wilkinson, R.A.F., in a flying accident on April 25th. He was 23 years of age.

John will be greatly missed at Derby, where he was a popular ringer and had been attached to Derby Cathedral band from the age of 14. As recently as Easter Day he was ringing in this tower.

He rang his first peal in 1948—the treble to Grandsire Caters. He progressed rapidly and soon had to his credit Surprise peals in a wide variety of methods. About a year ago he married Miss Kathleen I. Tivey, who is also a member of the Cathedral band and the most advanced lady ringer in the area. The deepest sympathy of his ringing friends is extended to Kathleen and Mrs. Wilkinson, his mother.

John rang approximately 35 peals, which included the following methods:—Royal—New Cambridge Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Little Bob, Plain Bob; Caters—Stedman and Grandsire; Major—London, Bristol, Cambridge, Yorkshire, Superlative Surprise, Double Norwich Court Bob, Duffield, Plain Bob; Triples— Stedman and Grandsire; Minor—in three, five and seven methods.

Twenty-Five 'Bells' for a Cornish Church

Tubular 'bells' are known in Cornwall for there are ten at Pendeen and eight at Helland. Bell recordings are heard from one Vicarage house where the Vicar gets over the faculty difficulty by playing them from the Vicarage, which is close by the church. Recordings could be heard from Tintagel tower some 20 years ago, but the five bells there were rehung just before the war, and the six completed just after the war.

Electronic bells are a new thing. A 25-note set is to be consecrated on May 8th at the Roman Catholic Church, St. Ives. The 25 notes are two complete chromatic octaves from G to G repeated. There is a bell turret on the church which at present contains a single bell of about 2½ cwt. The apparatus is to have a bell-shaped projector about eight feet by five feet. By permission of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Plymouth the bells are to sound for the first time to welcome the Queen home on May 15th.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD

Penzance Branch

The spring festival of the Penzance Branch of the Truro Diocesan Guild was held at Mullion on April 24th. It was a splendid gathering from the majority of the towers in the Branch and some from the Truro Branch.

Among those present were Mr. W. H. Southeard (Diocesan Ringing Master), the Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella (general secretary), and very welcome visitors were Mr. J. Carter (Leicestershire), Mr. and Mrs. Isles (Chippenham) and Mr. G. E. Fearn and Ruth (Birmingham). The beautiful old church was well filled for the service at which the Vicar, the Rev. W. J. K. Harris, preached, and the Rev. A. S. Roberts (Branch secretary) read the lesson.

Tea had to be in two sittings. Ninety had replied but the number present seemed to be about 120. This complicated matters for the business meeting, which was hurriedly and unconventionally carried through as one sitting was trying to get out and the next get in. Mr. William Wood was voted to the chair, in the absence of Miss Eileen Symons through illness, but he could not sit down, and the minutes were taken as read. An invitation to visit Ludgvan in the autumn was accepted, and the date fixed for October 2nd.

The bells arranged for were the three sixes at Mullion, Cury and St. Mawgan-in-Meneage, but the Landewednack band were keen that some should go there also. Thus the four towers in the Lizard peninsula were available, and it was agreed it was an ideal area for such a gathering. There is no doubt that method ringing is progressing slowly, and young ringers are making their own inquiries into it, and their own efforts to master it. Ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge Minor, with several making their first attempts at Grandsire Doubles, and continued, at least at one tower, until 9 p.m., where a good practice at Cambridge was got in, and finally three hurried leads of Kent just for the sake of another method before the bells were brought down.

A New Leicestershire Company

Wanlip, Leicestershire, where less than 18 months ago a new ring of six was installed in place of three old bells, has now its own Guild of Bellringers. Of the eleven members all but three are members of the choir.

Officers elected at the first annual meeting were:—Captain, Mr. T. C. Belton; vice-captain, Mr. G. Wakefield; secretary, Mr. P. Johnstone; treasurer, Mr. O. Northwood; tower-keeper, Mr. A. Yates. A quarter peal is to be attempted each month prior to the monthly Communion service.

TOURING HERTFORDSHIRE BYWAYS

Dear Sir,—On Easter Monday I enjoyed the best ringing tour yet, thanks to the splendid all-round organisation of Mr. Eric Edmundson, of Hatfield. As often happens, a tour originally planned for a few close friends grew with time until some 20 to 30 ringers and friends joined in, using cars and motor-cycles.

Starting with the eight at Knebworth, a church well situated in the great park, here followed a day amongst delightful villages, along narrow, twisting Hertfordshire lanes, visiting Weston (5, 10½ cwt.), Rushden (5, 6½ cwt.), Wallington (6, 8½ cwt.), Sandon (5, 10 cwt.), Anstey (6, 9 cwt.) and Great Hormead (6, 14 cwt.).

One tower I will especially remember is Anstey, delightfully situated in front of ancient castle moats and mounds, with a well proportioned central tower and, across the road, a field full of young lambs frisking in the fine spring weather.

Thank you, Eric.—Yours,

GEOFFREY DODDS.

St. Albans.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings 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.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The permanent address of Mrs. and Mr. F. W. Housden is now: Meadowsweet, Grange Meadow, Sutton Lane, Banstead, Surrey. 4398

HANDBELLS WANTED

A SECOND-HAND set of handbells in good condition is required by the St. Nicholas' Guild, Alcester. Write: R. Baker, 46, Birmingham Road, Alcester, Warks. 4387

FOR SALE

NEWLY-BUILT BUNGALOW, opposite Grundisburgh Church. For particulars write: C. W. Pipe, Grundisburgh, Woodbridge, Suffolk. 4367

PUBLICATIONS

BEGINNERS' GRANDSIRE.—2nd Edition now available from A. Waddington, Egerton, Kent, at 1s. 6d. post free. This book takes the beginner from Plain Hunting up to Grandsire Triples and is attractively produced with the treble and important instructions printed in red. A proved help in every tower where Grandsire is taught. 4353

MISCELLANEOUS

BOYNE HILL, MAIDENHEAD. — ALL ringing at All Saints' cancelled until further notice while bells are being retuned and rehung by John Taylor and Co.—E. E. G. 4409

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.

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.

MEETINGS

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Berks Branch. — Annual meeting, Drayton, Saturday, May 15th. Service 3.30. Tea 4.30. —A. E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks. 4317

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Cary Branch.—Meeting at Templecombe, Saturday, May 22nd. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow.—H. C. Lintern, Alhampton, Ditcheat. 4391

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Ilchester Deanery Branch.—Meeting, Kingsdon, near Somerton, Saturday, May 22nd. Names for tea not later than May 18th.—F. Farrant, Martock. 4396

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Taunton Branch.—Meeting, May 22nd, Kingston-St.-Mary. Bells 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea.—A. H. Reed, Hon. Sec. 4390

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Derby District. — Meeting at Shardlow, May 22nd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, by May 19th, to Miss M. Hobbs, 7, Langley Road, Spondon, Derby. 4388

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Meeting, Stockton-on-Tees, Saturday, May 22nd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. for those who notify, by Wednesday, May 19th, Peter Rock, 64, Tollesby Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough. —D. R. Airey, Hon. Sec. 4407

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION. — Northern District. — Meeting at St. Nicholas', Cramlington, on Saturday, May 22nd. Bells from 2.30. Names for tea, by Thursday, May 20th, to Mr. G. Appleby, 36, East View Avenue, Cramlington. 4404

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at Warboys (6), May 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock. First meeting on this recently augmented six. —H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 4385

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—Meeting at Longney (8), May 22nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by May 19th, certain—Larner, 37, Green Lane, Hucclecote, Gloucester. 4384

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting, Yate (6), May 22nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Notify for tea by May 19th.—Mary Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 4392

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Meeting at Haslemere, Saturday, May 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 4.30. Service 6 o'clock. Names for tea, by previous Wednesday, to Ron Kenward, Hon. Sec., 7, Raymond Crescent, Guildford. 4357

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. — Pirton, Saturday, May 22nd, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Shillington available after tea. Special method: Winchendon Place Bob.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 4381

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Lydd, May 22nd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea, by Tuesday, May 18th, to Mr. A. L. Terry, 12, Eastern Road, Lydd.—W. P. G. 4370

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Rochester District.—By-meeting at Newington (6) on Saturday, May 22nd. Please note change of date. Names for tea to Cyril S. Jarrett, 1, Blenheim Avenue, Chatham, by Tuesday, May 18th. 4374

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting, Goodnestone, May 22nd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea at 2s. per head. Numbers for tea, with the cash, please, to reach me not later than Tuesday, May 18th. Note later date for notification.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 4397

LADIES' GUILD.—South Wales District.—Meeting at Sketty, Glam, Saturday, May 22nd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea, by May 18th, to Mr. Arthur Hoare, 6, Gendros Crescent, Fforestfach, Swansea.—Jacqueline Evans, Dis. Sec. 4314

LEICESTER GUILD (Melton District) and SOUTHWELL GUILD (Nottingham District). —Annual joint meeting to be held at **Asfordby** on Saturday, May 22nd (Bottesford bells not available). Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. **Names, please,** to J. H. Cook, 18, New Street, Asfordby. 4376

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD (Hinckley District) and COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Joint meeting at Hinckley, May 22nd. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea in Church Hall 5 o'clock. Please notify, by Wednesday, May 19th, Mr. F. Mellor, 23½, Sapcote Road, Burbage, Hinckley.—D. E. Beamish, F. K. Measures, Hon. Secs. 4395

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District. — Meeting at Groby, Saturday, May 22nd. Bells 3. Service 4.15. Tea in schoolroom at 5. Names by May 18th to J. Bennett, 41, Valence Road, Leicester. 4411

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LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD (Loughborough District) and MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Joint meeting, Coleorton, May 22nd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea in Rectory 5. Names, by May 19th, to Mr. C. W. Lord, Pit Lane House, Coleorton, Leicester.—C. W. Hall, J. W. Cotton, Hon. Secs. 4362

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District. — Meeting, Lubenham, May 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Outing fare (£1 2s.) to be paid by this meeting. —L. W. Allen. 4401

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Meeting at Mount Sorrel, May 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All names, by the 20th, please, to R. Wilmore, 80, Hawcliffe Road, Mountsorrel. 4386

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Annual, Grimsby, St. James (8), May 22nd. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in Church House, Bull Ring. Please notify, by Tuesday previous, Mr. H. I. Mingay, 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby. 4358

MARKSBURY, NEAR BATH, SOMERSET. —The annual bell ringers' service, May 22nd. 4.30 p.m. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea essential by Wednesday, May 19th. Corporate Communion May 30th.—W. A. Prescott, Timsbury, near Bath. 4368

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chipping Norton Branch.—Annual meeting Hook Norton (8), May 22nd. All ringers welcome.—J. Keyte.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Great Kimble, May 22nd, 3 p.m. Tea, Monks Risborough, 5 p.m. Names by 16th. Ringing afterwards.—Butler, 2, Faraday Road, Slough. 4383

SALISBURY GUILD. — Annual Festival, Salisbury, May 22nd. General meeting, Acland Hall, 2.15 p.m. Service in Cathedral 4 p.m.; preacher the Very Rev. the Dean. High tea, Acland Hall, 5 p.m. Price 4s., tickets only, from F. Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge, by May 18th. Ringing, city churches: St. Martin's (8), St. Paul's (8), St. Thomas' (8), 11 to 2; also available: Downton (8), Barford, Damersham, Dinton, Durrington, Martin, Shrewton, Wilton, Berwick St. John, Codford, East Knoyle and Britford, all from 11 to 1.30 and after tea. 4366

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Monthly meeting to be held at Eastrington, Saturday, May 22nd. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (reasonable charge) to all who notify, on or before May 20th, Mr. A. H. Hawcroft, Eastrington, near Goole.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 4379

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Spring meeting, Cannock, May 22nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names for tea, not later than May 19th, to Rev. C. H. Barker, Swindon Vicarage, near Dudley. 4365

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD. — Newark District. — Meeting at Elston (6) on Saturday, May 22nd. Bells at 2.30 p.m.. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea (2s.) for those who inform me by previous Tuesday.—S. L. Barley, North Muskham, Newark, Notts. 4402

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Stonham Aspal.—Rededication of Stonham Aspal 10 bells, Saturday, May 22nd. Service at 3 p.m. Tea in Village Hall. All are welcome.—W. J. Button. 4377

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION. — Western Division.—Surprise practice, Arundel (8), May 22nd. Ringing 4–6 and 7–8.45. Short service at 6. Tea available at cafe.—G. Francis. 4408

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Tichborne, May 22nd. Bells (6) 2. Service 4.15. Tea 5 at The School Room. Names, by previous Tuesday, to R. F. Brewer, Dean, Sparsholt, Winchester. 3269

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Western. —Crusader meeting, Fobbing, May 29th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. A. Ockenden, High Road, Fobbing. 4399

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Meeting at Norton, Letchworth, on May 29th. Bells from 3 o'clock, followed by service, tea and business. Baldock bells also available 2.30-3.30 p.m. 4393

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Gainsborough District.—The next meeting will be at Lea on Saturday, May 29th. Tea for those who notify me by Tuesday previous.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough, Tel. 2623. 4410

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Branch.—Meeting at Reedham (5), May 29th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Bells available after meeting. Practise those five-bell methods, please. Names for tea, not later than Wednesday, May 26th, to Mrs. F. O. Petherick, The Hills, Reedham, Norwich. — P. Newstead, Branch Sec. 4403

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Witney and Woodstock Branch.—The summer meeting is arranged for Saturday, May 29th. Ringing at Long Compton, Kingham, Bledington (tea), Broadwell, Moreton-in-Marsh and Bourton-on-the-Hill. All welcome. Tea and if needing a seat on coach, please contact Miss Lottie Pimm, High Street, Eynsham, Oxford. Phone: Eynsham 222. 4371

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Meeting at Piddington, Saturday, May 29th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea, by May 22nd, to G. F. Roome, 31, Clare Street, Northampton. 4380

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Rutland Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Greetham (6), Saturday, May 29th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by May 25th.—E. E. Gibson, Estean, Thistleton Road, Market Overton, Rutland. 4382

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Towcester Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Alderton, May 29th. Names for tea, by May 24th, to W. A. Yates, Welsh Lane, Boycott, Buckingham. 4389

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION and CHESTER GUILD (Crewe Branch).—Joint meeting, Market Drayton, May 29th. Names for tea to Mr. F. Price, Bentleys Road, Market Drayton. Ringing Festival at Shrewsbury July 10th. Details later. 4405

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Eastern Division) and HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Joint meeting, Christ Church, Blacklands, Hastings, May 29th. Please note amended date. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. followed by business meeting. Names for tea essential by Wednesday, May 26th, to R. W. Pankhurst, 11, Salehurst Road, Eastbourne. 4400

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Meeting arranged for June 5th is now **cancelled.**—Alan A. Potts. 4361

(Continued on next page)

NOTICES—continued

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—Annual Festival, Plymouth, Whit Monday, June 7th. Service St. Andrew's 12 noon. Luncheon, Invicta Hotel, Osborne Place, 1 p.m. Meeting to follow at 2 p.m. Ringing: St. Andrew's (10) 9.30-11.45; Emmanuel (8) 10.-11.30; Plympton St. Maurice (8) 10-11.15; all three towers also open after the meeting. For luncheon tickets (5s. prepaid, closing date June 1st) and particulars of seven other towers available in the Plymouth area, apply to E. J. Taylor, Gen. Sec., Westhayes, Post Hill, Tiverton. 4394

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting and Festival at Hereford on Whit Monday, June 7th. Service 3.30. Tea 4.15. General meeting 5 p.m. Bells available from 11 a.m. Please notify for tea.—Rev. E. G. Benson, Presteigne Rectory, Radnorshire. 4406

ASH, CANTERBURY, KENT.—On May 1st 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: E. Prescott 1, W. Terry 2, A. Gambrill 3, W. Goldup 4, W. Payne 5, E. J. Wells (cond.) 6, L. Martin 7, H. Peattie 8. To commemorate the 100th birthday of Mrs. C. Fagg.

RAWMARSH, YORKS.—On May 1st, 1,334 Plain Bob Major: D. Burling 1, R. Birch 2, W. Holland 3, F. Pickering 4, D. Holland 5, G. R. Hiner 6, H. Mortemore 7, B. Holland (cond.) 8. Rung to welcome the Rev. Chas. Richardson on his induction as Rector of Rawmarsh.

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