THE RINGING WORLD

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PEAL RINGING IN 1953

AN indication was given at Newcastle last Whitsun that peal ringing in 1953 was not equal to 1952 despite the inspiration provided by the Coronation, which produced some of those 'once in a lifetime' peals. The total for the year was 2,566, compared with 2,619 in 1952 and 2,915 in 1951. The drop is entirely due to the lack of popularity of handbell peals. The total of these was 154, compared with successive years of 223, 293, 362 and 382. Unless there is a revival, handbell peal ringing will soon be a forgotten art.

The following table gives the general trend of peals on tower bells:—

	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949
Maximus	27	36	39	31	47
Cinques	55	43	48	50	43
Royal	96	82	121	86	109
Caters	97	86	104	89	99
Major	887	906	997	938	1,052
Triples	331	339	315	297	335
Minor & Doubles	919	904	1,008	870	839

Twelve-bell ringing maintained its own. Nineteen Guilds or Associations scored peals in higher numbers, St. Martin's Guild leading with 24, followed by Leicester Diocesan Guild with 13. Leicester's experiment in Spliced Surprise Maximus, which culminated in a peal in 12 methods, was one of the highlights of the year. There was a drop of Surprise Maximus peals from 31 to 23.

It was a better year for ten-bell peals, as these totalled 193 against 168 in 1952. These were spread among 36 Guilds and Associations. There were 60 peals of Surprise Royal against 49 and 67 in the two preceding years. Cambridge with 27 and Yorkshire with 17 were both an advance on the previous year. Leading associations for ten-bell ringing were Stafford Archdeaconry 15, Lancashire Association 14, Leicester Guild 12.

The year saw more peals of Major in Surprise methods than Plain, the respective totals being 455 and 432. There were five more Surprise peals rung than in 1952. These were in 48 different methods. Cambridge held its popularity with 115 (last year 106), followed by Yorkshire 90 (81), London 51 (41), Superlative 35 (48), Bristol 31 (14) and Rutland 14 (19). Spliced Surprise totalled 35 peals (in 1951 there were 43). Being Coronation year probably accounted for Plain Bob showing an increase from 196 to 209. Double Norwich Court Bob Major dropped from 101 to 83 and Kent Treble Bob from 85 to 72.

Included in the record there are those debatable 12 peals of Plain Bob Triples. Grandsire Triples totalled 183 compared with 209, of which the Oxford Diocesan Guild rang 14, and Stedman Triples had 108 peals, one less than last year, with the Leicester Guild scoring 21.

Five and six-bell ringing showed an increase, 919 against 904 (Minor 647, Doubles 272). Outstanding performances were 42 methods Doubles peal by the Archdeaconry of Stafford and a 35 method Minor peal by the Lincoln Diocesan Guild. The four leading Associations for these lesser number of bells were: Essex 71 peals, Lincoln 65, Suffolk 56 and Kent 54. There were 276 one method peals of Minor and 129 of Doubles. Some of the Minor were Surprise, but the great majority were Plain Bob. We regard this as an encouraging sign, especially the one method Doubles peals. If a ringer can maintain concentration in a simple method for 2½ hours he has the ability to go forward. The village bells of England and Wales are one of the gems in the diadem of the nation's ringing.

For the fifth successive year the Leicester Diocesan Guild had most peals to their credit with 196 (206 in 1952). The order of the other leading Associations is as follows: 2 Lancashire 135 (147), 3 Essex 131 (108), 4 Kent 130 (155), 5 Oxford Diocesan 126 (115), 6 Lincoln 116 (118), 7 Suffolk 111 (90), 8 Chester 103 (108), 9 St. Martin's 102 (105), 10 Yorkshire 86 (86), 11 Norwich 84 (97), 12 Worcester 73 (81), 13 Stafford Archdeaconry 72 (94), 14 Winchester and Portsmouth 66 (81).

A glance at the handbell record for the year indicates that there are few centres where consistent ringing takes place. The Irish Association head the list with 20 peals, and it will be noted that all these peals are either in Minor or Doubles methods. Leicester Association followed with 17 peals, and to them came one of the highlights of handbell ringing during the year with a peal of Stedman Sextuples. Another was a great performance of 21 Spliced Plain Major methods by the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, who rang in all 11 peals. The Bournemouth enthusiasts had a quiet year, but scored a peal of eight spliced plain methods. The total for the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild was 14. Oxford University did some good work during the year, mostly on six bells. They had a peal in 23 methods and another of 17 in Minor. In all 29 Guilds or Associations rang handbell peals.

The tables are the work of Messrs. Walter Ayre, Harry Miles and G. L. Grover, who deserve a vote of thanks for their arduous labours.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Thurs., Dec. 16, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 21 *Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,
A PEAL OF 5021 STEDMAN CINQUES
Tenor 31¼ cwt. in D.

FRANK E. HAYNES	*Treble*	TERRY R. HAMPTON	7
MURIEL REAY	2	MICHAEL G. MORTON	8
ALBERT WALKER	3	RALPH G. EDWARDS	9
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD	4	PETER BORDER	10
JEFFREY B. WEBB	5	RODNEY B. MEADOWS	11
PETER J. MORTON	6	GEORGE E. FEARN	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES.
A compliment to Miss Pamela Haynes, the conductor's daughter, whose 21st birthday was on Tuesday, December 14th.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 33 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, REDCLIFFE,
A PEAL OF 5017 STEDMAN CINQUES
Tenor 50 cwt. 2 lb.

FREDERICK G. LEAKER	*Treble*	REGINALD G. HOOPER	7
ALFRED E. REEVES	2	NORMAN H. COOMBS	8
MRS. P. LEWINGTON	3	EMLYN F. HANCOCK	9
ENID L. ROBERTS	4	WILLIAM HIBBERT	10
ALBERT M. TYLER	5	JOSEPH T. DYKE	11
ARTHUR H. REED	6	FRANK HANSFORD	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT M. TYLER.

TEN BELL PEALS

STRATFORD-ON-AVON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 27 *Minutes,*
AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL
Tenor 19 cwt. 2 lb.

*WILFRED J. NEWMAN	*Treble*	*R. ROGER SAVORY	6
MRS. JOHN THOMAS	2	CYRIL TANSELL	7
JOHN THOMAS	3	REGINALD WOODYATT	8
SIDNEY T. HOLT	4	†THOMAS W. LEWIS	9
*GERALD C. HEMMING	5	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING	*Tenor*

Composed by J. SHAW. Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.
* First peal of Royal. † 400th peal for the Association. First peal of Treble Ten as conductor. First peal of Treble Bob on the bells.

BECCLES, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 30 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL
Tenor 25¼ cwt.

*JAMES FORDER	*Treble*	†G. ANTHONY SUTHERLAND	6
EDWIN R. GOATE	2	*BRIAN PURSLOW	7
*MARGOT THOMPSON	3	GODFREY A. WALPOLE	8
†PETER G. W. NEWSTEAD	4	ERNEST A. LONG	9
†GEORGE W. HOWLETT	5	JOHN W. BLYTHE	*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by EDWIN R. GOATE.
* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Plain Bob Royal.

LIVERPOOL.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 28 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF 5005 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor 41 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb.

*LESTER L. GRAY	*Treble*	THOMAS W. HESKETH	6
FRANCES ELLISON	2	ERNEST F. BENNETT	7
ALAN P. CAVE	3	*EDWIN C. BIRKETT	8
JACK N. BROWN	4	PERCIVAL W. CAVE	9
THOMAS C. LARKEY	5	H. STEWART BAILEY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.
* 50th peal together.
A birthday compliment to Mrs. E. C. Birkett, who was recently elected an honorary life member of the Lancashire Association.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 19 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb.

RICHARD F. B. SPEED	*Treble*	†FREDERICK R. SCOTT	6
ROBERT G. LAY	2	†JEFFERY C. BIRT	7
*MRS. N. O. L. MANCHIP	3	*WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM	8
*WILLIAM F. BUTLER	4	FRANK C. PRICE	9
*WALTER LEE	5	TONY PRICE	*Tenor*

Composed by G. E. SYMONDS. Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.
* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal. † First peal of Surprise. First peal of Surprise Royal on the bells.

WILLENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Tues., Dec. 28, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 17 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES.
A PEAL OF 5043 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor 16¼ cwt. in F sharp.

HOWARD HOWELL	*Treble*	ARTHUR T. DUTTON	6
STELLA HUGHES	2	ERNEST STITCH	7
SAMELA THOMAS	3	GEORGE W. HUGHES	8
HERBERT KNIGHT	4	FREDERICK G. HANDLEY	9
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER	5	GEORGE DEAN	*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.
Rung for the Christmas festival and as a birthday compliment to Mr. Christopher Wallater.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

STEYNING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 20, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 59 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb.

*JOHN YOUNG	*Treble*	E. WINIFRED KEYS	5
†JOY GUMBRELL	2	ERNEST J. MUNDAY	6
‡RICHARD H. SMITH	3	FREDERICK W. BURNETT	7
ROGER BALDWIN	4	BRIAN J. LUFF	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by BRIAN J. LUFF.
* First peal. † First peal of Major. ‡ First peal of Major 'inside.'

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Dec. 9, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 13 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF 5152 STOCKPORT SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in E.

ROBIN G. TURNER	*Treble*	ALAN J. BROWN	5
FRED DUNKERLEY	2	EDWARD JENKINS	6
BASIL JONES	3	PETER LAFLIN	7
JAMES FERNLEY	4	JOHN WORTH	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
Rung on the birthday of the late Mrs. Ada Wolstencroft, for many years a prominent worker at this church.

MARKET BOSWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 4 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 17¼ cwt.

ERNEST MORRIS	*Treble*	*HARRY HOLLIS	5
T. KELHAM DEACON	2	JOHN A. UNDERWOOD	6
JOSEPH WM. COTTON	3	ROLAND BENISTON	7
*JOHN W. RAWSON	4	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.
* First peal in the method. First in the method as conductor. First in the method on the bells.

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 17, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 40 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, MILES PLATTING,
A PEAL OF 5024 ALDENHAM SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt.

RUTH M. JACKSON	*Treble*	LESLIE BOUMPHREY	5
JEAN C. BROWN	2	ROBIN TURNER	6
BASIL JONES	3	ALAN J. BROWN	7
EDWARD JENKINS	4	PETER LAFLIN	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by EDWARD JENKINS.
First peal in the method by all except the tenor ringer.
Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to W. W. Wolstencroft.

BLOOMSBURY, LONDON.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 54 *Minutes,*
AT THE ROYAL AND MUNICIPAL CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 18 cwt.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	*Treble*	HAROLD W. CLARK	5
ARTHUR G. MASON	2	JAMES BENNETT	6
JOHN G. NASH	3	REUBEN SANDERS	7
REUBEN CHARGE	4	ALBERT W. COLES	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT W. COLES.

All are ringing associates of the late William Pye. Rung on the occasion of the engagement of Evelyn S. Sanders, daughter of the 7th ringer.

GRESFORD, DENBIGH.
THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 20 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5152 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, being 1,312 Bristol and 1,280 each of London, Cambridge and Superlative, with 110 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell. Tenor 24 cwt. 3 lb. in D.

HENRY O. BAKER	*Treble*	C. KENNETH LEWIS	5
FRED DUNKERLEY	2	JOHN E. BIBBY	6
BASIL JONES	3	EDWARD JENKINS	7
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	4	JOHN WORTH	*Tenor*

Composed by ALBERT J. PITMAN. Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

The ringers of 2, 3 and 7 have now rung this composition in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales.

HITCHIN, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On. Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 14 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5088 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in D.

JAMES G. NEWMAN	*Treble*	*C. MICHAEL ORME	5
*JOHN W. SINFIELD	2	LEWIS H. BYWATERS	6
*FRANK W. CROFT	3	*PHILIP MEHEW	7
*PETER W. CROFT	4	DEREK P. JONES	*Tenor*

Composed by WILLIAM BARTON. Conducted by DEREK P. JONES.

* First peal in the method. First peal on eight bells as conductor. First peal in the method on the bells.

A 68th birthday compliment to Mr. Leonard Fidler, captain of the Hitchin band.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 19 *Minutes,*
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

BRIAN G. WARWICK	*Treble*	*ARTHUR BRADSHAW	5
ERNEST J. JELLEY	2	RALPH ELKINGTON	6
BRIAN S. CHAPMAN	3	JOHN M. JELLY	7
*OWEN T. NORTHWOOD	4	PETER R. JOHNSON	*Tenor*

Composed by DANIEL PRENTICE. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal of Major.

Birthday compliments to the ringers of 4 and 6.

OVER, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 9 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt.

ERIC HORNBY	*Treble*	HENRY PARKER	5
WILLIAM BIBBY	2	REGINALD W. WORRALL	6
JOHN SCOTT	3	DOUGLAS KIRKPATRICK	7
CECIL RADDON	4	HARRY W. HOWARD	*Tenor*

Composed by WILLIAM THORNLEY. Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours,*
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY	*Treble*	*CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE	5
PETER COXALL	2	JACK ASHCROFT	6
DOREEN DUTTON	3	*E. ROGER MARTIN	7
RONALD KENRICK	4	JOSEPH RIDYARD	*Tenor*

Composed by E. TIMBRELL. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

* First peal in the method.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 15½ cwt.

LEONARD W. CONDUCT	*Treble*	*JAMES W. T. DAVIS	5
WILLIAM C. RHODES	2	GORDON N. LANE	6
HAROLD J. YARDLEY	3	RICHARD C. INGRAM	7
WILLIAM J. V. CONDUCT	4	WILLIAM T. SHELTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by RICHARD C. INGRAM.

* First peal.

Rung as a tribute to the late Mr. G. F. Garrison, who was a ringer at this church for 48 years.

TURNER'S HILL, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Dec. 19, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 58 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 27 lb. in F.

*LEONARD STILWELL	*Treble*	WILLIAM T. BEESON	5
FRANK H. HICKS	2	IVAN A. C. BUTCHER	6
ALBERT E. LAKER	3	WILLIAM SLAUGHTER	7
JOHN H. G. GARDNER	4	*A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* 25th peal together and 25th peal of Plain Bob Major as conductor.

Rung on the occasion of the appointment of George A. Wood as deacon of the Church of South Africa, cousin of the ringer of the 6th.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Dec. 26, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 20 *Minutes,*
AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND THE ENGLISH MARTYRS,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Tenor 32 cwt. in D.

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 32 cwt. in D.

CYRIL A. HURST	*Treble*	MANSFIELD GINN	5
JOHN G. GIPSON	2	JAMES W. R. QUINNEY	6
WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN	3	PETER BORDER	7
T. REGINALD DENNIS	4	HARRY L. MARTIN	*Tenor*

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

BERKHAMSTED, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

*GEOFFREY S. DUNCAN	*Treble*	OLIVE M. JOHNSON	5
EDWIN H. LEWIS	2	DEREK E. LATCHFORD	6
WALTER AYRE	3	BERTRAM C. JOHNSON	7
PAMELA A. MARTIN	4	BRIAN M. BARKER	*Tenor*

Conducted by BERTRAM C. JOHNSON.

* First peal.

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BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 47 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5184 WATFORD SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in F sharp.

JOHN E. ROOTES ..	*Treble*	*REGINALD ROWLEY ..	5
*SYDNEY A. WARWICK ..	2	*JOHN R. MAYNE	6
*JOHN SCHOFIELD	3	CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY ..	7
*D. KAY ADKINS	4	*GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN ..	*Tenor*

Composed by MAURICE HODGSON. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.
* First peal in the method.
Rung for the golden wedding anniversary of the verger (Mr. H. Broad) and his wife.

CHURCH STRETTON, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 4 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt. 5 lb.

FREDERICK G. BEDDOW ..	*Treble*	*JOHN F. BUTLER	5
*BESSIE A. CARTER	2	*WILLIAM A. FARMER ..	6
CLIFFORD A. BARRON ..	3	*ERNEST F. WILCOX	7
*HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS ..	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ..	*Tenor*

Composed by W. SHIPWAY Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.
* First peal in the method.
A wedding peal for Brian Warwick and Winifred Burton, married on this day at South Wigston, Leicester. Also a farewell to W. A. Farmer, who is leaving Shrewsbury for Cheltenham.

ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 8 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

T. REGINALD DENNIS ..	*Treble*	JOHN G. GIPSON	5
*MARION GRAIN	2	‡RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN	6
†WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN ..	3	MANSFIELD GINN	7
GEORGE E. CRISP	4	PETER BORDER	*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by PETER BORDER.
* First peal of Surprise Major 'inside.' † 50th peal in 1954. ‡ First peal in the method.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 5 *Minutes,*
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5120 OLNEY SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY ..	*Treble*	RONALD KENRICK	5
MARGARET E. RIDYARD ..	2	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN ..	6
DOREEN DUTTON	3	JACK ASHCROFT	7
JOHN ROBINSON	4	JOSEPH RIDYARD ..	*Tenor*

Composed by H. G. G. CASHMORE. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.
First peal in the method by the band, by the Association and on the bells.

LINCOLN.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 28, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF 5024 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 18 cwt. 9 lb. in E.

*DEREK E. SMITH ..	*Treble*	GEOFFREY R. PARKER ..	5
MARGARET A. SWANN ..	2	*SYDNEY A. CHAMBERS ..	6
NORAH M. BIBBY	3	GEORGE H. RANDLES ..	7
*DONOVAN R. WHITE ..	4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ..	*Tenor*

Composed by JAMES TOPP. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.
* First peal of Lincolnshire Surprise Major. First in method on the bells.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 28, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 54 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5024 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. in F sharp.

DEREK P. JONES	*Treble*	ANDREW C. SINFIELD ..	5
RONALD J. SHARP	2	JOHN W. V. SINFIELD ..	6
JAMES G. NEWMAN	3	DENNIS KNOX	7
PHILIP MEHEW	4	BRYAN F. SIMS	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by RONALD J. SHARP.

SIX BELL PEALS

LLANGATTOCK-VIBON-AVEL, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 48 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CADOC,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Being seven different extents. Tenor 11 cwt.

*MRS. K. SMITH	*Treble*	REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS ..	4
G. WILLIAM HOLLIS ..	2	JOHN J. WEBB	5
PHILLIP G. MORGAN ..	3	REGINALD T. JONES	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN J. WEBB.
* First peal of Minor. Believed to be the first peal on the bells.
Rung as an 89th birthday compliment to John W. Jones, of Newport.

BLACKWELL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAM ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 14, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 38 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,
A PEAL OF 5160 DOUBLES
Being 1,200 changes Grandsire, 2,160 Plain Bob, 1,080 April Day, 720 St. Simon's. Tenor 7 cwt.

J. PHILLIP EASTLAND ..	*Treble*	GEORGE E. HANCOCK ..	3
DOREEN ARMSTRONG	2	FRANK BRADLEY	4
ALBERT WHEELER			*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK BRADLEY.
First peal of Doubles by all except tenor.

BURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 15, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 33 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. BOTOLPH AND ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR
Tenor 7¼ cwt. in A.

FREDERICK J. CRAPNELL ..	*Treble*	JAMES BENNETT	4
CECIL W. PIPE	2	JOHN W. BLYTHE	5
ROBERT E. LESTER	3	GEORGE W. PIPE	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.
The conductor has now called peals of Cambridge on all numbers.

COPT OAK, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 36 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR
Seven 720's: (1) Northumberland, Carlisle; (2) London, Wells, Cunecastre; (3) Chester: Munden; (4) Beverley, Berwick, York, Durham, Hexham, Surfleet; (5) Lightfoot, Wearmouth, Rossendale, Stamford; (6) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Hull, Primrose, Bourne; (7) Cambridge, Primrose (101 changes of method). Tenor 10 cwt.

*RUTH MORGAN	*Treble*	LEONARD C. BLANCHARD ..	4
JOHN A. UNDERWOOD ..	2	JAMES W. HAW	5
CECIL WADE	3	ALBERT E. SCOTT	*Tenor*

Conducted by CECIL WADE.
* First peal of Surprise. First peal in 23 Surprise methods by all the band, in the county and for the Guild.
A birthday peal for Mrs. Jean Underwood, wife of the ringer of the second, and their baby daughter, Jane, aged one year.

KENILWORTH, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat. Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 53 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Tenor 14½ cwt.

*JOHN WEBB	*Treble*	FRED KINCHEN	4
ROBERT EDDEN	2	FRED LYNES	5
HAROLD HUXLEY	3	ARTHUR MANNING	*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR MANNING.
* First peal.

NORTON-CUCKNEY, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 45 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Being seven different extents of 720. Tenor 10½ cwt.

DENNIS SIMPSON	*Treble*	F. LEWIS HEMSTOCK ..	4
GEORGE E. FOSTER	2	F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER	5
CLARENCE F. BRIGGS ..	3	WILLIAM L. EXTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM L. EXTON.

SHENFIELD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 32 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In 8 methods, being one extent each of (1) London and Wells, (2) York, (3) Durham, (4) Beverley, (5) Surfleet, (6) Ipswich, (7) Cambridge.

Tenor 9 cwt.

HERMON J. OLIVER	*Treble*	RICHARD VALENTINE	4
JOHN W. G. PIDGEON	2	JOHN H. SITCH	5
LAURENCE H. TURNER	3	HARRY TURNER	*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY TURNER.

Rung as a welcome to the Rev. and Mrs. R. T. Shiells, the former having been instituted and inducted as the Rector of Shenfield on the previous evening. Also as a wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. R. Valentine.

WHETSTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 18, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 27 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 8¼ cwt.

FREDERICK WATSON	*Treble*	C. ROGER HAYWARD	4
ERNEST MORRIS	2	MICHAEL VERNON	5
*GRAHAM T. BALL	3	†JOHN VERNON	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN VERNON.

* First peal in three methods. † 25th peal.

ACTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., Dec. 19, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 50 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents. Tenor 14 cwt.

FRANK BARNARD	*Treble*	FRANK OLLIER	4
HAROLD G. SMITH	2	*JOHN E. BROUGH	5
EDWARD J. BOFFEY	3	*HERBERT SUTTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN E. BROUGH.

* 25th peal together.

Rung for the 21st birthday of Miss Alma Sutton, ringer at Acton, and daughter of the tenor ringer.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Dec. 19, 1954, *in* 3 *Hours and* 15 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 19¼ cwt.

*STANLEY G. PONTING	*Treble*	*COLIN A. TESTER	4
REGINALD E. LAMBERT	2	ERNEST J. LADD	5
*KEVIN S. HOHL	3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT T. LAMBERT.

* First peal of Surprise.

WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 20, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 36 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In four methods, viz., 2,160 Grandsire (10 callings and one 240), 960 each Plain, St. Simon's and Reverse Canterbury Pleasure (4 callings).

Tenor 12 cwt. in F.

*REGINALD UPTON	*Treble*	JOHN HAWTIN	4
ROLAND BENISTON	2	JOHN A. UNDERWOOD	5
LEONARD CHAMBERS	3	GEORGE E. HOWLETT	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

* First peal.

Rung as a first birthday compliment to Jane Ann Underwood, daughter of the ringer of the fifth.

NORTH WEALD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 21, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 49 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven 720's. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

*WENDY BOWAK	*Treble*	ROBERT BRIDGES	4
STEDMAN SYMONDS	2	HARRY KING	5
LEWIS CORDELL	3	WILLIAM WEDLOCK	*Tenor*

Conducted by STEDMAN SYMONDS.

* First peal (15 years old).

Rung for Wendy Bowak, who was elected a member of the Essex Association before the peal commenced.



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

BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



OXFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 21, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 40 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising seven extents in 11 methods with 37 changes of method: viz., (1) Cambridge Surprise, (2) College Exercise, (3) Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, (4) Double Oxford and St. Clement's, (5) Thelwall and Childwall, (6) Plain and Double Bob, (7) Fulbeck. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS	*Treble*	HARRY P. FLOYD	4
*BRIAN BLADON	2	*MALCOLM S. CLOKE	5
EDGAR J. SMITH	3	ALAN R. PINK	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal in more than eight Minor methods.
Rung on the Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle and Martyr.

ASHBOCKING, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 22, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 47 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 21 lb. in G.

FREDERICK J. CRAPNELL	*Treble*	ROBERT E. LESTER	4
GEORGE W. PIPE	2	†JAMES BENNETT, JUN.	5
*RONALD W. STEWARD	3	JAMES BENNETT	*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES BENNETT.
* 225th peal. † 200th peal.
Rung on the 50th anniversary of the first peal on the bells, and in the same methods by a band who have all 'passed on.' The conductor of this peal is one of the local band, which was formed and taught to ring when the bells were installed.

COMPTON BISHOP, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Dec. 22, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 52 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.

*JOHN BRINSON	*Treble*	*FRANK G. PARRAMORE	4
MARJORIE LEGG	2	*HAROLD HOOPER	5
KENNETH MEDWAY	3	GEORGE PRESCOTT	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE PRESCOTT.
* First peal of Minor. A welcome to the Rev. P. A. Northam.

MESSINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 22, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 37 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE MINOR

Seven different extents. Tenor 9¼ cwt.

JACK BRAY	*Treble*	*GEORGE W. MOODY	4
*RONALD CHAFER	2	*PHILIP BARNES	5
*HARRY HALL	3	GEORGE E. FEIRN	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.
* First peal of London Surprise Minor.
Mr. Jack Bray has now 'circled the tower.'

DARLINGTON, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Dec. 23, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 31 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven complete 720's in 19 methods, viz., (1) Hexham, Berwick, Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge, Primrose; (2) Ipswich, Bourne, Cambridge; (3) Carlisle, Chester, Munden; (4), Alnwick, Newcastle; (5) Lightfoot, Wearmouth; (6) York, Durham; (7) London, Wells; with 116 changes of method. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. in B flat.

ROBERT T. SIMPSON	*Treble*	THOMAS COOKE	4
DORIS M. KILLINGLEY	2	W. NORMAN PARK	5
RICHARD BUSBY	3	ROLAND PARK	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.
The greatest number of methods rung to a peal for this Association.
An 80th birthday compliment to Mr. W. Oliver, a ringer at this church.

SUNDRIDGE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Dec. 23, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 58 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise, one 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, one 720 of Kent Treble Bob and four 720's of Plain Bob.
Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb. in F.

*D. MARY WARD	*Treble*	PETER N. BOND	4
*MARY R. ANDREWS	2	JOHN L. MORRIS	5
†IAN H. ORAM	3	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.
* First peal in four methods. † First peal in four methods 'inside.'

DUNKERTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(Bath Branch.)
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 25 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

40 six-scores, 10 callings, and Pitman's 240. Tenor 5 cwt. 18 lb.

*MICHAEL E. WILTSHIRE	*Treble*	*ENID A. BOND	4
†ROSEMARY E. COOK	2	SEALY S. WOODBURN	5
THOMAS W. HARRIS	3	RONALD E. C. SMITH	*Tenor*

Conducted by SEALY S. WOODBURN.
* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire.

LOIS WEEDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 58 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 6¼ cwt.

*GEORGE SHELLARD	*Treble*	MONTAGUE SAUNDERS	4
WILLIAM J. CHESTER	2	BARRY SAUNDERS	5
†BETTY MANSFIELD	3	WILLIAM A. YATES	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM A YATES.
* First peal away from tenor. † First peal.

TIBSHELF, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Chesterfield District.)
On Mon., Dec. 27, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 42 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

J. PHILLIP EASTLAND	*Treble*	DOREEN ARMSTRONG	4
GEORGE E. HANCOCK	2	FRANK BRADLEY	5
WILFRED RILEY	3	ALBERT WHEELER	*Tenor*

Conducted by DOREEN ARMSTRONG.
First peal of Oxford Treble Bob by all.
Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor on her 20th birthday that day.

EDGWARE, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 28, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 40 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF 5040 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being composed of seven different extents, with 5-6 the right way throughout. Tenor 9 cwt.

PHYLLIS M. MAYNE	*Tenor*	HAROLD E. CLAYTON	4
*ANTHONY M. WARRIS	2	BRYN O. HUGHES	5
RICHARD G. OUSTON	3	JOHN R. MAYNE	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.
* First peal. First peal of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor by all the band.

HANDBELL PEALS

NEW MALDEN, SURREY.
THE UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Dec. 23, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 16 *Minutes.*
AT 191, ELM ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor size 13 in E.

R. JAMES COOK	1—2	BRIAN D. THRELFALL	5—6
*WILLIAM T. COOK	3—4	FRANCES A. THRELFALL	7—8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by BRIAN D. THRELFALL.
* First handbell peal of Major.

NOTTINGHAM.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 28, 1954, *in* 2 *Hours and* 29 *Minutes,*
AT 34, LEONARD AVENUE, SHERWOOD,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Holt's Original.

ALFRED MOULD	1—2	*BRIAN BUSWELL	5—6
CLEMENT GLENN	3—4	J. KENNETH WAGSTAFF	7—8

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.
* First handbell peal with an 'inside' pair.

BALDOCK GUILD'S DINNER

Baldock Guild of Ringers will celebrate their 75th anniversary next May and this fact was mentioned to the members and their friends when they assembled for their annual dinner at the Rose and Crown, Baldock, on December 18th. A peal attempt during the afternoon was unsuccessful.

The menu was of Christmas fare, with turkey and plum pudding, with Canon Smith in the chair.

The toast of 'The Chairman' was proposed by Mr. E. R. Harriss, who suggested that a short prayer should precede ringing, and that an annual ringers' Communion be held to remind the Guild of its true motive.

In the absence of the Rev. G. Kenyon (Norton), Canon Edwards replied and agreed with Mr. Harriss' observations. He regarded the war-time ban on ringing as pathetic; what was needed was the proclamation of a living Church.

The achievements of the past year were recalled by Mr. R. T. Newman in submitting the toast of 'St. Mary's Guild.' He said the Guild was stronger now than ever before, in spite of gaps caused by National Service.

Mr. E. G. Buck, whose name was coupled with the toast, said that the Baldock ringers could not sit back, but must go forward as a band. He emphasised the necessity for good striking and gave a few details of two of the proposed outings—on April 16th to Watford and May 14th into Cambridgeshire. May 21st would be the 75th anniversary of the Guild.

Mr. H. S. Bonnett welcomed the ladies and visitors and said it was the first time the ladies had been invited to the dinner, although in the tower they had been found even upon the tenor box. Mr. G. W. Critchley acknowledged the warm welcome that is always extended to visitors. J. S.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World' January 8th, 1915

LADIES' FIRST QUARTER PEAL

It has fallen to the ladies' band at Portishead, Somerset, to ring the first quarter peal for the Ladies' Guild. That there should be associated with one tower eight members of the fair sex capable of such a performance speaks volumes for the progress which ladies are making in regard to church bell ringing, and we can only believe this quarter peal to be a stepping stone to the first complete 5,000 by a company of ladies all belonging to one church. At any rate, the band seems to be exceptionally well placed to achieve this record.

The quarter peal, which was Grandsire Triples . . . . occupied 48 minutes, the band being: Misses Mabel Jukes (first quarter) 1, Blanche Mitchell 2, Adelaide Stokes 3, Dorothy Sage (first quarter) 4, Doris Coles 5, Edith Hole (conductor) 6, Nellie Gillingham 7, Mary Jukes 8. All are residents of Portishead.

[The peal was rung only a few weeks later. The writer cannot recall one being rung at any other tower by a local all-ladies' band.]

BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. Ernest Morris addressed the City of Leicester Y.M.C.A. on December 22nd on 'The History and Romance of the Bells.' He brought with him specimens of cow, sheep, camel, sleigh, horse and other bells.

Mr. F. Farrant, who has been secretary of the Ilchester Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association for 42 years, has just retired from office. During this long period he only missed two meetings. A fireside chair was one of the gifts he received from members. May he have many happy memories.

MR. SAM QUINTRELL'S 99th BIRTHDAY

Mr. Sam Quintrell, the celebrated ringer of St. Columb Major, Cornwall, was 99 on December 13th, and on this actual day his own ringers rang specially in his honour. The occasion never passes now without this being done. The local ringers were Messrs. W. Crapp, J. Knight, F. Minnear, P. Thorpe, H. Caddy, J. Minnear, A. Minnear, F. Salmon, G. Key and R. Nelson.

Although Sam was born and bred in call change and competitive ringing he has now many good words to say for a well struck method, and a peal attempt has become an annual event also. This year the peal was successfully rung two days prior to his birthday, and by special request the tenor was not turned in. A peal which was a treat for Sam to listen to from his little house close by was the result.

After the peal the band paid him a visit and made him a little presentation. Sam expressed his appreciation for this and for the compliment of yet another peal. He was in reminiscent mood and talked of the past. He referred to the days when ringing was really hard work. He told us, too, that his mother had often told him that she witnessed, in 1827, the casting of the tenor bell in St. Columb tower, which was carried out in the old school yard. As we left, Sam waved us goodbye and said 'Come again next year.' Let us hope that we can truly celebrate Sam's centenary. It may well be a great ringing day at St. Columb. R.

The composition of 5,152 Spliced Surprise Major for the peal at Willesden on December 16th was published in 'The Ringing World' for 1943 on page 210. It is the belief of the conductor, Mr. R. F. B. Speed, that this was the first time the composition was rung.

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.

LATE NEWS

Bells will be heard before the broadcast of the evening service in the Welsh Home Service on January 16th from St. Nicholas' Parish Church, Montgomery.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. F. V. Sinkins, formerly of Slough, who will be 90 next month, ascended the 35 steps at St. Leonard's, Streatham, on Christmas morning and took part in the ringing for service. He rang the treble faultlessly in touches, including a 350 Grandsire Triples; he also rang for Sunday morning service. Mr. Sinkins claims to have rung on Christmas day for 78 years, excepting, of course, the 'ban' during the last war. He learned to ring at Slough at the age of 11. Is this a record?

A seasonable article on 'Christmas Bells—Art and Method of Change Ringing' appeared in the Christmas Eve publication of the 'Harpenden Free Press.' It was written by J. D. P.

There was a gathering of veterans at St. Giles-in-the-Fields on December 18th, when eight ringing associates of the late Mr. William Pye rang a peal of Stedman Triples.

A loss to Shrewsbury ringing is the impending departure of Mr. W. A. Farmer for Cheltenham. From his pen have come many delightful articles on Salop bells and ringers.

All the ringers who took part in the first peal at Ashbocking, Suffolk, have now 'passed on.' They were remembered when a commemoration peal in the same method was rung on December 22nd.

With the peal at Gresford, Denbighshire, on December 18th, Messrs. Basil Jones, Leslie W. G. Morris, C. Kenneth Lewis, Edward Jenkins and John Worth have rung Mr. A. J. Pitman's composition of four Spliced Surprise Major methods in four countries during 1954.

North Weald ringers were honoured to have Mr. Stedman Symonds to conduct the first peal for Miss Wendy Bowak on December 31st. There was a previous attempt on December 18th which was lost halfway through due to that unwelcome individual 'Mr. Bob.'

We hope to publish early in the New Year our list of peal ringers who scored 40 or more peals during 1954. Details required by the Editor are total peals on tower bells and 'in hand' separately, with the number in brackets after each of those peals conducted. It is not necessary to send a list of the peals.

The peal at Whitwick, Leics, is the first peal by a Sunday service band at this tower for over 50 years.

Mr. Harold Haynes, of Harpole, Northampton, prefers circular diagrams to the orthodox upright style. He maintains that the methods are easier to learn.

The band which rang an 89th birthday compliment peal to Mr. John W. Jones, of Newport, at Llangattock-Vibon-Avel, wish to express their thanks to Mrs. Wilson for her hospitality after the peal.

The ringers who took part in the peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Mary's, Redcliffe, Bristol, extend their hearty congratulations to Mr. Albert E. Reeves, who celebrated his 76th birthday the next day.

Mr. W. J. Robinson, who conducted his farewell quarter peal at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Guildford, on December 26th, had rung 141 peals and conducted eight in this tower since he joined the band in 1926. During these years he had rung 314 peals with Mr. A. H. Pulling.

Miss M. M. Butler, formerly of Shalford Surrey, writes from Durban of the great welcome that was accorded her by the captain (Mr. Wood) and ringers of St. Mary's Church, Woodstock, Cape Town. It was the first time she had rung since she left England for Northern Rhodesia two years ago. The late arrival of the ship at Durban prevented ringing there, but Miss Butler was hospitably entertained by Mr. Chambers, the Durban captain.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED 1570



MEARS & STAINBANK, 34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD,
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PEAL RINGING IN HAMPSHIRE

By The Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

THE effect that a single person can have on ringing is well illustrated in my own county of Hampshire, for the tower where the late Mr. George Williams rang at for the last 40 years of his life, North Stoneham, has recorded nearly three times as many peals as any other in the county. It was hoped that during the Patronal Festival in December, the 250th peal on the bells would be rung. At the moment it is two short of this total. At the beginning of our story there were only six bells there and the first peal was only rung in 1905. Ten had been rung by the time the bells were augmented to eight in 1909. It was during this period that Mr. Williams came to live nearby, and from then onwards peals came with great regularity. Even the first war did not stop them, and as far as I am aware, North Stoneham is the only tower in the country where one or more peals were rung in each of the four years of the first world war. Between the wars 159 of the peals were rung, an average of almost eight a year. The highest number in any year was ten, so this shows how consistent the ringing was. The bells were augmented to ten in 1932 and became the lightest ring of ten in any church in the country (Grundisburgh is now). I think it would be true to say that they have never been very popular as a ring of ten, for less than half of the peals rung at Stoneham since 1932 have been on the ten—more have been on the original eight. The records of this tower will ever remain a memorial to the prowess of Mr. George Williams—one of the most prolific peal ringers of all times, despite the fact that he didn't score his first peal until he was in his thirties.

No other tower in the county has reached the century mark, the nearest being Portsea (Portsmouth, St. Mary's) (8) with 94. These have come fairly consistently during the period under review, after the first peal was rung in 1892, but the average has been slightly higher since the last war, for 31 peals have been rung since then. The other Portsmouth tower, St. Thomas' Cathedral (8), comes next with 82 peals. Only 23 of these had been rung prior to 1939, so its 59 since the war makes it the highest scorer since then. One reason why peal attempts are now so frequent is that the Cathedral is in the middle of a 'blitzed' area and the bells do not interfere now as much as they did with the life around. When it is built up again it is probable that the number of peals will diminish. Two towers which were far more popular before 1914 than since come next on the list—Fareham and Hawley (both 8). At the former, 76 peals have been rung, 63 prior to the first war (43 last century) and only 13 since 1914. Hawley has had only six of its total of 72 rung since 1914, so this tower appears less frequently still in the peal lists at the moment.

In mentioning St. Michael's, Southampton, which comes next with 60 peals, we can turn to look at the towers according to the numbers of bells. This tower is one of the three 10-bell towers in the county. It was an 8-bell tower at the beginning of the period, and the Rev. F. E. Robinson rang in the first peal there in 1894. Just before the first war 12 peals were rung and there were eight between the wars, so that 39 of the total have come since 1945. The bells were augmented in 1948 and it has proved to be a popular 10-bell tower since then. The third 10-bell tower in the county is also in Southampton—St. Mary's. The bells (8) were put in during the first war and the first peal was rung in 1916. Thirty peals were rung from 1920 to 1939, the bells being augmented in 1934. They were destroyed with the church in 1940 but were put back in 1948, being the first war-destroyed church in the country to have its bells back (and that before the church was rebuilt). Ten peals have been rung since then.

TWO 12-BELL TOWERS

There are two 12-bell towers, Christchurch and Winchester Cathedral. Neither of them had 12 bells in 1881, so that all the 12- and 10-bell towers have become such in the last 40 years—quite a good record for a county in itself. Christchurch has had 54 peals rung there since 1888—31 before 1913, six from 1920 to 1927, eight from 1933 to 1939 and nine since the war. The Cathedral has had only 18—ten before 1914, six between the wars and two since. It is very difficult to obtain permission for a peal attempt here, I fear.

Before coming to the remaining 8-bell towers, and at risk of causing further controversy, the only 9-bell tower in the country should be mentioned—Basingstoke, All Saints'. It seems that the idea was to have an eight for ordinary ringing with a treble added to them so that the front eight (giving a sort of minor key) could be rung on solemn occasions. The result is the back nine of a ring of ten. Only six peals have been rung there (the church is about 40 years old), the first two in 1920. The only two peals rung since the war were in 1946 and were the famous(!) two on the nine bells — Grandsire Caters and Kent Treble Bob Major with a cover.

Apart from the 8-bell towers already mentioned, the other Basingstoke tower, St. Michael's, has the most peals—60. This tower was very prominent before the first war, 42 of the peals coming from 1885 to 1909. Only three were rung between the wars, but there has been a revival of interest in recent years and 14 have been rung since 1945. Only one other tower has passed the 50 mark—Soberton, with 58. This tower has had its ups and downs. It was very popular early in the period and 26 peals were rung between 1884 and 1898 (on several occasions two in a day). Then only three more were scored before 1914. Fifteen more came between 1920 and 1940 and 14 from 1944 to 1950, but at the moment it is suffering from a depression again for various reasons. It was here that Mr. George Williams rang his first peal and (by a coincidence) his last in 1940. Towers that have reached 40 are Privett and Romsey Abbey (42) and East Tytherleigh (40).

As for 6-bell towers, only three have reached double figures—Wonston (14), most in recent years; Damerham (11), all but one in the years 1948 to 1952; and Godshill, Isle of Wight (10), eight since the war. All the 8-bell towers have been conquered, but there are still 12 6-bell towers which have never recorded a peal out of the 67 in the county. Very little has been done at the 32 5-bell towers. Only five have ever appeared in the peal lists—Bentworth, Bishop's Sutton, Hinton Admiral, Monk Sherborne and Sopley, and only the latter has appeared twice.

So much for my own county of Hampshire.

The Master-Ringer and members of St. David's Cathedral bellringers, Hobart, Tasmania, send their New Year greetings to all ringers.

The peal at North Bradley on December 18th was rung to mark the Vicar's 25th year with the parish. He is a great friend of ringers and was responsible for the rehanging of the bells in 1935, and also for the augmentation to eight in 1950.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

42 Years as Branch Secretary

The annual meeting of the Ilchester Deanery Branch at Yeovil on December 18th was of more than passing significance. It marked the conclusion of 42 years' service as hon. secretary of Mr, F. Farrant, and there were present about 50 ringers, including many from outside the Deanery, to pay tribute to one who had served with great faithfulness.

The company included the Master of the Association, the Rev. M. Hurst-Bannister (Vicar of Pilton), the general secretary, Mr. Roger Fry, Canon Saunders, of Bridport, a past chairman of the Branch, the Rev. L. E. Walsh, of Martock, present chairman, and Mr. A. E. Dawe, churchwarden.

Ringing took place during the afternoon, followed by a service in the church, conducted by the Vicar, Preb. H. Mortlock-Treen, the Rev. E. P. Foote acting as the organist.

The service was followed by a meeting in the Sunday School Rooms, presided over by the Rev. L. E. Walsh, who was elected chairman for the ensuing year. Mr. F. Farrant, hon. secretary, and Mr. W. H. Poole, Ringing Master, having intimated that they wished to relinquish office, Mr. T. J. Setter was elected as hon. secretary, and Mr. W. E. Turner as the Ringing Master. Two new members were elected.

Following the usual business of the meeting Canon Saunders, who previous to his retirement had been for 32 years chairman of the Branch, made a presentation to Mr. F. Farrant, the retiring hon. secretary, who during his long tenure of office for 42 years had only missed two meetings. The gift was a fireside chair and framed testimonial subscribed for by members of the Branch.

Canon Saunders paid tribute to Mr. Farrant's services to the Branch, and appreciation of his services was also expressed by the Master of the Association and general secretary. Mr. Farrant thanked all who had subscribed to the gift and assured the assembled company of his appreciation.

Mr. W. Turk, who organised the collection from the various towers, was thanked for his services.

Thanks were accorded to Mr. W. H. Poole for his services as Ringing Master over the last ten years. The Vicar of Yeovil was thanked for conducting the service and for the use of the bells and schoolroom, and Mr. Foote for playing the organ. Tea was partaken at the Cottage Cafe, after which further ringing took place.

T. J. S.

THE NEW YEAR

Throughout the land from many a tower,
We twelve, or ten, or six or eight,
Poised ready on our stays, await
The passing of the midnight hour.

In those faint moments of the night,
Half-muffled clappers tell our pain,
And sobbing echoes float again
Across the fields where snow lies white.

From far beneath a cry comes 'Stand!'
The task is done that wrung our souls.
Our ties are loosed—the tenor tolls—
And tensely waits the ringing band.

We feel the ropes take strain: we rise
Each on the balance, till 'Look to!
The treble's gone'—and blow on blow
We shout our message to the skies.

'Glory and gladness, joy and peace
To men of kindly heart and will,
So angels sang, so sing we still,
A gospel that shall never cease.'

A. D. H. ALLAN.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Exeter Branch Discuss Teaching Learners

The Exeter Branch received a cordial welcome from the Rev. F. G. Rice, Vicar, when they met at St. David's Church, Exeter, for their annual meeting on December 9th. At the service he gave an excellent address.

The resignation was received with regret of the Branch chairman, the Rev. J. G. M. Scott, on moving from the district. The Rev. C. G. Poulton was unanimously elected as his successor for 1955.

The secretary presented a summary of the financial position which showed a slight increase of £3 on the General Account. The Instruction Account stood at £38, and the Bell Preservation Fund had benefited by £2 10s. 6d. collected at meetings

The Branch annual report showed an increase in membership which now stood at 115. During 1954 peals had been rung in honour of the 80th birthdays of Mr. C. G. Glass and Mr. E. J. Ryall, also as wedding compliments to the president and Branch chairman.

With regard to the future the following suggestion was submitted by the secretary for serious consideration. The Branch now has the recruits and the material to build a strong element of change ringers. Instruction is urgently needed at some of the local towers and assistance would be appreciated at other Branch towers. Could members visit at least one other practice weekly, as well as their own?

ELECTIONS

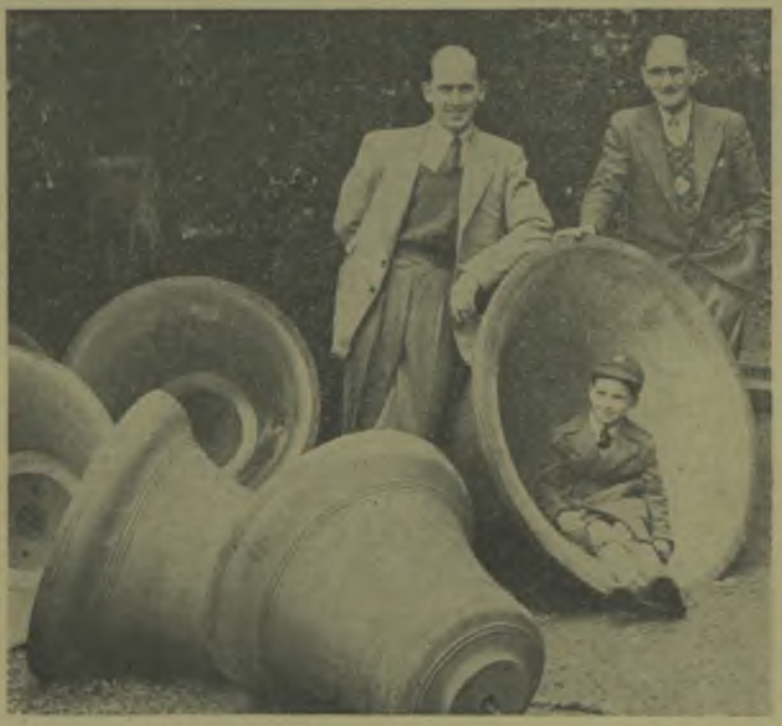
The following officers were re-elected: Hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. F. Wreford; assistant hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. F. Wills; Ringing Master, Mr. E. W. Biffin; General Committee. Messrs. H. Butt, J. Corry and E. W. Biffin.

The president (Prebendary E. V. Cox) presented certificates to the following members of Newton St. Cyres tower: the Misses P. Vicary, J. Williams, A. Williams, Mrs. J. Williams and Mr. D. Sharland. Congratulations were extended both to the instructors and learners at Newton St. Cyres. This was believed to be the first time in the history of the Guild that a mother and two daughters received their certificates together.

New members elected were: G. Tribe (Bratton Flemming); C. Smale (St. Mark's); T. Smith, B. Brokenbrow, Miss P. Gilbert, N. Beckett, S. Flynn, M. Grayer, V. Parcker, V. Seymoor (St. David's); Miss M. Wills, P. Prouse (St. Thomas'); G. H. Williams (Heavitree); G. Hooper, W. Street (Brampford Speke); C. H. Drewett (Unattached). Non-resident life members: Messrs. R. E. Price, T. Price and G. W. Pipe.

Mr. E. J. Ryall tested the feelings of the meeting by suggesting that the Branch, as a whole, should start teaching learners to ring Plain Bob instead of Grandsire, as had been the custom in the past.

Prebendary E. B. Cox agreed that while Bob Doubles and Plain Bob was a good foundation stone for learners, it must be kept in mind that Grandsire was very deeply rooted in the county. It was also agreed that many instructors felt more competent of teaching Grandsire than other methods to a beginner. After much discussion the Rev. C. J. Poulton concluded by saying it must surely depend entirely on the Ringing Master and the band concerned and the matter should be left for their decision.



Cranleigh Family of Ringers for 100 Years.—Three generations of the Charman family of Cranleigh are pictured here with the newly-cast bells of Cranleigh Parish Church. The Charmans have been a ringing family since 1855, commencing with Mr. James Charman, who had a family of six sons, three of whom—William, Harry and Alwyn—became ringers

Of Mr. William Charman's six children, two daughters and three sons—Evelyn, Ida, Cecil, Horace and Gilbert—also became ringers (Evelyn, now in Canada, married a ringer). Mr. Cecil Charman, of the third generation, had two sons, one of whom, Raymond, now rings. Will Keith, pictured here with his father (Raymond) and grandfather, represent the fifth generation of family bellringers?

Our picture shows the bells of St. Nicholas' Parish Church waiting to be rehung after recasting. Left to right are Mr. Raymond Charman, Master Keith Charman and Mr. Cecil Charman. [Photo by permission of 'Surrey Times.'

Boxing Day in Mid-Cornwall

On December 27th eight ringers toured mid-Cornwall, ringing at St. Austell, Lanlivery, Fowey, St. Ewe and Probus. In addition to the standard methods a 'peal' of call changes was rung at St. Austell with local ringers, and courses of Grandsire and Stedman were rung on the handbells of the local band at Lanlivery. The thanks of the party are due to Douglas Burnett, of St. Ewe, for organising the outing so satisfactorily.

PAULERS PURY, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss K. Ballard (first quarter) 1, J. Booth 2, T. E. Roberts 3, P. Foster 4, W. A. Yates (cond.) 5, A. Kingston 6.

B.B.C. SUBSTITUTED OTHER BELLS

Disappointment For Newark Ringers

Recently in the B.B.C. Television Children's Newsreel a film of Newark Parish Church was shown, but the bells that accompanied the film were from another tower.

When the film was made a 40-second recording was taken of Newark bells ringing Grandsire Caters, and in the opinion of Mr. J. W. Raithby, Master of the Newark ringers, 'it was particularly good ringing.'

Substituted by the B.B.C. were eight bells ringing rounds. Said Mr. Raithby to the 'Newark Advertiser': 'In any case it was not very good ringing. The bells were not as rich as ours—they had not enough tone. That is what makes us a bit sore.'

The explanation given by the B.B.C. to the 'Newark Advertiser' is that when the film was edited, it was arranged that the organ music should be faded out and overlapped by the sound of the bells, which provided the climax. But when Newark bells were faded in they clashed so horribly with the organ that they had to be abandoned, and one of the B.B.C.'s 'stock' recordings of bells was 'dubbed in' instead.

It is only, however, in the much shortened 'home consumption' version of the film that alien bells are heard. In the full-length programme for overseas the 'fade in' is not used and the bells heard are Newark's own.

Bedfordshire Young Ringers

A pleasant week-end was spent recently in London by Bedfordshire Young Ringers.

Towers visited were St. Mary's, Holloway; St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green; St. Mary's, Bow-in-the-Road; All Saints', Poplar; St. Olave's, Hart Street; The Priory Church of St. Bartholomew; St. Anne's, Highgate; St. Martin-in-the-Fields and St. Giles-in-the-Fields. At the last-named church, writes R. A. W., 'an immaculate touch of Stedman Triples and fall in peal' was rung.

Watford District's Social

The third annual social of the Watford District held at the Wheatsheaf, Watford, on December 18th, was a great success and was attended by a company numbering 26. An excellent dinner was followed by Messrs. C. and A. Wenban playing a wide selection of tunes on handbells, and touches of Plain Bob Minor and Grandsire Triples were rung. Several members contributed to the general entertainment. 'That's all' came all too soon. Thanks are accorded to Mr. R. G. Bell for again organising this event.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE EDITOR WAS HOAXED!

Dear Sir,—In case Mr. Critchley has contemplated accepting Billy Bunter's offer to stand in the next long peal attempt, perhaps he should be warned that there seems to be something not quite genuine about the letter over his name. As every pre-1939 schoolboy knows, Tom Merry's school is not Greyfriars, but St. Jim's. Greyfriars indeed! Harry Wharton and Co. will have something to say about that!—Yours faithfully,

E. A. B.

THE BEAST AND THE BELL(E)

Dear Sir,—May I say how much I enjoyed and appreciated the libretto of The Beast and the Bell(e). The plot is most 'Gilbertian' and the words fit in perfectly to Sullivan's music. S. A. Hill is undoubtedly a producer of Gilbert and Sullivan operas and, were it not for D'Oyly Carte, copyrights and infringements of. I would say 'Do it well—perform it at the next Central Council meeting.' But as a member of the chorus I would say 'Wot, no chorus'!

J. B. S.

FLOWER NAMES FOR METHODS

Dear Sir,—Mr. D. Mottershead's suggestion that a method be named 'Daffodil Delight'—'thus adding a little variety to the present system of nomenclature'—recalls the controversy over floral names which dragged on through most of the 1920's. The Analysis Committee of the day gave such names to various previously unnamed Treble Bob Minor methods—'Bluebell,' 'Fuchsia,' 'Hyacinth' and similar horrors—and these were eventually changed, thank goodness. Old-established names like 'Primrose' were left, but I trust the others will never be resurrected. 'What,' asked the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' 'will be the comment of an already mystified public when they read that their local ringers have distinguished themselves by ringing their first extent of Geranium Treble Bob?' And later he wondered whether, after flowers, ringers would turn to vegetables and give methods names like Onion Delight or Beetroot Surprise. He summed up one article on the subject with words with which most ringers will agree: 'Such titles are not dignified.'—Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT.

Crayford, Kent.

DUPLICATED NAMES

Dear Sir,—With reference to the figures of Netherton Surprise Major published in your issue of December 24th, 1954, if the method was rung with a 4ths place bob and with 2nds at the lead end, then it is identical with Oxfordshire Surprise Major, first rung at Kidlington on January 17th, 1953. The error is all the more surprising in that the conductor of the (so-called) first peal of 'Netherton' rang in the Kidlington peal of 'Oxfordshire,' which peal is, I believe, still the only one recorded in the method. If this is so, 'Netherton' becomes the second peal of 'Oxfordshire.'—Yours sincerely,

ALAN R. PINK.

Oxford.

Dear Sir,—May I be allowed a little space, as I would like to point out to those concerned that 'Moorside' Surprise Major was first rung at Birmingham on June 10th, 1954, under the name of 'Quinton,' conducted by G. E. Fearn.

Also, assuming that the method 'Netherton' Surprise Major has a 1-2 lead-end, I would say that it was first rung at Kidlington, Oxfordshire, on January 17th, 1953, as 'Oxfordshire,' conducted by Alan R. Pink.

Both methods were published under my name.—Sincerely yours,

E. W. TIPLER.

AUTOMATIC ART (?)

Dear Sir,—Some strange and scarcely factual statements, liable to create false impressions, have recently been made in these columns by correspondents on the subject of Method Making. It may be useful to consider a few examples.

'. . . To have composed a certain method.' Methods, of course, are NOT 'composed.' This misuse of words, especially in ringing matters, has frequently led to discussion almost entirely futile. 'Composing,' in ringing, strictly relates solely to modifying and building-up courses of a method into touches and peals. The composer can thus begin composing only when the method designer has completed his job—a job by no means confined to a half-lead of figures! Methods are 'constructed' or 'designed,' and from 'principles.' (Vide Central Council publications, also the last-quoted example, below.)

'Surprise methods can be written down at a higher rate than one a minute.' Phew! So your correspondent apparently thinks that 'marking the places' in the rows (which, by the way, can be done faster than he says—in fact at the rate of about one row per second, or the whole grid for a Surprise Major method in about a quarter of a minute)—apparently he thinks this constitutes designing a method, and that the art is, therefore, almost automatic! There is, of course, more, far more, to it.

For example, in what time can he extract the false course-heads? Indeed, of what use is a method so churned out if it is found to have six or seven f.c.h.'s, as many designs have? And is, consequently, probably unpealable. Other desirable and intended, qualities, for example musical and textural, make the business of method designing, for general ringing acceptance, highly selective; otherwise far more of the methods hitherto published would have been rung: that is to say, other than those rung simply as 'firsts ever.'

But apart from this vetting of each design as it is unfolded, there remains the question of stage variation; it being a particular advantage to derive a design that will apply 'naturally' to all stages for ringing.

Thus the whole process for any one design may take the investigator anything from a couple of hours to a couple of months or more (depending on what time he can devote to the job and what particular features he is endeavouring to incorporate). But enough on this point has been said to show that the mere writing down of a large number of (or all in some groups) forms of 'method' all based on one 'principle,' e.g., the plain-hunt even-bell group of methods—this does **not** constitute the serious business of selective method design.

'The same number . . . (of claimants) . . . to so-called extensions.' This example shows the need for a lot of clear thinking. There can be no such thing as designing (or even claiming to design) a true or natural extension, once the basic stage is evolved. Since 1950-51 some of us have known that stage-variation of a basic method (though this has not yet been officially recognised) results in either—(a) Unique forms of contraction and/or extension for each stage, such forms being inherent in the basic; or (b) None at all. There can be designed, of course, 'versions' of the extension or contraction, and to these compromised forms the designer's own (or some other distinguishing) name may well have been given. But as to the unique and natural forms, springing inherently from the basic design, they can assume only the basic name, since their 'designing' ended with the basic stage.

'Tradition of claiming . . . a method.' While it is not wished to make out any case for 'claiming' designs, yet your correspondent should revise his ideas about the degree of individual effort attached to the design of a **specific** form of method. In the first place he seems to have forgotten the technical distinction between a method and a principle; which, as the Central Council's dictum tells us, is that the latter is a design in which **all** bells trace out the method pattern; while the former, based on the latter, has one or more bells plain hunting (i.e., the method is what we know as 'hunt-controlled') with only the remainder tracing out the specific pattern of the design. Once the principle has been established, the methods, based on it, may fairly easily be 'written out,' if no selectivity be exercised.

Your correspondents, on this point, seem to have ignored entirely the class of principles, used as methods, such as Stedman and Duffield. In this large and almost enitrely unexplored field (there are, I think, only about a dozen principles so far designed), the construction of method patterns is not easy; but once the new design of **principle** is established, it may well lend itself to adaptations of **method** design.

In the second place your correspondents seem to neglect the art of procedure. It is said that a mathematician once calculated the 'probability' that a number of baboons, continuously chattering throughout a given age-long lapse of time, might utter sounds in sequence that might be recognised as the entire works of Shakespeare. Similarly, a number of babes, scribbling with pencils on pads might conceivably, **in time**, produce all the designs of Wren. Even so, is the art of these great masters to be denied. And on the wholly illogical basis that 'it needed only to be written down'? Far more methods than the '200,000' he mentions may be capable of being produced, but how many of them would qualify for performance?

It is agreed that very few designers have 'claimed' their designs, though their names have sometimes become attached to their work usually by those afterwards ringing and publishing the method. (A fact perhaps scarcely known except by those of us who have experienced it!)—Yours very truly,

A. YORK-BRAMBLE.

Southsea.

He who hesitates will miss his

Ringer's Notebook and Diary, 1955

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STOP PRESS NOTICE

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District. — A.G.M., Jan. 8th, St. Luke's, Chelsea, 3.15. Service 4.30. Own tea. Meeting, Church Hall, 6. Evening ringing to be announced.—J. H. Lott. 5662

ANALYSIS OF MINOR AND DOUBLES RUNG DURING 1953

ASSOCIATION	MINOR																DOUBLES												Minor	Doubles	Total
	35 Methods	25-30 Methods	16-21 Methods	14 Methods	13 Methods	12 Methods	11 Methods	10 Methods	9 Methods	8 Methods	7 Methods	6 Methods	5 Methods	4 Methods	3 Methods	2 Methods	1 Method	42 Methods	21-25 Methods	16-20 Methods	14 Methods	12 Methods	11 Methods	10 Methods	9 Methods	8 Methods	7 Methods	6 Methods	5 Methods	4 Methods	3 Methods	2 Methods	1 Method			
An. Soc. College Yths.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Bath and Wells Dio.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	3	13	14	19	33
Bedfordshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	8	5	13
Coventry Dio. Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	3	4
Chester Diocesan	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	1	6	1	3	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	26	7	33
Cum. & N. Westml'd.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Derbyshire Assn.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	9	3	12
Devonshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	5	3	8
Durham and Newcastle	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	9
East Derbys & Notts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Ely Diocesan	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	2	2	1	2	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	36	4	40
Essex Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	17	1	5	8	5	3	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	2	63	8	71
Gloucester and Bristol	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	7	14	28
Guildford Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	2	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	15	7	22
Hereford Diocesan	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	10	9	15	24
Hertford County	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	1	4	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	23	3	26
Irish Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	3
Kent County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	2	2	2	4	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	4	4	40	14	54
Lancashire Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	6	1	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	29	6	35
Leicester Dio. Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	4	4	18	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	5	28	11	39
Lincoln Dio. Guild	1	—	4	1	1	3	—	1	1	1	19	1	2	8	3	1	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	3	59	6	65
Llandaff & Monmouth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	4	7
Middlesex County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	9	6	15
Midland Counties	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	5	4	9
North Staffs Assn.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	5
North Wales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	4
Norwich Diocesan	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	6	—	2	7	1	2	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	30	1	31
Oxford Dio. Guild	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	2	2	1	2	—	—	1	1	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	2	3	3	1	5	28	19	47
Oxford University Soc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Peterborough Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	3	9	—	2	—	1	1	1	2	1	—	7	2	1	4	3	2	4	18	31	49
St. David's Dio. Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	3
St. Martin's Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	2	9
Salisbury Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	5	5	10
Shropshire Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	2	6
Soc. R. Cum. Youths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Southwell Dio. Guild	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	16	4	20
Stafford Archdeaconry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	9	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	6	15	16	31
Suffolk Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	6	10	10	4	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	52	4	56
Surrey Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	7	5	12
Sussex Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	6	11	9	20
Swansea & Brecon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	5	5
Truro Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	4
Win. and Portsmouth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	6	5	11
Worcester & Districts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	5	8	13
Yorkshire Association	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	2	3	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	19	1	20
Unattached	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	2	9
TOTAL	1	3	8	5	3	6	2	7	5	6	116	10	28	74	57	40	276	1	6	2	2	3	1	5	4	5	17	8	11	17	21	40	129	647	272	919

BOXING DAY IN NORTH DEVON

On Boxing Day, despite 'much hill fog and fairly persistent drizzle,' an outing in the South Molton area was much enjoyed by about a dozen ringers and friends from Devon and Somerset. The trip was organised by Wilf Panter with his usual efficiency, and although the anticipated 'trials section' was omitted this time, the district provided good practice for the navigation experts.

During the morning about half-an-hour's ringing took place at each of the following towers: Meshaw (6), Romansleigh (6), Mariansleigh (6) and Bishop's Nympton (6). A short drive brought the party to the Anchor, South Molton, where Mine Host is himself a ringer, and a welcome repast of hot pasties and liquid refreshment according to individual taste.

The first tower after tea was Rose Ash, where there is a lovely little six and a tablet recording the fact that the living was held by the same family consecutively from 1675 to 1948. Then on to the rather rough six at Knowstone and the lumpy five at Molland. The last tower (and incidentally the writer's 1,100th), East Anstey (6), provided the comedy act of the day Whilst ringing up, the rope of the third broke below the sally and became entangled in the guides. As no ladder was available, a well-known stalwart from the Exeter area was prevailed upon to act in this capacity, and the organiser scaled his sturdy back to retrieve the rope. After a temporary repair to the rope half-an-hour's ringing was enjoyed to complete the programme. After 'Goodbye' and 'Happy New Year' the party dispersed, grateful to Wilf and the various incumbents and locals who had contributed to a very happy day.

Methods rung were Bob Minimus, Doubles and Minor, Grandsire, Stedman and Reverse Canterbury Doubles and Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor as well as a few call changes at Molland.

E. T. P. F.

MR. S. A. CHAMBERS' 100 PEALS

Mr. S. A. Chambers, of Lincoln, has completed his first hundred peals. His list is appended:—

Doubles.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 1.

Minor.—Four methods 1, five methods 1, seven methods 1, Cambridge Surprise 2.

Triples.—Stedman 7, Grandsire 2, Erin 1.

Major.—Plain Bob 3, Little Bob 1, Oxford Treble Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 1, Double Norwich Court Bob 3, Erith Little Bob 1, Combined Kent and Oxford Treble Bob 1.

Surprise Major.—Cambridge 4, London 13, Superlative 2, Bristol 4, Yorkshire 2, one each of Rutland, Jersey, Dublin, St. Giles', Runnymede, Watford, New Cambridge; Spliced: two methods, four methods, six methods, 32 methods.

Caters.—Stedman 3.

Royal.—Kent Treble Bob 1, Cambridge 5, Yorkshire 3, Oakham 2, Pudsey 1.

Cinques.—Stedman 16, Erin 1, Grandsire 1.

Maximus.—Cambridge 2, Yorkshire 1.

ALDBOURNE, WILTS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Cuss 1, G Newman 2, B. Bladon 3, C. Wood 4, C. Savage 5, A. Palmer 6, F. Read (cond.) 7, H. Palmer 8. First quarter for 1 and 8.

AMERSHAM, BUCKS.—On Dec. 26th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Miss W. M. Nice (first quarter) 1, E. C. Ayres 2, L. Haddon 3, C. J. Chalwin 4, M. Hatchett 5, W. E. Redrup (cond.) 6. A birthday compliment to Miss W. M. Nice. Also as a welcome home from hospital and a 16th birthday compliment to Robert John Redrup, son of the conductor.

BATH.—At the Abbey Church, on Dec. 19th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Hallett 1, W. J. Prescott 2, H. D. Taylor 3, S. A. Read (first in the method) 4, G. J. Hawkins 5, W. F. J. Cope 6, E. Naylor (cond.) 7, H. J. Merrett 8.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss A. Bailey 1, Miss J. Coates 2, H. M. White 3, R. Hayden 4, H. Bird 5, E. Rochester 6, F. Bird (cond.) 7, C. Warboys 8. Rung for the ordination of the Rev. Peter Minall, curate.

CHELSEA, S.W.—At St. Luke's, on Dec. 26th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. Langdon 1, Miss J. M. R. Atkins 2, Miss V. E. Dupré 3, R. Mackrill 4, C. M. Meyer 5, A. F. Udall (cond.) 6, C. W. Ottley 7, J. H. Lott 8.

CHELSFIELD, KENT.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Margaret Barker (first quarter) 1, Bridget Cox 2, D. Manger (first 'inside') 3, V. Webster 4, J. Parker (cond.) 5, A. Smith 6. For Matins. Also on Dec. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Smith 1, D. Manger 2, Bridget Cox 3, V. Webster 4, J. Parker (cond.) 5, S. Manger 6. For Evensong.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.—At the Cathedral, on Dec. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. V. Vick 1, R. G. Blackman 2, Mrs. G. W. Tamplin 3, Pauline M. Saxton 4, P. R. Blackman (cond.) 5, W. J. Smith 6, E. Winifred Keys 7, M. G. Woolgar 8. First quarter by 1 and 8.

CHURCHILL, OXON.—On Dec. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss M. Hoverd 1, J. Keyte 2, R. Jarvis 3, S. Pulker 4, I. Harris (cond.) 5, C. Tompkins 6. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. Clarke on the birth of a daughter.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,320 Stedman Doubles: F. W. Croft (cond.) 1, G. Cherry 2, R. Head 3, K. C. Timbury 4, P. W. Croft 5, S. Ashton 6.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.—At the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity, on Dec. 26th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: T. W. White 1, A. H. Pulling 2, T. W. Tomlinson 3, W. J. Robinson (cond.) 4, R. H. Hutton 5, John Cooper 6, F. A. Munday 7, C. A. Hopper 8. Rung as a farewell to the conductor, a member of the tower since 1926, who is leaving for Bedfordshire.

HARWELL, BERKS.—On Nov 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss B. Corderoy 1, D. Jordan (cond.) 2, D. Bosley 3, A. Gee 4, W. Gilks 5, Miss M. Luker 6, W. Corderoy 7, F. Corderoy 8. Rung with 4, 6, 8 covering as an 80th birthday compliment to Sir Winston Churchill. Also on Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss M. Luker 1, D. Jordan (cond.) 2, D. Bosley 3, A. Gee 4, W. Gilks 5, Miss E. Mulford 6, W. Corderoy 7, F. Corderoy 8. Rung for morning service with 4, 6, 8 covering, and as a compliment to Miss E. Aldridge on her retirement as church organist (37 years) and still teaching in Sunday School after 40 years' service.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss E. Pearson (first quarter) 1, F. Bowden 2, Mrs. F. Bowden 3, Miss M. Goode 4, Miss M. Cox 5, C. N. Pearson (cond.) 6, H. Gauntlett 7, J. Clark 8.

HEADINGTON, OXON.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Doubles (120 Clifford Pleasure, 120 Southrepps, 120 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 180 Plain Bob, 120 April Day, 120 Old, 120 Norfolk, 240 Grandsire, 120 Reverse St. Bartholomew): R. Brown (first away from tenor) 1, V. Green 2, J. Hadfield 3, R. Trebilcock 4, T. Smith (cond.) 5, J. Crookshank (first quarter) 6. First in nine methods for all and believed to be the first on the bells.

HENLOW, BEDS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Bob Minor: A. Gentle 1, Miss J. Dear 2, Miss D. J. Hare 3, G. Mayes 4, A. W. Dilley 5, L. H. Bywaters (cond.) 6.

HERSHAM, SURREY.—On Dec. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Ann Brown (first quarter) 1, Pam Collis 2 Judy Dodson 3, C. W. R. Grimwood 4, Mrs. R. Lathbury 5, R. Lathbury 6, J. F. Dodson (cond.) 7, H. Colcombe 8.

QUARTER PEALS

HIGHER WALTON, LANCS.—On Dec. 7th, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: B. G. Henry 1, J. Taberner 2, J. Hodson (first quarter) 3, W. Mansley 4, M. Calderbank 5, F. Stead (cond.) 6. Rung in honour of the 78th birthday of Mr. Charles Clarke, who, until his retirement in 1949, had been a ringer at this church for 55 years.

HORSELL, SURREY.—On Dec. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss P. Drury 1, Miss D. Gibbins 2, E. R. Warner 3, J. Martin 4, G. Oliver (cond.) 5, W. Saunders 6.

LANE END, BUCKS.—On Dec. 25th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. Hagger 1, S. Smith 2, W. Avery 3, R. Wright 4, W. Woodward 5, K. Seymour (cond.) 6.

LEWKNOR, OXON.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Doubles (240 St. Martin's, 240 St. Simon's, 360 Plain Bob, 120 April Day, 300 Grandsire): W. Fulker 1, J. Godman 2, F. Godden 3, R. Tuckwell 4, F. Absolom (cond.) 5, E. Morris 6. First in 5 methods by all the band. Rung for the wedding anniversary of the treble ringer.

LOIS WEEDON, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 17th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: G. Shellard 1, W. J. Chester 2, Miss E. Mounfield 3, M. Saunders 4, B. Saunders 5, W. A. Yates (cond.) 6.

MARCH, CAMBS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. Leeden 1, R. Taylor (first quarter) 2, W. Moore, junr. 3, T. A. Bevis (cond.) 4, F. S. Parsons 5, J. Moore, senr. 6. Rung after the evening service of thanksgiving of the restoration of the 'angel' roof. Also a compliment to the Rev. A. C. Turnbull on his 21st anniversary of ordination.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.—On Dec. 16th, at Emmanuel Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Reg. Perkins (first of Triples) 1, G. Goddard 2, F. R. Hocking (first of Triples 'inside') 3, H. H. Thomas 4, W. J. Harvey 5, T. G. Myers 6, J. P. Sims (cond.) 7, Reg. Woods 8.

PORTHKERRY, GLAM.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Doubles (St. Nicholas', St. Simon's, Reverse Canterbury, Southrepps, Plain Bob, Grandsire): C. Pruce (first quarter) 1, H. Green 2, M. Williams 3, L. J. Malings 4, G. Francis (cond.) 5.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. B. Lufkin (cond.) 1, Miss M. Jeffreys 2, B. Cook 3, P. Sadler 4, F May 5, D. Coombes 6, P. King 7, J. Binks 8. Rung for Youth Carol Service. Also on Dec. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss A. Lufkin (first quarter) 1, L. Beal 2, B. Sadler 3, F. B. Lufkin (cond.) 4, J. Belcham 5, D. Coombes 6, P. Sadler 7, C. R. Chambers 8. Rung for Nativity play.

STAFFORD, STAFFS.—At St. Mary's Church, on Dec. 21st, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: R. J. Warrilow (cond.) 1, F. R. Wiggin 2, F. Eley 3, C. Hone 4, R. Mowforth 5, A. E. Garbett 6, J. Moore 7, N. Holland 8. First in method for 2 and 4. Rung with bells half-muffled in memoriam J. J. Taylor, one time head ringer at St. Mary's, who died at Wellingborough and was interred at Castle Church, Stafford, this day.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations towards meeting the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—E. T. P. F. 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Llangattock-Vibon-Avel 6s., Over 4s., Horsmonden 3s., Norton-Cuckney 3s., St. Bride's Major 3s., Hitchin 5s., Erdington 4s., Kenilworth 3s., Acton 7s. 6d., Bloomsbury 4s., North Weald 3s., Chichester 5s., Compton Bishop 3s., Bristol 6s., Dunkerton 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Hersham 1s. 6d., Lois Weedon 2s., Wicken 4s., Sulgrave 2s., Paulers Pury 2s., Steeple Claydon 3s., Trull 1s. 6d., Bishop's Stortford 2s. 6d., Stafford 2s. 6d., Lewknor 2s., Watford 5s., Stourbridge 2s., Somerton 3s., Amersham 2s. 6d., Aldbourne 3s. 6d., Plymouth 4s., Porthkerry 2s. 6d., Lane End 2s., South Croydon 4s., Haslemere 2s. 6d., Stratton St. Margaret 2s., Chichester 2s. 6d., Stratford St. Mary 2s. 6d., Chelsfield 2s. 6d., Horsell 2s., Churchill 2s. 6d., Erdington 2s.

STAINES, MIDDLX.—On Dec. 4th, 1,379 Doubles (120 each of Stedman, St. Simon's and St. Martin's, St. Simon's and Braywood, St. Simon's and Rugby, St. Simon's and Plain Bob, St. Nicholas' and Winchendon Place, St. Nicholas' and Findenhall, St. Nicholas' and Longford, Reverse St. Bartholomew and All Saints', Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob, Candlesby and Boxford, 60 of Grandsire): Audrey Butler 1, D. W. Stone 2, W. Butler (cond.) 3, J. C. Birt 4, P. R. Aslett 5, F. R. Scott 6. First in 16 methods by all except conductor.

SOMERTON, SOMERSET.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. Sweet 1, Stella Allen 2, F. J. White 3, Mrs. L. Crocker 4, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 5, A. Bown 6.

SOUTH CROYDON, SURREY.—On Dec. 24th, at the Church of St. Peter, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Franklin 1, J. Relf 2, Miss M. Christopher 3, Mrs. P. Vowles 4, P. Davis (cond.) 5, T. Blow 6, J. Hayward 7, W. Brownett 8. For 11.30 p.m. Communion Service.

STEEPLE CLAYDON, BUCKS.—On Dec. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Hodges 1, A. Hodges 2, V. G. Phillips (cond.) 3, N. Townsend 4, F. W. Thorpe 5, A. Phillips 6. Rung as a compliment to A. Hodges, a member of the tower, on completion of 50 years' service with the London Brick Company.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.—On December 19th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. Dodd 1, F. S. Dodd 2, F. Dyson 3, A. Gordon 4, W. Shaw (cond.) 5, A. S. Gordon 6, D. Sharp 7. Birthday compliment to ringer of 3rd.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—At St. Thomas' Church, on Dec. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Smith (first on treble) 1, D. J. Midgley (aged 13) 2, Jill Tombs 3, F. V. Nicholls 4, F. B. Cookson 5, D. N. Layton (cond.) 6, R. Cooper 7, D. H. Watson 8. Rung for Evensong.

STRATFORD ST. MARY, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: G. W. Barnes 1, R. Sollis (first quarter) 2, D. Andrews 3, F. Erith 4, W. Bailey 5, P. G. Barnes (cond.) 6. A compliment to R. Sollis and P. G. Barnes on their engagement.

STRATTON-ST.-MARGARET, WILTS.—On Dec. 18th, 1,472 Yorkshire Surprise Major: C. Savage 1, W. B. Kynaston 2, B. Bladon 3, H. Alexander 4, A. Peake 5, W. Trueman 6, G. Burton 7, A. R. Pink (cond.) 8. Rung for the engagement of Anthony Peake and Pam Tichener.

SULGRAVE, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 18th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: G. Shellard 1, W. J Chester 2, M. Saunders 3, L. E. Wootton (first of Minor) 4, W. A. Yates 5, B. Saunders (first as conductor) 6.

TRULL, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 780 Grandsire): Beryl Churchill 1, M. Noad 2, P. Crudge 3, B. Vine 4, H. Churchill (cond.) 5, G. Perry 6. First in 2 methods by all except conductor. Rung as a farewell to M. Noad, who is leaving the district.

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss A. Ing (first in method) 1, F. W. Goodfellow 2, V. J. Mitchell 3, H. W. Impey 4, A. R. Turley 5, F. Corke (cond.) 6, W. H. Coles 7, R. Harris 8. For evening service and to mark the second anniversary of the rededication of the bells. Also on Dec. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss A. Ing 1, P. Phillips 2, H. W. Impey (cond.) 3, V. J. Mitchell 4, R. Harris 5, J. Ing 6. For the service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

WALSALL, STAFFS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Rosemary V. Smith 1, Ann Barr 2, Stella Hughes (cond.) 3, Samela R. Thomas 4, Jane Cotterill 5, M. Jill Fisher 6. Rung prior to a carol service by members of the Ladies' Guild.

WARBOROUGH, OXON.—On Dec. 18th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob, Grandsire): W. Absolom 1, J. Godman 2, F. Goden 3, F. Absolom (cond.) 4, W. Fulker (first 'inside') 5, R. Tuckwell 6.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Dec. 21st, 1,263 Stedman Caters: D. K. Adkins 1, W. Wenban 2, S. Hoare 3, J. R. Mayne (cond.) 4, W. Paul 5, E. Durrant 6, R. Rowley 7, J. Rootes 8, R. Bell 9, K. Dunstan 10.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 18th, 1,344 London Surprise Major: F. Vickers 1, W. J. Chester 2, W. A. Yates 3, T. E. Roberts 4, H. E. Edwards 5, F. C. Case 6, G. W. Holland 7, G. E. Green (first in method as conductor) 8.

OBITUARY

MR. FREDERICK TIMBRELL

Mr. Frederick Timbrell, of Chipping, Lancs, died on December 26th at the home of his son whilst on Christmas holiday. He would have been 88 on December 29th, and was the eldest of three ringing brothers who rang handbell peals together in 1898.

His activities were numerous, such as 59 years secretary to the Queen Adelaide Lodge of Oddfellows, clerk to the Parish Council, churchwarden and village postman. Mr. Timbrell had not rung for a number of years but maintained his interest by scanning the peal columns of 'The Ringing World,' looking for any of his brothers' peals being rung. These he carefully cut out and pasted in books which he compiled about local happenings.

He joined the Lancashire Association in 1892 and was the oldest member at the time of his death. He leaves a married son, his wife having died about two years ago.

The funeral took place at Chipping on December 30th and was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. A. Nye, who described Fred Timbrell as the grand old man of Chipping and a Christian gentleman. The Lancashire Association was represented by the vice-president, and Oddfellow brethren acted as bearers. It is regretted that owing to short notice it was not possible to arrange a handbell band to make the journey to Chipping. E. R. M.

MR. J. J. TAYLOR

We regret to report the death on December 17th, at Wellingborough, of Mr. J. J. Taylor, who had a long association with St. Mary's Church, Stafford, and was well known as a ringer in the Midlands.

He was taught to ring at Brewood at the end of the last century and joined St. Mary's, Stafford, early in the present century. Later he was appointed head ringer, which position he held until leaving Stafford for Northampton in 1928. He was devoted to the ringing of church bells and taught many to become ringers. He returned to Stafford a few years ago and again rang at St. Mary's Church. On the death of his wife he went to live with his son at Wellingborough and it was there he passed peacefully away.

The funeral service was held at St. Mary's, Stafford, on December 21st, and to his memory a quarter peal of Plain Bob Major was rung on the bells of St. Mary's. So to his rest passed one who had given of his best to ringing and to the service of his church.

MR. G. NOWELL

We regret to record the passing of Mr. G. Nowell, of Radcliffe-on-Trent, Notts, , on December 14th at the great age of 87 years.

George, as he was known to his friends, had been a ringer at Radcliffe Parish Church for 65 years and had been captain for most of the time since 1892. Never an enthusiast for peal ringing he was a regular attender for service ringing, and at Evensong a constant and familiar figure in the pew he regarded as his place in the church. George was a 'tower of strength.' His services to ringing were marked when the Southwell Diocesan Guild made him a life honorary member in 1946.

The funeral, which took place on December 17th at his own church, was attended by the chairman, secretary and treasurer of the Southwell Guild, as well as members of the Radcliffe band.

During the evening a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled by the following band: S. Loach 1, A. C. Lygo 2, C. Glenn (conductor) 3, J. Hoodless 4, C. Burrill 5, W. Nichols 6, C. Knapp 7, J. Ancliffe 8. A. C. L.

NOTICES

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Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

BIRTHS

GIPSON.—At Cambridge on Thursday, Dec. 30th, 1954, to Joan (nee Cook) and John, a daughter (Catherine Elisabeth). 5658

HIBBERT.—On Dec. 22nd, 1954, at Stepping Hill Hospital, to Frances Muriel (nee Laflin), wife of Arthur Hibbert, of 3, Jubilee Road, The Horderns, Chapel-en-le-Frith, a daughter, Elizabeth Anne. 5608

HOWARD.—On Thursday, Dec. 30th, 1954, at Coopers Lane, Bramley, near Basingstoke, to Rosemary and Denis, a daughter, Caroline Mary, sister for Charlotte Elizabeth. 5638

ENGAGEMENT

CORBY—CREWE.—The engagement is announced between R. Gordon Corby, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Corby, 6, Grove Avenue, Vicars Cross, Chester, and M. Roselyn Crewe, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Crewe, 24, Elmwood Avenue, Hoole, Chester. 5653

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

YOUNG COUPLE (ringers) urgently require unfurnished accommodation anywhere.—Reply Box 5635, 'Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford. 5635

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr. W. A. Farmer (Shrewsbury) is now resident at 15, Leckhampton Road, Cheltenham. Shropshire Association correspondence until Jan. 29th to Mr. A. Pritchard, 51, Hadley Park Road, Hadley. 5616

HANDBELLS WANTED

A LOW-PRICED set of 6 to 8 handbells required; bells and clappers must be sound, but leather immaterial. Full particulars of price, size, etc., please, to P. J. Shipton, 16A, Kimbolton Road, Bedford. (Tel. 5417.) 5613

PUBLICATIONS

A FEW COPIES remain of 'The Church Bells of Flintshire,' 3s. 6d.; 'Ayrshire,' 3s. 6d.; 'Stirlingshire,' 3s.; 'Scottish Rings of Bells,' 2s. All post free from the author, Ranald Clouston, Swanslea, Westerfield, near Ipswich, Suffolk. 5464

MEETINGS

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Frome Branch.—Annual meeting at Chewton Mendip, Saturday, Jan. 8th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—E. Chivers, Chilcompton. 5583

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT R.S.—Meeting at Hedon on Saturday, Jan. 8th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 (price 3s.). Names for tea to Mr. C. H. Hunter, 2, Kings Place, George Street, Hedon, near Hull. 5607

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Withyham (8), Jan. 8th. Names for tea to H. Vaughan, 17, Balls Green, Withyham, Hartfield. — C. A. Bassett. 5601

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Cambridge District.—Annual meeting at Cambridge, Saturday, Jan. 8th. Bells: R.C. 2-3 p.m.; Great St. Andrew's 3-4.30 p.m. and service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. St. Andrew's Parish Room, Emmanuel Road. St. Mary's bells after tea.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 5587

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western.—Annual general meeting, Brentwood, Jan. 8th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by meeting. 5531

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District.—Quarterly meeting at Headcorn, Saturday, Jan. 8th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. 5569

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Wigan Branch and Liverpool Branch.—A joint meeting will be held at Wigan Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 8th. Bells 2.30 p.m. No arrangements for tea; cafes close by.—W. O. Farrimond and P. Cave, Hon. Branch Secs. 5609

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—Monthly practice meeting at Burton-in-Kendal, Westmorland, Saturday, Jan. 8th, at 2.30. Tea 4.30. Names for tea to A. Cosson, 5, Barton Row, Burton-in-Kendal, via Carnforth.—R. F. Eccles, Branch Sec. 5610

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch (Lincoln District).—Annual meeting at Sleaford (8) on Saturday, Jan. 8th.—C. Brown, Hon. Sec. 5580

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Quarterly at Swalcliffe (6), Jan. 8th. Service 4. Tea 5. Please notify E. C. Pearson, Adderbury West. Phone: Adderbury 350. 5535

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Winter meeting, Bushbury, Wolverhampton, Jan. 8th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. 5574

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District. — Practice meeting, All Saints', West Ham (10), Wednesday, Jan. 12th, 6.30-8 p.m. Everyone welcome.—Bullock, Dis. Sec. 5622

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting, Ship, Talbot Court, Jan. 15th, 6 p.m. Ringing St. Mary's, Putney, 3.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck. 5606

BARNSLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual meeting, Barnsley, Jan. 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Short service 4.15. Tea 5. Those requiring tea must notify me not later than Jan. 12th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 18, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley. 5648

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Chew Deanery.—Meeting at Ubley, Jan. 15th. Bells 3 o'clock. Divine service 3.30 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 5630

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Glaston Branch.—Annual at St. John's, Glastonbury, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting. Notify tea by Tuesday, 11th, certain.—William March, Dovecotes, Street. 5631

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Luton District.—Annual meeting at Luton on Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Business meeting 4.30 p.m. A good attendance, please.—Dennis Knox. 5650

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Crewe Branch.—Annual meeting, Crewe, Jan. 15th. Bells (10) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea **must** be received by Jan. 12th.—W. Kerr, 102, Moreton Road, Crewe. 5639

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Stockton (10) on Saturday, Jan. 15th, at 3 p.m. Tea in vestry at 5 p.m.—P. W. B. Semmens, Hon. Sec. 5620

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly meeting, Allesley, near Coventry, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. followed by business meeting.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton. 5649

DEVON GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—St. Michael's, Teignmouth, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Usual arrangements.—A. L. Bennett, Cornerways, Buckfastleigh. 5633

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—West Hartlepool (Stranton). Saturday, Jan. 15th, 3 p.m. Names for tea, by Jan. 13th, to Mr. W. Maugham, 1, Powell Street, West Hartlepool. 5619

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Hunts District.—Annual meeting at Huntingdon, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells: Godmanchester 2.30-4 p.m.; All Saints' 4-4.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. at All Saints'. Tea 5 o'clock All Saints' Hall. All Saints' and St. Mary's towers available after tea.—H. S. Peacock. Dis. Sec. 5647

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Annual meeting, Hawkhurst, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Tea notifications by Jan. 12th, to G. Billenness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Hawkhurst. 5617

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting, Upchurch (6), Saturday, Jan. 15th. Service 4.30. Bell from 3 p.m. Names for tea to me by Tuesday, Jan. 11th.—Cyril S. Jarrett, Hon. Sec., 1, Blenheim Avenue, Chatham. 5615

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next Rossendale Branch meeting will be held at Bacup, Christ Church, on Saturday, January 15th. Tower open for ringing at 5. Free tea at 5. Meeting in tower at 6. Members and non-members are cordially invited. Those requiring tea please notify (not later than Wednesday) Mr. J. Walsh, 21, Beech Street, Bacup.—J. Porter, Branch Sec. 5643

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Blackburn Branch.—Annual Branch meeting at Clitheroe on Jan. 15th. Bells from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 5646

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness & Lake District Branch.—Practice meeting, St. Martin's Church, Bowness, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to F. Wilson, Woodside, Bank Road, Windermere.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec. 5645

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Market Harborough bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. F. Wallington, St. Mary's Road, Market Harborough.—L. W. Allen. 5637

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Annual general meeting, Syston, Jan. 15th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. Names, by the 13th, please, to E. F. Payne, 6, The Green. 5654

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Gainsborough District.—The annual meeting will be held at Gainsborough on Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15. Tea for those who notify me by Tuesday previous.—George L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. Tel. 2623. 5612

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Service, tea and meeting. Further ringing All Jan. 15th, St. Mary-atte-Bow (8), 3-4.30 p.m. Saints', West Ham (10), 6.30 p.m. Names for tea, not later than Jan. 13th, to L. W. Bullock, 35, Walmer Close, Romford, Essex. 5623

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD. — Annual meeting, Burton, All Saints', Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells 2.30. Tea in All Saints' Schoolroom 4.45, followed by meeting. Parish Church bells available after meeting. All ringers welcome.—J. W. Cotton. Overseale 264. 5591

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held at Wymondham on Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea in Vicarage Room at 5 p.m. followed by business meeting. Names or numbers for tea must be sent on or before Wednesday, Jan. 12th, to H. Tooke, 11, Long Row, The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk. 5596

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Kettering Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held at Kettering (10) on Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15. Tea will be free to current Branch members. Names for tea, not later than Tuesday previous, to D. Haynes, 5, London Road, Kettering. 5588

SALISBURY GUILD. — Calne Branch. — Annual meeting, Wootton Bassett (8), Jan. 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea essential. — E, Brooks, 14, Templars Firs, Wootton Bassett, Wilts. 5636

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual meeting to be held at Selby Abbey, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells (10) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (moderate charge) 5 p.m. Names for tea, on or before Jan. 13th, to Mr. T. H. Foster, 15, Portholme Drive, Selby.—L. M. Woodhead. Hon. Sec. 5634

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual general meeting at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Saturday, January 15th. Bells available: St. Giles', Cripplegate (City) (12), 2.30–4 p.m.: St. Martin-in-the-Fields 3.30–5 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., St. Martin's Canteen, followed by meeting in Vestry Hall. Names for tea, by Tuesday, Jan. 11th, please, to Mrs. C. J. Matthews, 177, Engadine Street, Southfields, S.W.18.—P. N. Bond, Hon. Sec. 5526

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD. — Newark District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 15th, at Newark (10). Bells 3 p.m. Service in choir 4.30. Tea (own arrangements) 5-6. Meeting in belfry 6. Ringing until 8 p.m.—S. L. Barley. 5652

SUFFOLK GUILD. — Sudbury-Lavenham District.—Annual meeting, Sudbury, Jan. 15th. Bells 2.30. Names for tea to Mr. A. J. Haynes, 68, Queen's Road, Sudbury.—L. D. Mills, Dis. Sec. 5611

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Annual meeting at Dorking on Jan. 15th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. Names for tea, by Jan. 12th, to Miss E. Clear, Murree, Lonsdale Road, Dorking. 5632

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Newick, Jan. 15th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Names for tea, by Jan. 12th, to C. W. Linington, 11, Queen's Drive, Hassocks. 5618

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Northern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Cradley, Saturday, Jan. 15th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. followed by tea and business.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Lane, Stourbridge.

DEVON GUILD. — East Devon Branch. — Harpford, Jan. 22nd. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business after. Names for tea not later than Jan. 18th.—J. Arbury, Belmont, Ottery St. Mary, Devon. 5621

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—Annual general meeting at Harlow Town (8) on Saturday, Jan. 22nd at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Queen's Head 5.15 p.m. Names, please, to G. Blake, Dis. Sec., Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow, Essex. 5624

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. —Annual meeting, Halstead, Jan. 22nd. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea, by Wednesday, 19th, please, to Miss H. G. Snowden, 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead. 5629

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS. — South-West Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Lifton on Jan. 22nd. Names for tea, by Jan. 17th, to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth. 5548

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Annual District meeting at Leatherhead on Jan. 22nd. Bells from 3. Service 4.30. Tea in the Church Hall 5.15, with business to follow. Numbers for tea, by Jan. 19th, to G. Marriner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead. 5642

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—**Important Preliminary Notice.**—The annual general meeting of the Kent Branch will be held at Canterbury Cathedral on Jan. 22nd, Ringing to commence at 2 p.m. and Evensong at 3.15 p.m. Tea 4.30. Names, by Jan. 15th, please, to Mr. B. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. All ladies welcome, gentlemen cordially invited.—Jill Haffenden, Hon. Sec. 5585

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bolton Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Bolton Parish, Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Other Branches welcome. Business 6. Names for free tea to V. Martin, 413, Crompton Way, Bolton. — J. Thornley, Hon. Sec. 5614

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—Ringing meeting at the Town Hall (Lloyd Street entrance), Saturday, Jan. 22nd, at 3 p.m. Nearby cafes. All welcome. Note change of date.—R. Benson (DIDsbury 6747). 5640

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Stratton Audley (5 bells), Jan. 22nd, 2.30. Service 4. Tea 5. Bicester (8) 7.15 p.m. Names for tea, by Jan. 17th, to C. Kinch, Causeway, Bicester.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD. — Wellingborough Branch.—Annual meeting at Wellingborough on Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Mrs. J. King, 53, Leys Road, Wellingborough. 5641

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Culworth Branch.—Annual meeting, Culworth, Saturday, Jan 22nd. Service 4 p.m. Please notify Hon. Sec., not later than Tuesday previous, of those requiring tea.—A. E. R. Walker, Hon. Sec., Eydon, Rugby. 5644

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Annual meeting, Salisbury, Jan. 22nd. Service, St. Thomas', 4. Tea and meeting 4.45. Bells: St. Martin's 1-3.30, 7-8.30; St. Paul's 2-3.45, 8-9; St. Thomas' 6-8. Names for tea, by Jan. 19th, please, to Miss Eloie, 66, Hamilton Road, Salisbury. 5604

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Annual District meeting, Jan. 22nd. at Immanuel, Streatham (8). Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 in Church Hall. Names, by Wednesday previous, please, to Mrs. O. Collins, 17, Hamilton Road, Thornton Heath. Business includes nominations for general officers. St. Leonard's bells (8) after. —W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 5625

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Next general meeting at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, Leeds, on Jan. 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. General committee meet 3 p.m. in Church Schools. Tea (2s. 6d. per head) 5 p.m. on same premises. Names, by 20th, to A. Johnson, 7, Weetwood Lane, Leeds 16. Service 4.15 p.m. General meeting in Schools after tea.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford 9. 5626

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL RINGERS. — Annual dinner will take place on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Tickets (8s. each) from Michael Sprackling, Victoria Rooms, Clifton, Bristol 8. Ringing times to follow. All welcome. 5628

(Late Notices on back page)

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LATE NOTICES

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District. — Annual meeting, St. Albans, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells: St. Peter's (10) 3 p.m., Cathedral (12) after tea. Tea 5 p.m.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 5657

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD. —Annual meeting at Portsea on Saturday, Jan. 15th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names by Jan. 12th to F. W. Rogers, 179, Chatsworth Avenue, Cosham. 5655

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Eastern Division.—The annual general meeting will be held at Writtle on Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting. Numbers for tea to A. Everett, Plantation Road, Boreham. 5659

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Western District. — Annual general meeting, Jan. 22nd, St. Mary's, Hemel Hempstead (8) 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. Cartwright, Miswell Orchard, Miswell Lane, Tring, Herts, by the 17th.—R. Shutter, Dis. Sec. 5660

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD— Daventry Branch.—Annual meeting, Daventry, Jan. 22nd. Important—Names for tea must reach me by Saturday, Jan. 15th. — F. W. Hancock, Church View, Willoughby, Rugby.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Southern District.—No suitable tower available for this month. Next meeting at Harbury, Feb. 5th, followed by social 7.30 p.m. Details later. —H. M. Windsor, Hon. Sec. 5656

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