THE RINGING WORLD

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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BEAUTY AND THE BELFRY

WHO was the first lady ringer? Did she ring for the return of Charles II., perhaps? — 'Zounds, wench, hast handled thy bell passing well, i' faith!' Or were her first attempts attended by the admiring comments of Regency bucks? — 'Egad, m'lady, I vow this pretty rope all tangled round thy neck becomes thee mightily!'

Whoever she was, she showed the way to such a host of followers that it is hardly possible nowadays to enter a belfry without finding a representative of the weaker sex, either sitting mouselike in a corner among the cobwebs, or telling the conductor that he changed course with the tenor in the last touch of Stedman. The latter regrettable state of affairs has become more common since women have learnt that heated argument after the touch has broken down does not necessarily mean a complete knowledge of the method on the part of the arguers. Women are suited by nature to this sort of belfrymanship, and join in it with enthusiasm.

Female bell-ringers are of many and various types, and their progress is very erratic. Let us broadmindedly admit that, given the ideal form of transport and the ideal ringing boy-friend (if such a thing exists), these ladies may attain astonishing heights in a comparatively short space of time. Many a steady-going ringer, having assisted a timid female through her first touch of Bob Doubles, with fatherly encouragement, has been horrified to find himself curtly corrected in Cambridge Major by the same girl in the same tower twelve months later—though admittedly these are extreme cases and fortunately rare.

Many women are pushed into ringing in the first place by the efforts of so-called friends. At this stage they are either blue-eyed fluffy-haired little creatures, who cling to a sally as frantically as they did to their escort's arm on the way up to the belfry, or excitable 'teenagers, who frankly 'couldn't care less,' break a stay on the slightest provocation, and flock out, in a shower of giggles after the practice, to make a night of it at the nearest milk-bar. At this point, the writer pauses uneasily to wonder in which of these classes she belonged.

As the fair beginners pursue their ringing career, subtle differences begin to appear in them, and they blossom out as various rare and distinct specimens of the Lady Ringer.

It is difficult to know where to begin in describing the types of Lady Ringer. There is, of course, the Perfect Lady Ringer, on whom the writer looks with hopeless envy and admiration: she is neatly dressed, well made up, and she conducts Yorkshire Royal without a hair out of place—a joy to behold.

Proceeding downwards from these heights, one graduates by degrees to the lowest depths—about which the less said the better. Well, we may not be competent down here, but we're happy. Somewhere in between these extremes are some interesting species, such as the Lady Tenor Ringer; sometimes large and commanding with a fine carrying voice and a laugh like the last trump, sometimes small and deceptively gentle and fragile-seeming, until you see her swinging a thirty-four hundredweight tenor down into five-pull dodging on the front, as if she were doing crochet-work.

Then there are the Airy-Fairies, who climb ladders in impossibly high heels, stand as far as possible from the rope when ringing, and spend much of their time trying to prop up mirrors on odd pieces of belfry furniture. They are the natural enemies of the Old Hands, reverend ladies, who usually wear hats while ringing, know most of the Central Council delegates by nick-name, and consider a missed dodge as bad as a revoke in whist. They are frequently attended by their apprentices, the Earnest Plodders, who have grim expressions and a desire to Work Their Way Up.

Possibly the most appealing of the bunch are the ladies who have taken up ringing in middle life. The married ones have usually been bullied into it by their husbands, but the motives of the single ones are not at all obvious. From outward appearances, they have either been recommended violent exercise by their doctors, and found golf too expensive, or else they are doing penance for some unspeakable crime committed in youth. They are usually completely terrified of the belfry, the ropes, the other ringers, the ringing master, and of the peculiar noises in the walls, which may be rats; but they have set their hand to the sally and, like all unfortunate women who have reached a certain stage in their devotion to ringing, they cannot turn back.

D. R. C.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., March 22, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 26 *Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN
A PEAL OF 5280 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS
Tenor 20 cwt. 20 lb. in D.

RICHARD GRANT	*Treble*	JOHN A. ACRES	7
*DONALD A. THEEDOM	2	J. FREDERICK MILNER	8
DOREEN D. DUTTON	3	ERNEST MORRIS	9
MRS. P. J. STANIFORTH	4	JOHN E. COOK	10
HARRY G. WAYNE	5	S. ANTHONY JESSON	11
HERRICK B. BOWLEY	6	WILLIAM J. ROOT	*Tenor*

Conducted by HERRICK B. BOWLEY.
* First peal of Surprise Maximus.
A farewell peal for Donald A. Theedom, who is leaving the district.

SOUTHWARK, LONDON.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Sat., March 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 35 *Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,
A PEAL OF 5017 ERIN CINQUES
Tenor 48 cwt.

JOHN PHILLIPS	*Treble*	MICHAEL P. MORETON	7
JOHN CHILCOTT	2	THOMAS J. SOUTHAM	8
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY	3	PHILIP A. CHALK	9
JOHN HILL	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION	10
WILFRED WILLIAMS	5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS	11
JAMES PHILLIPS	6	FRANK E. DARBY	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.
First peal of Erin Cinques by the Society and all the band except G. W. Critchley.

TEN BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sat., March 17, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 19 *Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 31 cwt, 21 lb. in D.

WILLIAM J. V. CONDUCT.	*Treble*	NORMAN J. GOODMAN	6
STELLA HUGHES	2	JOHN PINFOLD	7
MURIEL REAY	3	ARTHUR V. PEARSON	8
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY	4	JOHN H. FIELDEN	9
G. RONALD EDWARDS	5	GEORGE E. FEARN	*Tenor*

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.

LEYLAND, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 18 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor 21½ cwt.

E. ROGER MARTIN	*Treble*	*STANLEY WALMSLEY	6
G. ALEC DIMMOCK	2	JOHN CHARNOCK	7
THOMAS BARKER	3	CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE	8
ARTHUR TOMLINSON	4	ARTHUR HATCH	9
*LAWRENCE WALMSLEY	5	JOHN JOLLEYS	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. HALEY. Conducted by E. ROGER MARTIN.
* First peal of Caters.
Rung on the completion of the re-roofing of the chancel at a cost of £4.000.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Tues., March 6, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 53 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt. 19 lb. in F.

FRANK E. HAYNES	*Treble*	NORMAN J. GOODMAN	5
HENRY H. FEARN	2	TERRY R. HAMPTON	6
JOHN PINFOLD	3	JOHN H. FIELDEN	7
GEORGE E. FEARN	4	PETER BORDER	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by PETER BORDER.

BEDWELLTY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 10, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 4 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SANNAN,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Bruerton's. Tenor 14 cwt. 14 lb.

*JOHN L. THOMAS	*Treble*	JEAN POWELL	5
W. GWYNNE JONES	2	DONALD G. CLARKE	6
A. RYAN PRICE	3	GLYN WILLIAMS	7
JACK ALSOP	4	W. GRAHAM FLOWER	*Tenor*

Conducted by JEAN POWELL.
* First attempt for a peal. First peal as conductor. The ringer of the seventh has now 'circled the tower.'
Rung on the eve of the 50th anniversary of the ordination of the Rector of this parish, Canon James Davies, B.A., Rural Dean.

RIPLEY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 10, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 3 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5088 NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 16½ cwt.

*PATRICIA A. M. FORSTER	*Treble*	GORDON A. HALLS	5
JACK BAILEY	2	ROBIN G. TURNER	6
†VIVIENNE M. HORTON	3	DENIS A. CARLISLE	7
ALBERT E. THOMPSON	4	HAROLD TAYLOR	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.
* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method.

BITTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.
On Thurs., March 15, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 5 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Six-part. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*DAVID HEIGHTON	*Treble*	CLIFFORD T. BLUNDELL	5
†ARTHUR R. WRIGHT	2	TUDOR P. EDWARDS	6
TERENCE T. JONES	3	†PATRICIA M. BOURN	7
ALAN SMITH	4	MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING	*Tenor*

Conducted by PATRICIA M. BOURN.
* 50th peal. † First peal of Triples. First peal in the method as conductor.

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Mon., March 19, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 52 *Minutes,*
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR
Comprising 2,880 London, 960 Cambridge, 640 each of Bristol and Superlative, with 110 changes of method.
Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

EVELYN M. FLETCHER	*Treble*	JOHN PINFOLD	5
MURIEL REAY	2	GEORGE E. FEARN	6
*STELLA HUGHES	3	JOHN H. FIELDEN	7
FRANK E. HAYNES	4	PETER BORDER	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by PETER BORDER.
* First peal of 'Spliced.'

CLAYBROOKE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., March 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 54 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt.

E. CHARLES TURNER	*Treble*	LEONARD E. TREVOR	5
ALFRED BALLARD	2	MICHAEL E. BROWN	6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	3	JOHN A. L. THOMPSON	7
FRANK K. MEASURES	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.
Rung on the 400th anniversary of the martyrdom of Cranmer, Ridley and Latimer.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., March 22, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 59 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5024 WATFORD SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10¾ cwt.

JAMES G. NEWMAN	*Treble*	ANDREW C. SINFIELD	5
PHILIP MEHEW	2	RONALD J. SHARP	6
MALCOLM G. HOOTON	3	DENNIS KNOX	7
*C. HENRY HARDING	4	JOHN W. SINFIELD	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by DENNIS KNOX.
* 250th peal. The first peal in the method in the county and for the Association.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., March 23, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 4 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

H. B. Wilde's. Tenor 17¼ cwt. in E.

ARTHUR TOMLINSON	*Treble*	SYDNEY LEATHERBARROW	5
*JOHN HALLIWELL	2	TREVOR TAYLOR	6
JOSEPH THORNLEY	3	PETER CROOK, SEN.	7
GEOFFREY FOTHERGILL	4	DEREK TAYLOR	*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

* First peal of Major.
The ringer of the third has now 'circled the tower.'

ALLESLEY, COVENTRY.
THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 45 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

A. ROBIN GUY	*Treble*	RAYMOND WINTER	5
FRANK W. PERRENS	2	GEORGE GARDNER	6
JOHN W. T. TAYLOR	3	JAMES L. GARNER-HAYWARD	7
PERCY STONE	4	DAVID A. CARPENTER	*Tenor*

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

Rung to commemorate the laying of the foundation stone of the new Coventry Cathedral by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the previous day.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 57 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt.

*JOHN C. SLATER	*Treble*	†ALLEN MORGAN	5
JOHN THOMAS	2	SIDNEY T. HOLT	6
SUSAN JACKSON	3	†REGINALD WOODYATT	7
†‡GEORGE E. EVENDEN	4	†THOMAS W. LEWIS	*Tenor*

Composed by S. H. WOOD. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Little Bob Major. ‡ 25th peal.

HARMSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 50 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 10 cwt. in G sharp.

MARK W. LEWIS	*Treble*	F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER	5
MRS. A. SIMPSON	2	HAROLD STEVENSON	6
WILLIAM L. EXTON	3	ALLAN SIMPSON	7
*JOHN F. W. REED	4	CHARLES J. COPP	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALLAN SIMPSON.

* First peal of Triples. First peal of Triples as conductor.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 18¼ cwt.

TERRY EARLE	*Treble*	*ALAN R. SYDER	5
*JACK H. BRETT	2	ERNEST BRIGHT	6
JOHN WARNER	3	FRANK B. LUFKIN	7
RONALD SUCKLING	4	THOMAS BIRD	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Major.

SIX BELL PEALS

HONITON, DEVON.
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.
On Thurs., March 8, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 46 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 21 six-scores each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and All Saints' Doubles. Tenor 22 cwt.

CYRIL SAVAGE	*Treble*	CYRIL DEEM	4
ERNEST W. ROWE	2	JOHN QUICK	5
L. KENNETH DAWE	3	SIDNEY SKINNER	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN QUICK.

First peal in two Doubles methods for all. First peal of Doubles on the bells.

CASSINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 10, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 49 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In eight methods: (1) Cambridge Surprise, (2) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (3) Single Oxford, (4) Double Oxford, (5) St. Clement's (6) Double Bob, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

*CHRISTINE M. WOODWARD	*Treble*	DONALD H. NIBLETT	4
*DERMOT T. ROAF	2	*PETER R. SANDERS	5
*ROBIN A. HODGSON	3	MALCOLM S. CLOKE	*Tenor*

Conducted by MALCOLM S. CLOKE.

* First peal in eight methods.

TILSWORTH, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 10, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 37 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being 720 each of Primrose, Cambridge, Beverley, Surfleet, York, Durham and Norwich. Tenor 10½ cwt.

MALCOLM G. HOOTON	*Treble*	ANDREW C. SINFIELD	4
R. JOHN SCOTT	2	JOHN W. SINFIELD	5
RONALD J. SHARP	3	DENNIS KNOX	*Tenor*

Conducted by DENNIS KNOX.

CHILTON, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 17, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 41 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Kent Treble Bob and Double Bob, and two extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

*DAVID LAWSON	*Treble*	†FRANK A. BARRETT	4
*VERNON GREEN	2	‡WILLIAM L. GILKS	5
*ROBIN J. TREBILCOCK	3	MALCOLM S. CLOKE	*Tenor*

Conducted by MALCOLM S. CLOKE.

* First peal of Minor in more than one method. † First peal of Minor in more than three methods. ‡ First peal of Minor in more than four methods.

KING'S BROMLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., March 17, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 2 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 30 six-scores (ten callings) and three each of Morris's and Pitman's 240's. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

*VALERIE W. SMITH	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. LEACH	4
†E. MARION KEY	2	ALAN G. FOSTER	5
BARNABAS G. KEY	3	ERIC EDGINTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN G. FOSTER.

* First peal. †First peal 'inside' on tower bells.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Edginton, mother of the tenor ringer.

'Smith of Derby' CLOCKS

CHURCH & TURRET CLOCKS
New Installations : Repairs : Maintenance
Estimates and Advice Free
JOHN SMITH & SON, Midland Clock Works, DERBY, LTD.

TAXAL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 17, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 37 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 DELIGHT MINOR

Consisting of two extents each of Castleton and Peveril, and one each of Leasowe, Melandra and Beeston. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

IVOR JENKINS .. .. .. *Treble*	SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN. .. 4
M. JILLIAN BRIERLEY.. .. 2	NEIL D. LOMAS.. 5
ERIC SIMPSON 3	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. *Tenor*

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

This is the first peal in the 'Daffodil' group.

LIMERICK, IRELAND.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., March 18, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 18 *Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (four callings). Tenor 24 cwt.

*WILLIAM W. COX .. .. *Treble*	CYRIL W. GALBRAITH .. 4
GEORGE H. ELLIS 2	*THOMAS T. MARSDEN .. 5
*CYRIL R. FOSTER 3	F. GEORGE BINGHAM .. *Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE H. ELLIS.

* First peal. First peal by all in the method. First peal as conductor. All members of local Sunday service band.

Rung in honour of the Very Rev. M. J. Talbot, M.A., recently installed Dean of Limerick.

OXFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., March 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 20 *Minutes,*
AT THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of (1) Cambridge Surprise, (2) Oxford Treble Bob, (3) Double Bob, (4) Fulbeck, (5) Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, (6) Plain Bob, (7) Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 27 cwt., approx.

DAPHNE CASTELL .. .. *Treble*	ALAN R. PINK 4
DONALD H. NIBLETT.. .. 2	HAROLD P. REED 5
PETER R. SANDERS 3	MALCOLM S. CLOKE .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

Arranged for and rung on the 400th anniversary of the martyrdom of Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, and primary compiler of the Book of Common Prayer. It was from this church that he was led forth to die at the stake opposite Balliol College, Oxford.

DARLINGTON, COUNTY DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., March 23, 1956, *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 15 methods, viz.: (1) Hexham and Berwick; (2) Alnwick and Newcastle; (3) Lightfoot and Wearmouth; (4) Carlisle, Chester and Munden; (5) York and Durham; (6) Surfleet and Beverley; (7) London and Wells.
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.

* 75th peal.

Rung as a farewell to Dr. A. M. Ramsey, Bishop of Durham, on his election as Archbishop of York.

STISTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., March 23, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 41 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In 40 methods: (1) College Bob, Marple, Willesden, Old Oxford, Newdigate, Humber, Braintree, Clarence, St. Albans, Wragby, Neasden, Charlwood, Taxel and Elston Delight, Morning Star Treble Bob; (2) Vale Royal, Werburgh, Combermere and Crowland Delight; (3) Wilmslow, Rostherne and Bogedone Delight; (4) Fulbeck, Reverse, Canterbury Pleasure, Double and Plain Bob; (5) St. Clement's, Childwall, Double Oxford and Thelwall Bob; (6) College Exercise, Norbury, Duke of Norfolk and Ockley Treble Bob; (7) London Scholars, Oxford, Kingston, Sandal and Capel Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

ALBERT SAUNDERS .. .. *Treble*	JOHN WARNER 4
ALAN R. SYDER 2	FRANK B. LUFKIN 5
WALTER ARNOLD 3	TERRY EARLE .. .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

The most methods rung in a peal by the Essex Association and by all the band.

SEVENHAMPTON, WILTSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
On Fri., March 23, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 33 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 extents of April Day (three callings), 12 of Plain Bob (four callings) and 18 of Grandsire (six callings). Tenor 8 cwt.

JOHN DOWDESWELL .. .. *Treble*	THOMAS F. STONE 4
MERVYN DAY 2	WILLIAM A. GODWIN.. .. 5
HAROLD POPE 3	RALPH E. W. WENBAN .. *Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM A. GODWIN.

BISHOP AUCKLAND, COUNTY DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 44 *Minutes,*
AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being 720 each of Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge, York, Durham, Wells and London. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. in G.

KENNETH LAWSON .. .. *Treble*	THOMAS COOKE 4
W. NORMAN PARK 2	DENIS A. BAYLES 5
RICHARD BUSBY 3	ROLAND PARK .. .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. G. W. Peverell, on his diamond jubilee as a ringer at this church.

GREAT MONGEHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., March 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 52 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt 2 lb. in A flat.

*RONALD L. E. SHEPPARD.. *Treble*	‡STANLEY J. GEE 4
†G. CHRISTOPHER DURHAM 2	J. MICHAEL STEPHENS .. 5
‡THOMAS W. EDWARDS .. 3	GEORGE E. RUCK .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by J. MICHAEL STEPHENS.

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

OTTERTON, DEVON.
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.
On Sat., March 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 35 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 12 cwt.

*CYRIL SAVAGE .. .. *Treble*	*ERNEST W. ROWE 4
*JOHN CARTER 2	JOHN QUICK 5
SIDNEY SKINNER 3	*RONALD PITMAN .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by SIDNEY SKINNER.

* First peal of Stedman Doubles.

HANDBELL PEALS

LICHFIELD.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Tues., March 13, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 56 *Minutes,*
AT 35, MARKET STREET,
A PEAL OF 5077 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor size 17 in A.

*PETER BERESFORD .. .. 1—2	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. 5—6
*JOAN BERESFORD .. .. 3—4	ALFRED BALLARD .. .. 7—8
*GEORGE E. OLIVER.. .. 9—10	

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Stedman and on ten 'in hand.'

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., March 17, 1956, *in* 1 *Hour and* 41 *Minutes,*
AT 53, LEYS ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In four methods, being two extents each of Reverse and Double Bob, one of Kent Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor size 12 in F.

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

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
On Wed., March 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 8 *Minutes,*
AT 12, DOROTHY AVENUE, GLEN HILLS,
A PEAL OF 5064 SPLICED MAJOR

In three methods, consisting of 1,240 Little Bob, 1,136 Double Bob and 2,688 Plain Bob, with 330 changes of method. Tenor size 15 in C.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. .. 1—2	JOHN A. ACRES .. .. 5—6
ERNEST MORRIS .. .. .. 3—4	MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 7—8

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

First peal in three Spliced Major methods 'in hand' by all and for the Guild.

QUARTER PEALS

ALLESLEY, COVENTRY, WARKS.—On March 11th, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: F. W. Perrens 1, H. G. Summers 2, J. W. T. Taylor 3, R. Winter 4, W. A. Stote 5, G. Gardner 6, J. L. Garner-Hayward 7, D. A. Carpenter (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.—On March 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Bruce Piper (first quarter) 1, Kathleen Beasley 2, Brenda Payne 3, J. T. Symonds 4, J. Hayns (first 'inside' of Triples) 5, P. Jackson 6, D. G. Astridge (cond.) 7, H. H. Hayns 8. Rung for Evensong by Sunday service band.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTER.—On March 25th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. Wells 1, A. Skinner (cond.) 2, O. Castleman 3, R. Barrow 4, J. Kesterton 5, N. Abel 6, C. Lynch 7, E. Bass 8. Rung for Evensong.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On March 25th, 1,320 Minor (720 Cambridge, 360 Kent, 240 Oxford T.B.): E. Deacon 1, D. Sims 2, G. M. Rouse 3, K. Everett 4, A. T. M. Perry 5, H. Stebbings (cond.) 6. Rung for morning service; also an 86th birthday compliment to W. Barker, verger.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFS.—On March 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Judith Henson (first quarter) 1, E. Marion Key (first 'inside' on tower bells) 2, Pamela Pearson 3, G. L. Roobottom 4, A. G. Foster 5, W. J. Leach 6, B. G. Key (cond.) 7, E. J. White 8.

EGREMONT, CUMBERLAND.—On March 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mary Simpson (first quarter) 1, J. McTear 2, H. Wilson 3, G. McKay 4, J. R. Mossop (cond.) 5, S. Richardson 6. Rung for the birthday of Mr. A. Eilbeck (local tower keeper) and Mrs. Eilbeck.

FROME, SOMERSET.—On March 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss A. Lewis (first of Triples) 1, P. Wycherley (first of Triples) 2, Miss E. Overend 3, D. Robertson (first 'inside' of Triples) 4, J. Phippen 5, E. Bray 6, D. Flower (cond.) 7, H. Vennell 8. Rung half-muffled in memory of Bishop Ken, died March 19th, 1711; buried at Frome.

HURWORTH-ON-TEES, CO. DURHAM.—On March 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss J. Peterson (first quarter) 1, T. Hill 2, P. Holland 3, M. G. Stewart 4, L. Hodgson 5, T. Cooke (cond.) 6.

HONITON, DEVON.—On March 18th, at St. Michael's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Hodge 1, C. Manley 2, C. Webb (cond.) 3, W. Baker 4, W. Sparks 5, W. Webb 6.

KILMINGTON, DEVON.—On March 10th, 1,260 Doubles (1,200 Grandsire and 60 Stedman): C. Webb 1, C. Manley 2, A. Hodge 3, W. Sparks 4, W. Webb (cond.) 5, J. Real 6. First quarter in two methods for all, and the 100th quarter for the conductor.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—On March 11th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: A. H. Winch (cond.) 1, E. L. Coward 2, A. P. Cannon 3, G. Marriner 4, A. H. Smith 5, B. Hawkins 6, W. G. Newberry 7, A. Harman 8, H. V. Young 9, A. S. Harris 10.

MARGATE, KENT.—On March 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Silman 1, Mrs. N. Bridges 2, C. Durham 3, P. Dadds 4, R. G. Dadds 5, P. Page 6, L. Twyman 7, H. Lade 8. Rung for the wedding of Mr. P. Gadsden, son of the captain of the ringers. Umpired and conducted by A. J. Dadds.

MARKET LAVINGTON, WILTS.—On March 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Mullings 1, T. Gye 2, M. Baker 3, M. Bailey 4, J. Saxton (cond.) 5, F. Davis 6. At first attempt, except for the fourth ringer.

MILTON-ERNEST, BEDS.—On March 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Brian Marsh (first quarter) 1, Betty Marsh 2, P. J. Lawton 3, T. P. Harris 4, J. F. Olney 5, D. R. Brazier (cond.) 6. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss June Marsh, a member of the local band, who was married to Mr. John Shortland, at Milton-Ernest on March 3rd.

RANDWICK, N.S.W.—On Oct. 31st, 1,260 Doubles (300 Grandsire, 480 Old and 480 Plain Bob): R. A. Pearce 1, J. Duncan 2, W. M. Rowe 3, J. J. Cummins 4, R. L. Altass (cond.) 5, J. Giddens 6. For the resignation of Rev. O. V. Abram, Rector of St. Jude's. Also on Oct. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Boutland 1, T. W. Goodyer 2, G. K. P. Stacey 3, W. M. Rowe (cond.) 4, J. J. Cummins 5, L. R. A. Curran 6, J. Duncan 7, H. L. Curll 8. For the dedication of St. Jude's peal board.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—On March 18th, at St. Peter's Church, 1,313 Grandsire Caters: Miss M. Waldron (first quarter) 1, H. V. Frost 2, C. F. Sayer 3, R. W. Darvill 4, H. G. Mason 5, B. C. Johnson 6, F. J. Spicer 7, G. W. Debenham 8, T. J. Southam (cond.) 9, A. E. Ewer 10.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICS.—On March 18th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Joan K. Brown (first of Treble Bob) 1, B. G. Warwick (cond.) 2, G. H. Bray (first of Cambridge Minor) 3, B. S. Chapman 4, J. M. Jelley 5, S. J. Haines 6. For Evensong.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—On March 18th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Jill Tombs 1, Elizabeth Yeld (first in method) 2, F. V. Nicholls 3, J. N. Lindon 4, P. W. Webb 5, R. Smith (cond.) 6, R. Cooper 7, D. N. Layton 8. Rung for Evensong on Passion Sunday.

STRATTON ST. MARGARET, WILTS.—On March 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Dr. G. Roworth 1, Mrs. E. Sutton 2, Dr. H. Craig 3, R. C. Westney 4, G. Wells 5, H. Austin 6, E. Sutton (cond) 7, E. Vincent 8. For morning service.



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BELL FOUNDERS

AND

CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



PEAL RINGING IN OTHER COUNTRIES

By The Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

OUTSIDE the British Isles, and apart from Australia, peals have been rung in four other countries—New Zealand (eight), South Africa (three), Canada (two) and the U.S.A. (one). This short article will refer to all these, for only 14 peals are concerned!

The first peal to be rung in the Empire outside Australia was in New Zealand, when Bob Triples was accomplished on January 31st, 1903, at Christchurch Cathedral. Later in the same year, on November 9th, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the same place. It was nearly 50 years before another peal was rung in the country. Some of the 1934 tourists visited New Zealand after Australia, but their two peal attempts failed. Thus it wasn't until after the last war that we find further peals. The silence was broken by a peal of Bob Minor at Christchurch Cathedral on January 24th, 1950. Two further peals were rung in the Dominion that same year—Doubles (three methods) at Papanui (5) on April 29th, and Bob Minor at Hamilton Cathedral on October 22nd. These three towers are the only ones which have had peals yet out of the five rings in the country. After 1950, we have learned of three more peals, all rung in 1954. On January 23rd came a further peal of Bob Minor at Christchurch Cathedral, whilst at Hamilton came two—Bob Minor on October 23rd, and Grandsire Doubles on December 11th. We hope to learn of more progress before long.

Now we turn to South Africa's three peals. These have all been rung at one tower—Woodstock (8). The other three towers are still virgin territory. The first of the three peals was on December 15th, 1904, and was of Grandsire Triples. One ringer travelled 2,000 miles to ring in the attempt! It wasn't until 1951 that there came another peal when, on December 27th, a peal of Grandsire Doubles was accomplished. A similar peal on June 13th, 1953, was the third and last rung in South Africa. It was very interesting, last summer, to have the visit of Mr. C. Chambers from South Africa, and to learn what is being done there in ringing circles. We hope that ringing will flourish in the future.

TWO PEALS IN CANADA

Then comes Canada. The two peals there were rung in 1911 and 1945 respectively. Both peals were of Grandsire Triples. The first was rung at Vancouver at the Roman Catholic Church on Dominion Day (July 1st), 1911. Again, it wasn't until after the last war that the other peal was accomplished. This was at Victoria Cathedral on October 3rd, 1945, when there happened to be one or two ringers from this country, then in the Navy, waiting to rejoin ships. There are four other towers in Canada which have rings of bells, and we hope they will be 'conquered' before long.

Finally, the one and only peal ever to have been rung outside the British Commonwealth. This was rung as long ago as 1850 in Philadelphia, U.S.A., on June 9th. The circumstances through which it became possible to ring it are interesting, and I quote the 'Bell News' of May 31st, 1890—a footnote to the first peal ever rung in the Colonies, at Sydney. The different style to present day writing is also not without interest!

'It is necessary here to inform our Antipodean friends and all others whom it may concern that the first peal rang outside the British Islands was rung (by Englishmen) at Philadelphia, U.S.A. The late Mr. Haley (of London) was many years ago at the head of a company of handbell musicians who were making a tour of the States. In the course of this tour, he met with one or two persons whom he had known as ringers in England, and upon reaching Philadelphia, where was a ring of eight bells in good order and hung for ringing, the great novelty of a peal in such a place became apparent. Forming a band from among his handbell musicians, aided by the one or two English ringers already referred to, he called "Holt's ten-part peal" in the above mentioned city. This performance caused at the time no small excitement among the Philadelphians; the thoroughfares in the neighbourhood of the church being literally crowded with people who listened with interest to the peal; while every coign of 'vantage was sought for to view the ringers as they left the church, their appearance being greeted with round after round of vociferous cheering.

'This fact does not rob our Australian friends of the honour of ringing the first peal in the British Colonies.'

As will be seen, no date was given for the above peal, but a letter in 'Bell News,' May 27th, 1893, gives particulars. The peal was rung in 3 hours 15 minutes, and two men took it in turns to ring the tenor—the first of the two being lame in one leg and having to give up after 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Well, so much for our review of peal ringing in the English counties and in the rest of the world. A final article will try to put together various statistics from the articles which have appeared over the past two years.

5,184 LINCOLN SURPRISE MAJOR

By RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

23456	B	M	W	H
45236			—	—
25634		—		3
53246	X			
24536			—	—
43265	X			
64235			—	
52436		—		—
42635		—		
42356	X			—
35426			—	—
52364	X			3
65324			—	
43526		—		—
32465	X			
32654	X			—
32546	X			—
24365	X			
62345			—	3
34625			—	—
23456	X			2

First rung at Willesden on January 26th, 1956. This peal is also true for Pudsey.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—Anon., 5s., S. Pinder 5s., E. Willcox 10s.

Peals.—Potterne 3s., Bitton 4s., Great Mongeham 2s.

Quarter Peals.—Margate 2s., Frome 4s., Wrington 2s. 6d., Stourbridge 2s. 6d., Market Lavington 2s. 6d., Hurworth-on-Tees 2s. 6d., Reading 2s., Burnham-on-Crouch 3s., Stratton 3s. 6d., Egremont 2s.

THE HOLY BELL OF ROVIERTO

An outstandingly successful and unusual repair was carried out by Metalock (Italiana) S.p.a. about four months ago. The company was consulted in regard to cracks which had appeared in the 'Holy Bell of Rovierto' in the Province of Trento, which is known as the Monumental Bell of the Fallen.

This great bell, said to be one of the largest in the world, which was subscribed to by 19 nations after the first World War as a memorial to the fallen of all countries, was cast at Verona in 1925. It was afterwards ceremonially blessed and given the name of 'Maria Dolens.'

The bell is mounted on the 13th century castle of Rovierto, which dominates the town, and is chimed 100 times each evening. The weight of the bell is 16½ tons, and of the clapper, 12 cwt. It is three metres, or nearly ten feet in height and diameter, and its exterior is distinguished by some very fine decoration, the work of the sculptor, Stefano Zuech.

Two cracks were found, one of 80 cm. and another of 20 cm., situated on one side of the bell at the point of impact with the clapper, the thickness of the section varying from 70 mm. to 250 mm.

The Metalock material used was specially processed to obtain a closer expansion property to that of the bronze. The cracks were Metalocked, both on the inside and outside, with 5/16 in. keys; the metal proved to be very hard and brittle. The repair was carried out by one operator in about three weeks, and after it had been completed, the bell was turned by 60 degrees so that the clapper would then strike the undamaged area.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

An enjoyable meeting of the Chertsey District was held at Egham on March 24th. Before the service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. Northridge, rounds and Grandsire were rung almost continuously for the less experienced ringers.

At the business meeting, following a most enjoyable tea, the Ringing Master, Mr. F. J. Dodson, extended a welcome to Mr. W. W. Wolstencroft and to Mr. J. F. Smallwood, also to visitors from other Districts. Two new members were elected.

Ringing for the Diocesan Mission (starting April 15th) was discussed, and it was hoped that all towers would contrive some sort of ringing programme. The six District meetings planned for the forthcoming year met with approval.

A comprehensive vote of thanks to all who had made the meeting possible was proposed by Mr. W. Shepherd.

Ringing continued until 8.30 p.m. with methods up to Cambridge Surprise Major.

E. A. H

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Evening Meeting at Brentford

A very enjoyable meeting of the South and West District was held at Brentford on the evening of March 17th. Ringing from 6 until 8.30 p.m., under the supervision of the District Ringing Master, Mr. F. C. Price, assisted by the deputy Master, Mr. R. F. B. Speed, ranged from Rounds to Doubles, and Plain Bob Minor for the beginners, while a variety of Surprise methods was brought round by the more experienced.

The Vicar of Brentford, the Rev. Mr. Court, was most heartily thanked for the cordial welcome accorded the Association.

The attendance was somewhat thin, which is to be regretted, as a fine opportunity for beginners was missed by their lack of numbers.

F. A. F.

BRISTOL.—At St. Mary Redcliffe, on Mar. 1st, 1,313 Erin Cinques: F. G. Leaker 1, E. F. Hancock 2, Joan Gray 3, A. M. Taylor (cond.) 4, F. C. Mogford 5, M. E. Downs 6, Patricia Bourn 7, P. M. J. Gray 8, F. D. Mack 9, J. Gilbert 10, F. E. O. Hansford 11, Ed. F. Hancock 12. First quarter of Erin Cinques by all the band. First of Cinques for 6, 7, 8 and 12.

BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Doubles (600 Plain, 660 Grandsire): Eunice Morley (first quarter) 1, Mrs. G. E. Watson 2, P. G. K. Davies 3, G. E. Watson (cond.) 4, B. S. Cope 5, A. J. Frost 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam the late Bishop of Peterborough. Also on Mar. 16th, 1,260 Minor (720 Kent Trebie Bob, 540 Plain Bob): Mrs. R. Dacre 1, G. E. Watson (cond.) 2, P. G. K. Davies 3, Mrs. G. E. Watson 4, H. Pettitt 5, B. Hendry 6, Eunice Morley 7, B. S. Cope 8 (7, 8 covering). Rung to mark the birth of a daughter (Anne) to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Stretton.

GRANTHAM, LINCS.—On Mar. 15th, 1,309 Grandsire Doubles: D. A. Frith 1, F. W. Pinchbeck 2, J. E. Cook (first 'inside') 3, H. R. Woods 4, W. R. Read (cond.) 5, B. Hunt 6.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.—On Mar. 14th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. Green 1, G. Green 2, J. E. G. Roast 3, P. Saltmarsh (first in method) 4, R. C. Clark (first in method) 5, H. Carter 6, P. T. Spencer-Phillips (cond.) 7, F. Payne 8. Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. W. S. Harrington (Vicar's warden), who was interred this day.

HESTON, MIDDLX.—On Mar. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. W. Webb 1, Miss E. M. Ricketts 2, B. A. Rose 3, P. A. Ruck (first as cond.) 4, Miss J. Barbrook (first 'inside') 5, C. J. Newnes 6, P. Bettridge 7, J. E. Ricketts 8. For Evensong.

QUARTER PEALS

HOLLOWAY, N.—At St. Mary Magdalene Church, on Mar. 18th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: N. G. Hollingworth (cond.) 1, Miss D. A. Deverell (first of Stedman) 2, J. C. Rigg 3, P. J. Hutchings 4, F. Ranson 5, J. Hales 6, C. W. Ottley 7, J. McPhail 8.

IXWORTH, SUFFOLK.—On Mar. 17th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. Pierce 1, L. Melton 2, H. King 3, L. Sharpe 4, E. Bishop 5, K. G. Brown (cond.) 6.

LEICESTER.—On Mar. 18th, at St. Margaret's Church, 1,188 Grandsire Cinques: P. Kirk 1, Barbara Endall 2, E. Morris (cond.) 3, Mary C. Payne 4, Nancy Marklew 5, T. H. Bent 6, E. J. Clements 7, W. Tanser 8, J. B. Bennett 9, G. A. Olliffe 10, J. Bramley 11, C. P. Walker 12. For evening service.

LILLINGSTONE LOVELL, BUCKS.—On Mar. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Miles (first quarter) 1, M. Saunders (cond.) 2, C. Haynes 3, Kathleen Ballard 4, G. Shellard 5.

LONDON, W.C.—At St. Giles-in-the-Fields, on Feb. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. S. Hawkins 1, A. W. Coles 2, W. R. Winterton 3, F. A. Barker 4, M. H. Sinden 5, G. A. Parsons (cond.) 6, J. W. Euston 7, M. F. Oakshett 8. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.—On Mar. 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Belcham 1, P. Salder (first as cond.) 2, L. Beal 3, J. Belcham 4, D. Coombes 5, B. Cook 6, B. Howard 7, B. Sadler 8. For Confirmation service.

RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.—On Mar. 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Ward 1, B. Howard 2, A. Reeve 3, D. Belcham 4, E. Blower 5, P. Coward 6, A. House (cond.) 7, A. Cundy 8. First quarter by 4 and 8. Rung for Confirmation service.—Also on Mar. 18th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: D. Hockley (first of Major) 1, G. Sandwell 2, G. Blower 3, F. May 4, E. Blower 5, P. Coward 6, B. Howard 7, A. House (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

RUGBY, WARWICKS.—On Mar. 18th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Mrs. W. Vann 1, J. G. Underwood 2, D. J. Pitstow 3, W. Vann 4, C. Underwood 5, S. J. Merry 6, S. Osborne 7, A. R. Pocklington (cond.) 8. Rung for Evensong and as a farewell to Mr. J. Click, a member of the local band, who left for Ireland on March 15th.

SAPCOTE, LEICS.—On Mar. 18th, 1,440 Beverley Surprise Minor: Mrs. M. E. Brown 1, Rita Stratford 2, Christine Stratford 3, M. Vernon 4, J. Vernon 5, M. E. Brown (cond.) 6. For Confirmation service.

SHOREDITCH, E.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Mar. 11th, 1,263 Stedman Caters: Mrs. R. F. Deal 1, Mrs. J. Armstrong (first on 10) 2, Mrs. T. H. Francis 3, Miss J. Peacock (first of Stedman Caters) 4, D. Priestley 5, J. Armstrong 6, A. P. Cave 7, A. R. Ling 8, T. H. Francis (cond.) 9, A. F. Thirst 10. In memoriam J. W. Addison, of Thornaby-on-Tees, Yorks.

THETFORD, NORFOLK.—On Mar. 11th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: W. Stannard (cond.) 1, A. Roife 2, F. Cooper 3, H. Fuller 4, N. Watson 5, F. Buckle 6, G. Jennings 7, J. Banks 8. Rung for children's service.

WALSALL, STAFFS.—On Mar. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. G. W. Hughes (first of Triples) 1, Miss S. Hughes 2, Miss R. Smith 3, G. W. Hughes 4, A. Botterill 5, J. Eastwood 6, P. J. Barker (cond.) 7, E. Stitch 8. For Mothering Sunday.

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.

BELFRY

There is a natural reluctance when secretaries send reports to our columns to publish complimentary references to themselves. Members of the Eastern Division of the Sussex County Association have written to us expressing their deep appreciation of the efficient services rendered by Mr. R. W. Pankhurst, the retiring secretary.

Mr. John Phillips has now rung peals of Erin Cinques, Caters and Triples.

A correspondent writes that the peal of 5,152 Edmondthorpe Surprise Major (p. 188) is Middleton's Cambridge, suitably transposed.

Mr. F. G. Vickers, of Ermine Street, Ancaster, near Grantham, is the hon. secretary of the Southern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

Congratulations to Mr. Donald A. Theedom on ringing his first peal of Surprise Maximus, which was rung as a farewell peal for him. Donald came to Leicester two years ago with little experience of change-ringing, but under the expert tuition of the late Mr. H. J. Poole he made rapid strides and soon became a very efficient member of the Cathedral band.

The peal at Watton-at-Stone, near Hertford, was the first there for 25 years. The band not only survived, despite gloomy prognostications from the District, but found the bells in very fair going order, considering that they were last rehung, by Messrs. C. and G. Mears, 104 years ago! This was in some measure due to the work put in by the local captain, Mr. W. Milton (who took part in the previous peal) in splicing, preparing the bells, fitting new ropes, etc., and the band are very grateful to him. As it was Mr. R. J. Sharp's 300th peal, it was rung, by special request, for his Association—Bedfordshire. It was also Mr. A. P. Cannon's 475th.

GOSSIP

The Guild of Clerical Ringers are holding their ringing week from April 9th to 13th, with headquarters at High Tor Guest House, Matlock. There is to be a peal attempt at Darley Dale on April 12th. Eighteen members have promised to attend. The hon. secretary and treasurer is the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews, of Chittlehampton Vicarage, Umberleigh, North Devon.

Mr. H. J. Sanger has informed us that no recordings are available of Evercreech bells.

On Wednesday, March 21st, the Southampton and Reading Universities' Societies held a joint meeting at Whitchurch and Overton (Hants). The meeting was most enjoyable; ringing ranged from Cambridge to Grandsire.

Mr. Harry George Cobbin, the donor of the sixth bell at West Bridgford, Nottingham, died just before the dedication, which is reported in this issue. He was a ringer at St. Peter's, Nottingham, for 50 years, and was Ringing Master there for very many years.

The Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Cuthbert Ackroyd, will appeal on Sunday, April 15th, at 8.25 p.m. in the Home Service, on behalf of the recasting of Bow Bells—heard for over 25 years as the B.B.C.'s interval signal—and the restoration of the historic bell tower in the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, London.

Some good work is being done at Rotherham, Yorks, where six ringers rang their first quarter of Grandsire Caters, under the fatherly eye of Mr. Norman Chaddock, on March 20th. The band consisted of Patricia Maxwell (15) 1, F. Jackson 2, Norman Smith 3, Mrs. N. Chaddock 4, H. O. Chaddock 5, J. Chaddock (15) 6, H. Woodall 7, F. Fisher 8, N. Chaddock (cond.) 9, T. C. Ryder 10. It was the first of Grandsire Caters for 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY



ESTABLISHED 1570

MEARS & STAINBANK, 34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD,
BISHOPSGATE 2599. LONDON, E.1.

THE BELLS OF ST. MARY-LE-BOW

By The Rev. HUGH EVAN HOPKINS, Rector of St. Mary-le-Bow

OF all the chimes in Christendom, Bow Bells are perhaps the best known. The earliest reference to them appears to be the children's nursery rhyme, which ends with the phrase: 'I'm sure I don't know, says the big bell of Bow.' As early as this, of course, there was only one Bow Bell, which was rung as the curfew and time signal of the City of London, first recorded in 1334 as an Order of the Common Council. It is presumed, however, that this curfew had been ringing many years before that, and in 1469 there appears to have been the first known instance of daylight saving, when the order was given that at Bow the bells should ring at 9 p.m. It is on record that some of the city apprentices got annoyed with the bell ringer because he did not strictly adhere to the appointed time, and they fixed to the wall of the church the following rhyme:

Clarke of the Bow Bell,
With the yellow lockes,
For thy late ringing
Thy head shall have knockes.

To which the clerk replied:

Children of Chepe,
Hold you all still,
For you shall have Bow Bell,
Rung at your will.

It seems to have been a long day's work for the tired City workers in those days, and it is interesting to think that the church vestry clerk had a sympathetic heart. It is also recorded that the big bell of Bow was rung at a quarter-to-six every morning (in spite of many complaints) from 1472 until September 1st, 1874.

It is, of course, being born within the sound of this curfew, and not within the sound of the ring of Bow Bells, that has for many generations distinguished a Cockney; and it is thought by many that the repeated tolling of one bell can be heard much further than the ring of a peal. There is, therefore, no serious difficulty in believing that Dick Whittington may have heard the curfew of Bow Bell in 1375 from four miles away, at Highgate Hill.

Very little is known of Bow Bells before the Great Fire of London. In 1515 a William Copeland, churchwarden, presented a fifth and largest bell; but it seems impossible to discover when the sixth was added, without which, of course, the well-known Whittington chime, including the melody 'Turn again, Whittington,' could not have been rung. It is in any case almost certainly a later invention. All the pre-Fire bells were destroyed in 1666 and all their metal was lost. The famous 'Bow Bell' peal really dates from the rebuilding of St. Mary-le-Bow by Christopher Wren. The great tenor bell was cast by John and Christopher Hodson, bell founders of St. Mary Cray, Kent, in 1669, which was two years before the building of the steeple was begun. Probably it was important for the city to have its time keeper restored as early as possible, and it is likely that it was hung provisionally on some timber campanile. The steeple of St. Mary-le-Bow is a true campanile, separated from the church by a corridor. It springs directly from the ground up to a height of 225 ft., and is generally recognised as Wren's greatest achievement of this kind.

First of all, a ring of eight bells, paid for by the £400 for which the site of All Hallows was sold to the city, was set up in the belfry. Of this, John Strype said in 1720: 'Surely for the number and melody of its bells Bow, since the fire, surpasseth former tunes.' This suggests that even in the mediæval time the Bells of Bow were noted for their tunefulness, and that the recasting of them improved them even more. In the 'General Evening News' for Thursday, June 8th, 1738, it is written that 'The tenor at Bow Church in Cheapside, which was accounted one of the finest bells in England, was cracked as they were ringing about 9 o'clock at night.' Presumably the curfew was being tolled, and the bell, which had been used so much more than the others, was worn out at the sound-bow through not having been turned. A new big bell was then cast by Phelps and Lester (the same firm as that now named Mears and Stainbank), and the inscription of this bell shows a common ignorance of Latin grammar, using the singular forms *Fecit*, instead of the more correct plural.

In 1758, the vestry pronounced that this new bell was the 'compleatest bell in Europe,' and condemned the seven other bells as 'greatly inferior.' Phelps and Lester were commissioned to recast them and add two more; and this new ring of ten was rung for the first time at George III's 25th birthday, June 4th, 1712. It is this peal which established the modern reputation of Bow Bells, which was by no means lessened when two new bells were added in 1881.

As is well known, the Ancient Society of College Youths was founded in 1637, in which year they became ringers of Bow Bells, which they have remained ever since. On January 19th, 1907, they rang a peal (Treble Bob Maximus) and reached 5,088 changes in 4 hours and 1 minute.

It is interesting, however, to note that in the library of All Souls' College, Oxford, there is a MS containing 'Orders conceyved and agreed upon by the Company excersising the Arte of ringing knowne and called by the name of the Schollers of Cheapsyde in London, began and so continued from the second day of February 1603.' If this is an authentic document, this Company would appear to have been the forerunners of the 'Ancient Society,' and to have come into existence, appropriately enough, on the Feast of the Purification at Bow Church.

The Parochial Church Council of St. Mary-le-Bow has now given the order for the recasting of Bow Bells to the successors of the original founders, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel. The Worshipful Company of Turners have shown the interest of their craft by giving £100 to the appeal fund to cover the estimated cost of tuning the bells. It is hoped that the recasting of the tenor bell will take place in the presence of the Lord Mayor some time in July, and if building operations allow, the complete ring will be temporarily hung and rung on Lord Mayor's Day, November 9th. The Rector sincerely hopes that by that date the bulk of the £150,000 needed for the church will be within sight.

When recast, each bell will receive its own name. The treble will be named by the bell-founder, and the second by a representative of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Their names will be recorded on the bell itself in token of the long association of both these bodies with the bells of Bow. Other bells will be named by the architect, the Lord Mayor, and the Rector, churchwardens and vestry clerk. The tenor bell is to be renamed 'Bow.'

An observant person will discover another old association with Bow Bells, if he notes carefully the following proposed inscriptions. No prize is offered for a correct solution, but it may give readers some moments of harmless occupation trying to trace the clues . . . .

SUGGESTED INSCRIPTIONS FOR BOW BELLS

Treble: Declare his *glory* among the heather, his wonders among all people. Ps. 96; 3.

Second: Whoso offereth praise *glorifieth* me. Ps. 50; 23.

Third: His name alone is excellent, his *glory* is above the earth and Heaven. Ps. 148; 13.

Fourth: In his temple doth every one speak of his *glory*. Ps. 29; 9.

Fifth: The *glory* of the Lord shall endure for ever Ps. 104; 31.

Sixth: They shall ring in the ways of the Lord for great is the *glory* of the Lord. Ps. 138; 5.

Seventh: I will speak of the *glorious* honour of thy majesty and of thy wondrous works. Ps. 145; 5.

Eighth: Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us but unto thy name give *glory*. Ps. 115; 1.

Ninth: Give unto the Lord the *glory* due unto his name: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Ps. 29; 2.

Tenth: Thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the *glory* of thy kingdom and talk of thy power. Ps. 145; 10, 11.

Eleventh: O Lord my God, I will *glorify* thy name for evermore. Ps. 86; 12.

Tenor: Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace for mine eyes have seen thy salvation. Luke 2; 29, 30. (*Curfew.*)

HOW MONEY IS WASTED

The convener of 'The Ringing World' committee recently received a letter which had been addressed to 122, Lee Road, S.E.3 (no name). The people who now live there naturally opened it, and found a report of a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles. This they posted on to the convener's correct address—*which has appeared regularly in 'The Ringing World' since Feb. 6th.* That cost them 2½d. As the report had not been sent to the Editor, a further 2½d. had to be spent to get it to him. The convener does not propose to spend yet another 2½d. to draw the attention of the sender that reports should be sent to the Editor, and not to him—but it is hoped that this note will once again emphasise that there is a danger of delay—or even non-appearance—if reports are sent to the wrong person. We do not object to contributors wasting their own money, but we are not so prosperous as to be able to pay unnecessary postages, simply because of their failure to understand correct procedure.

REDEDICATION

BUNNEY, NOTTS

The six bells of St. Mary's, Bunney, Notts, were dedicated at a service held during the evening of Monday, March 19th. The Vicar, the Rev. W. N. Metcalfe, officiated at the service, and the dedication ceremony was performed in the ringing chamber by the Rt. Rev. F. Russell Barry, Lord Bishop of Southwell. The bells were rung in rounds by members of the Southwell Diocesan Guild, and after the service touches of Plain Bob Minor, Oxford Treble Bob and Stedman Doubles were rung.

It is over 60 years since these bells were rung. During that time they have been chimed by means of a unique and complicated apparatus which involved the turning by hand of a drum with attached ropes, known locally as 'mangling the bells.' The tenor bell, of 15 cwt., has been recast, and the remaining five have been quarter turned and hung in a new frame. The work has been done by Messrs. John Taylor, of Loughborough, with their usual efficiency. They were represented at the service by Mr. John Oldham and Mr. J. Fidler.

ST. GILES', WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTINGHAM

ON Thursday, March 22nd, the new ring of eight bells at St. Giles' Church, West Bridgford, Nottingham, was dedicated by Bishop J. R. Weller, the service being conducted by the Rector, Canon R. F. Wilkinson. During the service the bells were rung in rounds by members of the Southwell Diocesan Guild and again after the service to touches of Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob Major.

The recasting of the bells was undertaken by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., who were represented by Mr. Paul L. Taylor and Mr. John Oldham. A note of sadness was the receipt of the news that Mr. H. R. Cobbin, the donor of the sixth bell, had died two days previously.

The tower is only ten feet square inside but the bellfounders have overcome all difficulties. Although the bells are hung in two tiers, they all sound perfectly even in tone both inside and outside, and anyone would mistake them for a heavier ring than they are. They are a first-class job.

NOTES ON THE BELLS

We are indebted to Canon R. F. Wilkinson for the following historical article concerning West Bridgford bells.

The tower was built about 1500, and three bells were hung in it. This was the usual number for a village church. In those days each bell had a special use. In 1553 the Commissioners of Church Goods reported that there were 'three bells of one accorde, hanging in ye steeple of ye same churche.' Two of these bells remained in the tower for more than 450 years, until they were taken down in 1955.

The inscriptions were:—

(1) *Celorum Christe placeat tibi rex sonus iste.* (*May this sound please Thee, O Christ, King of Heaven.*")
(2) *J. & E. Smith & Co., Chesterfield,* 1813. *GLORIA DEO.* (*Glory to God.*)
(3) *AVE MARIA.*

The bells were cast by Richard Mellers, Mayor of Nottingham, in 1499, and bear marks, which he used, and are frequently found on bells in the Midland Counties, a cross and a shield with the letter R and a bell. The first bell would be the daily service bell. Similar bells can be seen at Shelford, Screveton and Kelham, with the same inscription in small black letter. This bell is now preserved in the church and weighs about 3 cwt.

Ancient inscriptions always began with a cross, often of beautiful design.

The second bell, when seen by Mr. Stretton in 1808, also had the Mellers shield, but no inscription. It must have been cracked with long use and recast in 1813.

The third bell was the Angelus bell, or daily call to prayer at sunrise and sunset, rung in every church in mediæval times. The inscription is in Gothic capitals, and is now in the church. The shield, with a small cross, is found on several bells in Lincolnshire. When they heard the bell, people repeated these words and the Lord's Prayer.

On the top of each bell can be seen the ancient loops or 'cannons,' by which the bell was hung on a wooden headstock with metal straps. The clappers were hung by a leather band or 'baldrick' from iron staples cast in the crown of the bell.

Richard Mellers was succeeded by his son, Robert, also Mayor and bell founder. His widow, Dame Agnes, founded the 'Free School,' now the Nottingham High School, in 1513. The foundry was in Bell Founders Yard at the back of Long Row, and continued until 1791, when the last bell was cast for a cotton mill. This bell was hung in St. James' Church in 1809.

When the bells were taken down, the frame and beams were found to be very decayed and unsafe, and they had not been rung for about 30 years.

The second bell was recast by Smith of Chesterfield, who also made a bell for Parwich about that time. Probably it was conveyed by water.

OLD ACCOUNT BOOK

In the Church Account Book, which begins in 1759, we find:

1813.	June 3rd. Bell taking down	9/6
	Bell taking to Nottingham	1/-
	Nov. 5th. Carriage of New Bell from Nottingham ..	7/-
	Gill Handley for assisting with old and new bell ..	5/6
1814.	April 9th. New Bell ..	£29-9-0

The bell weighed about 5 cwt. and would cost about £200 today, being made of copper and tin, which are now very expensive.

Other entries are:—

1771.	Nov. 5th. Paid ye Ringers ..	1/6
	Dec. 25th	1/-
	New Year's Day	1/-
	A new bell rope	2/-
	A Singing Feast	5/3
	Paid ye clerk his wages for a year	£1-1-0

THE NEW BELLS

The bells are hung in two tiers, four bells in each frame of cast-iron resting on steel girders. The steel headstocks are set in ball-bearings which only need attention once in 12 years. A new ringing gallery has been erected in the tower. The total weight of the bells is two tons.

The bells are a light ring of eight of fine clear tone, and six have been cast by John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The other two came from Perlethorpe in Thoresby Park, where a ring of six was given to the new church by the third Earl Manvers in 1876. Five of these bells were purchased, as they could not be rung any more, and three have been recast in order to secure the right musical notes.

THE INSCRIPTIONS

Treble—G sharp, 3¼ cwt.: *To the glory of God. In memory of George and Sarah Crampton. The gift of their daughter, Dorothy Rosa.* 1955.

Second—G, 3¼ cwt.: *To the glory of God. In grateful memory of Grace Cobbin. The gift of her children, Alec and Dora.* 1955.

Third—1876, F, 4 cwt.

Fourth—1876, D sharp, 4¼ cwt.

Fifth—C sharp, 5 cwt.: *To the glory of God. In memory of William Crampton. The gift of his wife, Ethel.* 1955.

Sixth—C, 5½ cwt.: *To the glory of God. In memory of a beloved wife, Grace Cobbin. The gift of Harry Robert Cobbin.* 1955. *Canon R. F. Wilkinson,* M.A., F.S.A., *Rector.*

Seventh—A sharp, 7 cwt.: *To the glory of God. In memory of George and Kate Graham. The gift of their daughters, Ada and Beatrice.* 1955.

Tenor—G sharp, 9½ cwt.: *In thanksgiving. The gift of Beatrice Eccleshall.* 1955. *To the glory of God. Part of the cost of this peal of bells was given by The Barron Bell Trust. Emma Barron, Founder. Trustees: H. W. Eldred, K. C. Walrond, E. R. Pennell.* 1955.

Very great credit is due to the band who rang the peal at Limerick Cathedral, recorded this week. The band all started from scratch and taught themselves to ring. 'It was one of the best struck peals I have heard,' writes Mr. F. E. Dukes. The nearest centre of change ringing is 120 miles away, at Dublin.



ST. BUDEAUX, PLYMOUTH, GIRL GUIDES,
who are regular Sunday service ringers: Christine Rogers, Margaret McClinchey, Doreen McClinchey, Ann Hiscock, Veronica Elliott and Ann Warren.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PEAL RINGING IN WALES

Dear Sir,—I am sorry that I have aroused the 'wrath' of Welsh ringing friends! Mr. Dove suggested some months ago that I should wait until the second edition of his book before tackling the peals rung in the Principality, for the new edition would correct certain mistakes in the first one. I fear I did not do so and so have heaped coals of fire on my own head, apparently! I feel I must, however, say one or two things in my own defence. Firstly, it would appear that Mr. Hughes thinks I have missed various towers. This is not so, of course—I have the peal totals of all those he mentions, but the numbers do not come up to the limit I set myself. I should be very pleased to let him have the particulars if he so desires. For myself, I am very interested in the two peals he says were rung prior to 1886 at Bodelwyddan. The only one prior to that date I have come across there was one of Grandsire Triples on August 4th, 1873, which 'Church Bells' stated was the first peal on the bells. He says the two peals were of Treble Bob. I should be very grateful for details of these.

Mr. Clift has supplied very interesting details to 'fill in' the bare outline which I give. I am sorry he thinks Wales has not been properly treated. Personally, I think it received about the right amount of space compared with the English counties, when numbers of towers and peals are taken into account. About one-quarter of the towers were mentioned by name (which is average for the number concerned) and they cover some 1,100 of the 1,700-odd peals rung —a fair proportion, I feel. Throughout the length and breadth of the country, there have been many interesting and fine rings not mentioned, and I don't think Wales came in for cavalier treatment over such. I have had the pleasure of ringing at most of the towers Mr. Clift mentions, and would agree with him that they are very fine and of interest, but my first object has been *peals*, and other considerations have had to be pushed into the background usually. I fear it would be very difficult to include towers which 'but for their geographical position would undoubtedly have had many peals rung on them.' That applies to many towers for different reasons. Again, I should be very pleased to let Mr. Clift have details of any towers he wishes if he will write to me. It has always been one of my difficulties to know where to draw the line of peal activity. I feel that, since there has not been any criticism of this until now, I have been about right. It was, perhaps, too much to hope that I should get away with it right to the end!

I am grateful to Mr. Clift for the mention of Llanelly. He is right in his surmise that I have mixed up the two towers, for I fear I was not aware that two towers were concerned. I have now sorted them out and find there have been 35 peals at Llanelly (Brecon) and 19 at its Carmarthen namesake. This does not include a peal rung on January 19th, 1946, where the 'R.W.' account does not indicate which of the two towers it was rung at. If Mr. Clift could find out which it was, I should be grateful. It was of Bob Minor. The last peal rung at the Brecon tower was on February 6th, 1946.—Yours faithfully,

W. H. FELSTEAD.

Southampton.

FIRST PEAL AT THE LEIGH

Dear Sir,—What was thought at the time to be the first peal of Minor at The Leigh, Glos, was rung on April 13th, 1913. I think that I am the sole survivor of the band.—Yours sincerely,

J. DYKE.

Chilcompton, Bath.

ST. MARY'S, ROADE

Dear Sir,—In reply to a request for founders' names in 'The Ringing World' of March 16th, the following information concerns the tower of St. Mary's, Roade. The tower contains a ring of five bells, as follows:—

Treble—5 cwt. 21 lb., cast by J. Taylor and Co., 1952, and inscribed: 'Roade Parish Church restored 1950: Cyril Thomas Cripps, Esq., M.B.E.' The bell is named after St. Cecilia.

Second—5 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb., originally of mediæval casting, inscribed: 'Nova campana Margareta est Nominata.' Recast by Russell of Wootton in 1727.

Third—6 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. Mediæval casting, about 1450, bearing the inscription: 'Sit nomen Domini Benedictum.'

Fourth—8 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb. Mediæval casting, about 1450, bearing the inscription: 'Sancta Katerina ora pro nobis.'

Tenor—10 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in F. Mediæval casting, about 1450, bearing the inscription: 'In Multis Annis resonet campana Johannis.'

It was thought from the peculiar founders' mark on the back three bells that they were cast by Henry Jordan, of London, about 1450. However, recent research has established them as being cast by William Chamberlain, of London, circa A.D. 1450.

After a silence of 200 years the back four bells were rehung in a steel frame with new fittings in 1950, and the new treble added in 1952, all the work being done by J. Taylor and Co.—Yours faithfully,

ALAN C. COZENS.
Tower Captain.

Roade, Northampton.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE BELLS

Dear Sir,—In a recent issue of 'The Daily Telegraph,' Peterborough stated that these bells were a personal gift to Queen Victoria and that they are now the private property of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II. If this is so, it is surely improper to lay claim to them for the benefit of this or that church tower. Should the Central Council be consulted as to their disposal, it would be a different matter.—Yours faithfully,

Clevedon, Somerset. E. G. CAPLE.

PEAL RINGING IN NORTH WALES

Dear Sir,—I have to point out two errors in my letter published in 'The Ringing World' of March 23rd. The peal rung at Rhyl for the royal visit was Plain Bob Major, and *not* Grandsire Triples. The last peal rung at Beaumaris was also Plain Bob Major, and not as stated.

The last peal rung at Bodelwyddan was Double Bob Major (not before mentioned), all conducted by J. W. Griffiths. I regret the mistakes.—Yours truly, A. J. HUGHES.

Bangor, Caerns.

THE LATE MR. B. A. KNIGHTS' PEALS

Dear Sir,—In the issue of 'The Ringing World,' dated March 23rd, you publish, above the initials 'N. C.,' an analysis of peals rung by the late Benjamin A. Knights which is, it is stated, incomplete because records of peals rung after 1925 are not available.

I feel sure that, since Ben lived, worked and rang in Lancashire for a considerable portion of the period 1925 onwards, an application to the appropriate official of the Lancashire Association would elicit the required information.

The annual report of the Lancashire Association for the year 1949 shows that Ben joined the Association in 1910 and rang 182 peals for the Association.—Yours faithfully,

J. BLACKBURN.

Anderton, near Chorley.

LINCOLN 'TIPS' SUPPLIED!

Dear Sir,—The method published by Arthur Craven in 'The Ringing World' of August 22nd, 1924, as Lincoln Surprise Major, was never rung under this name. It was first rung to a peal at Beddington, Surrey, on July 7th, 1932, and named Beddington Surprise Major.

The first peal of Lincoln Surprise Major was rung at Helmingham, Suffolk, on February 14th, 1935. I cannot give any details of the authorship of this method but can only suggest that the name was chosen both because it was made available by the renaming of the original Lincoln, and also because it is a very good name.

In my view, Beddington, which is a method well worth ringing, would have been much more popular had it retained its original name.

No peals of 'Ripon,' 'Norton,' or 'Thorp' have yet been rung. I do not know in what circumstances 'New London' was renamed 'Thorp,' but perhaps other correspondents will be able to say.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN R. MAYNE.

Harrow.

FAST PEALS

Dear Sir,—I cannot let Mr. H. A. Price's letter about fast ringing pass without comment, as he queries a peal in which I took part, namely, one of Plain Bob Minor on the front six at Loughborough Bell Foundry on February 18th, in 1 hour 53 minutes; tenor 2¼ cwt.

I am surprised that he should write in this vein, coming as he does from the county of fast peals on heavy bells, and having himself accomplished the feat of dubious worth of ringing a peal in 2 hours 32 minutes with a 17 cwt. tenor. Yet he is criticising a comparatively steady peal on some very light bells.

The fact is that several faster peals have been rung on these bells, even on the back eight. The circumstances on February 18th were that a peal of Stedman Caters had gone astray, and some of the band having to return home, the six who happened to be left decided to go for Minor on the front six for a change, rather than have a blank afternoon. They were, therefore, not a band picked for speed, nor had the majority any special love for it—especially myself, as Mr. Price will note if he reads my letter on p. 156. We did not try to ring fast: the bells just went that way—16 minutes per 720! Roland Beniston had his collar and tie on and showed no signs of warmth at the end. It was one of the peals I have enjoyed most, too.

One day it is going to dawn on the folk who do not have the pleasure of ringing very often at Loughborough Bell Foundry that there must be something about these bells that not only makes possible, but actually invites fast ringing, even for the very small weights concerned.—Yours, etc.,

DEREK P. JONES.

Hitchin.

THE MEETING AT BENGEO

Dear Sir,—I was very surprised to read the letter in the issue of March 23rd from Mrs. Chamberlain, about the treatment of the less advanced ringers at meetings. The two methods quoted are definitely not good examples of this, for at the recent meeting at Bengeo at least two of the band ringing Double Norwich C.B. Major (only a course) had to look it up before starting (myself included).

I do not feel I have any claim to be an advanced ringer, having only been ringing for 18 months, but I was given a chance to attempt a course of Double Norwich.—Yours faithfully,

W. D. N. FOOTE.

Northaw, Herts.

OBITUARY

MR. F. R. BORRETT

AN APPRECIATION BY NOLAN GOLDEN

Mr. Fred Borrett was, in ringing circles, the most outstanding personality in Norfolk, and his contribution to the Exercise and to ringing history greater than that of any other in the county during this century.

From 1894—the year in which he joined the Norwich Diocesan Association and rang his first peal—to 1929, when the Association was reorganised, he was the honorary secretary of the Redenhall District—a record for length of service. In 1927 he became the leading peal ringer in the Association, surpassing the total of 559 credited to the illustrious James Motts.

The first of the 632 peals in which Mr. Borrett was to take part was rung at Redenhall. He rang the fourth to Oxford Treble Bob Major. Ringing the fifth was Ernest Poppy, and 40 years later they were to ring on the same bells an anniversary peal, and this was also Mr. Borrett's last. He had in fact removed to the obscure, peal-less West Norfolk village of Tattersett two years before, and came out of retirement from ringing for this occasion.

Ringing was flourishing at Alburgh, the Pulhams and Diss when Mr. Borrett was initiated into change-ringing. A great tradition of advanced method ringing and fine striking had been built up by the Smiths of Alburgh and Pulham, the Tanns and R. Whiting of Pulham, and the redoubtable Captain Moore of Redenhall. This enthusiasm remained keen and strong for more than a generation. In 1895, the year of the augmentation of the six at Pulham Saint Mary, Mr. Borrett rang his first peal on ten bells, and the next year his first of Maximus, conducted by his cousin, Mr. Charles Edward Borrett, still greatly interested in ringers and ringing. The year 1896 saw also Fred's first peal as conductor, and lengths of 6,048 and 7,008 Oxford Treble Bob Major, to which latter at Pulham he rang the tenor. New methods quickly followed; in 1899 he had rung his 50th peal. Then in 1901, when William Pye's band was touring Norfolk, he took part in the first peal of Superlative on Thetford bells and the first peal of New Cambridge in the county at Swaffham; 1902 saw him on tour in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, with such giants as William Pye, Isaac Shade and Gabriel Lindoff. He also took part that year in a peal of Superlative Surprise Major on Mancroft back eight, conducted by James Motts, with John Souter ringing the tenor. By the middle of 1903 Mr. Borrett's peal total had passed the 100 mark, and the augmentation of his own bells to eight in 1904 gave a new impetus to his efforts; he had taken part in 200 by 1906 and 300 by 1910. His 500th came in 1925 and his 600th in 1930.

Fred Borrett's long list of peals contains many interesting performances, for there are many 'firsts' and 'first in the method' on the eights of Norfolk and Suffolk. He called the first peal of Bristol in Norfolk by a resident band, and the first of that method in Suffolk. He took part in over 100 peals each of Oxford Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Superlative Surprise Major. Many of his peals, rather less than half, in fact, he conducted himself, the treble being his favourite bell for this purpose. Of fine physique, he was an excellent tenor ringer, and had rung Mancroft tenor in 1908 to Kent Royal, and Redenhall tenor on many occasions.

Mr. Borrett was of commanding appearance and always wore a beard. A man of few words, he was forthright in speech. He had peculiarities but he was much loved and respected. A number of ringers in the Redenhall District are indebted to him for their introduction to our fascinating art and training to a high standard of striking and method ringing.

Frederick Robert Borrett dietd on February 27th, 1956, aged 84. Cremation was at Cambridge on March 1st. An in memoriam peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Saxlingham Nethergate on March 5th, Mr. Borrett having taken part in the first peal on the eight there. An attempt for a peal of Bristol Surprise at Redenhall, so long associated with his activities, had to be abandoned after 2,400 changes owing to the indisposition of one of the band.

MR. H. R. COBBIN

It is with deep regret we record the death of Mr. H. R. Cobbin, who died at his home at West Bridgford, Nottingham, at the age of 77 years, after a long illness. He was a ringer at St. Peter's, Nottingham, for over 50 years, for 40 of which he held the office of Ringing Master.

Mr. Cobbin joined the Midland Counties Association in 1898, for which he rang 19 peals, and was a member until the Association was split up. He then became a member of the Southwell Guild. In 1919 he gave two trebles to increase the ring at St. Peter's to ten, and there was nothing he liked better than to hear Grandsire and Stedman Caters rung for service, where he would be found every Sunday until illness overtook him.

The funeral service was held at St. Peter's Church on Friday, March 23rd, and was conducted by Canon Inglis, Rector of St. Peter's, assisted by Canon R. F. Wilkinson, Rector of St. Giles', West Bridgford. Cremation, which was private, followed at Wilford Hill Cemetery.

Before and after the service the bells were rung half-muffled to Grandsire and Stedman Caters; an attempt for a half-muffled peal came to grief after about two hours' ringing.

'He was a man who stood for all that was best,' said Canon Inglis, 'a man of marked individuality, kindly tolerance; and he was a devoted churchman.'

We shall miss Bob, as he was affectionately known, and we shall be the poorer for his passing. F. A. S.

MR. GEORGE HALKSWORTH

Mr. George Halksworth died at Scarborough on March 19th, at the age of 90. The funeral took place at Doncaster on March 22nd, the service being conducted by Canon Herklots, Vicar of Doncaster, ringers being present from Scarborough, York and Doncaster. A course of Grandsire Doubles was rung at the graveside.

Before moving to Scarborough in 1938, Mr. Halksworth was for nearly 50 years a ringer at St. George's Parish Church, Doncaster. He was born in Derby, and did his early ringing at St. Luke's, Derby. He moved to Doncaster in 1891 and was employed as a boilermaker on the Great Northern Railway, retiring 40 years later. He was responsible for building the boiler for the first Pacific type locomotive built at Doncaster works.

For nearly 50 years Mr. Halksworth faithfully upheld the best traditions of the art of change-ringing in Doncaster, and did all in his power to advance the art. Before going to Doncaster the only method practised at St. George's was Grandsire, but under his influence the band soon learned to ring other methods, chiefly Stedman and Double Norwich. His work, however, was not confined to St. George's, and his influence was felt in many towers in the Doncaster District. He was co-founder and first vice-president of the Doncaster and District Society of Change-ringers in 1921, and for very many years was Ringing Master of the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association of Change-ringers, and in this capacity carried out the often difficult duties of his office in a manner worthy of a diplomat, giving pleasure to many and offence to none.

During his youth, Mr. Halksworth was a keen footballer, and for several years played for Doncaster Rovers. He was previously with Derby County and was a member of the team when the Football League was formed. He gave up football, following an injury received whilst playing. He had been a College Youth for well over 50 years, and had rung 62 peals for the Yorkshire Association. H. W.

Another correspondent writes:—

Mr. Hawksworth came to live in Scarborough in 1938, joining the local company there. The year 1946, when this company was re-formed after the war, found him still as keen as ever, although lame in one of his legs. His last touch of any length was a quarter peal in 1947, but he continued to ring until 1949, when his lameness finally prevented his climbing the steps. He maintained a lively interest in ringing until his death.

The bells of St. Mary's, Scarborough, were rung half-muffled on March 21st, and in the following week a quarter peal as a tribute.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Lewisham District

The mother church of St. Mary, Lewisham, was 'at home' for the occasion of the quarterly District meeting, when 90 of her kith and kin, representing 14 towers, attended a very successful function.

Ringing during the afternoon, directed by Miss M. Andrews (Bexley), preceded the service in church, at which the Vicar (Rev. F. Longworth-Dames) officiated. The office included a more than usually interesting address, and a warm welcome to St. Mary's Church. The organist, Mr. L. Vincent, kindly led the singing and made the service additionally pleasant.

A company of over 80 visited the Church Hall for tea, and enjoyed a splendid meal, superbly served by Mrs. J. Dafters and her committee of friends; the Vicar was at the head of the table.

Mr. J. Dafters introduced Mr. J. Robertson, a life member of the Association, to the members, stating that it was very largely due to the efforts of Mr. Robertson that St. Mary's bells were in such good condition and consequently the ringing was flourishing.

Replying, Mr. Robertson said he was very pleased to see such a gathering at Lewisham, and was encouraged to see so many young people present. It augured well for the future of ringing, and with due deference to his hearers' 'local patriotism,' he contended that, for him, St. Mary's bells were the finest in the country!

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. Twenty-four ringers were elected members of the Association and the election of two others was ratified.

A comprehensive report of proceedings at the annual committee meeting held at Maidstone, read by Mr. A. S. Richards, was adopted, with thanks to Messrs. Richards and Dafters for preparing it.

St. Mary's, Hayes, was chosen as the place for the next meeting, to be held on April 28th.

The meeting's congratulations were extended to Mr. H. E. Audsley, on his election to the Mastership of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, who acknowledged them in a few well-chosen words.

The members also sent to Mr. G. H. Daynes, one of the oldest members in the District, their sympathy and good wishes: Mr. Daynes is the victim of a severe illness.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar, organist, the caterers, and all who had assisted in arranging so happy a meeting, concluded the business.

Further ringing terminated the day's activities.

A. G. H.

THE SUNDAY SERVICE CONDUCTOR

By EDGAR C. SHEPHERD

GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

(Continued from page 205)

2. THE AMALGAMATION OF SIX-SCORES

It is assumed that the normal six-scores of Grandsire Doubles are familiar to the reader. Of these there are ten—six of them variations of one basic extent, and the other four variations of another basic extent. They are so well known that we shall not write them out here. The student will, of course, probably have realised hat each of these six-scores is a round block of changes, beginning and ending with Rounds, and it may possibly have occurred to him that six-scores might easily be written out starting from some row other than Rounds. Thus, instead of beginning with 12345 and calling P.B.P.B.P.S., and repeating the calling, he could start from 14532, call P.B.P.B.P.S., repeat the calling and return to 14532, having accomplished a true 120 changes. Or, instead of starting from 12345 and calling S.B.S.P., and repeating the calling twice to return to Rounds, he could start from 14235, call S.B.S.P., and repeat twice and return to 14235. Now to start from 14532 or from 14235 on paper is easy; to do it in the tower is not perhaps convenient. But it is not at all inconvenient or difficult to ring and call one six-score as far as, say, 14235, then from this point use the calling of another six-score to ring round to 14235 again, resuming, at this point, the original six-score and completing it so as to arrive safely at Rounds. In case this is not clear, let us consider an example. Let the conductor call B.P.S.P.B.P. This will bring him in 60 rows to 15342. From this point let him consider 15342 as the beginning and end of a six-score and let him call P.S.B.S., twice repeated. He will then ring 120 true changes and will return to 15342. Now let him resume the calling of the original six-score, calling B.P.S.P.B.P. This will return him to Rounds and he will have rung two six-scores, one fitted neatly inside the other one. Rounds will, of course, have cropped up somewhere in the 'inserted' six-score, but this does not affect the truth of the said 120.

There is space here only for an indication of this method of inserting one six-score inside another. The possibilities of it are immense. The conductor will find by very brief investigation that it offers to him a very large number of callings, with opportunity to vary his observation bells in a way not possible with the standard six-scores. This principle of inserting one extent into another like Chinese boxes is the basis of the Morris and Pitman 240s.

The third matter we have set ourselves to consider is the calling round of the bells, and simple as this is in Grandsire Doubles, it is by no means negligible, for it holds in it the general principle of calling round on all numbers and in all methods.

3. THE CALLING ROUND OF THE BELLS

The general principles of calling bells round are based, on all numbers, on means of causing certain bells to course each other in particular orders. In Grandsire Doubles, to bring the bells round at backstroke 5 must be made to course after 4. This is most easily accomplished by getting 4 into the hunt and leaving it there until 5 has made thirds place. A call at the next lead means that they dodge together behind, leaving only 2 and 3 on the front. At this point, if the conductor wishes the bells to come round he has only to call 2 into the hunt by bob or single (whichever is needed). The bells may, of course, be called round at handstroke, and to do this 4 and 5 must be reversed, 5 being called into the hunt and left there until 4 makes thirds place. The lead-end will then be either 5423 or 5432. In the latter case, seeing that the bells are In Course, a bob at the next lead will produce Rounds at handstroke. The case of 5423 is more interesting. The bells are Out of Course and a single is needed to produce Rounds. A single at the next lead gives the lead-end 3254, and from this point the bells can run a whole plain course and come round at handstroke without any further call.

The calling of Grandsire Doubles into Rounds is thus seen to be capable of accomplishment in a very short time; so short, in fact, that it might seem hardly worth while to offer it to the reader for study. The young conductor should, nevertheless, give the matter careful consideration, for two reasons. First, it is very useful to be able to bring bells round within a minute or so. It makes Sunday service ringing more easy to time, and gives pleasurable opportunities to experiment with callings away from the conventional six-scores. Secondly, the principles of getting 4 and 5 together in plain course order in Grandsire Doubles are no different from those required for the big bells in Grandsire Triples, or Caters, or indeed in any method on any number of bells.

(To be continued)

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The nomination meeting of the Society was held at Drighlington on March 24th. This was a joint meeting with the Yorkshire District of The Ladies' Guild.

Shortly before 3 o'clock eight bells were raised in peal and the following methods were rung before the bells were lowered at 8.30 p.m.: Rounds, Stedman, Plain and Little Bob, Double Norwick, Oxford and Kent, Cambridge and Yorkshire.

Tea had been arranged in a nearby café, and at 5 o'clock the company adjourned for a very enjoyable meal.

Ringing followed until 7 p.m., when the business meeting was held, the president taking the chair. The following nominations were received for the year 1956-57: President, Mr. H. Lofthouse; vice-presidents, Messrs. S. H. Barron, I. Slack, T. W. Strangeway; Ringing Master, Mr. J. W. Gibson; secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. F. Hodson; auditors, Messrs. F. Rayment and C. F. Sutcliffe.

The secretary stated that Leeds Parish Church bells would not be available for the annual meeting of the Society on the last Saturday of April. After some discussion it was finally decided to change the place rather than the date of this meeting. It will now be held at Armley on April 28th.

The vote of thanks on this occasion was left entirely to the ladies, who very pleasantly thanked all concerned with the arrangements for this meeting.

Under any other business an announcement was made concerning the dedication of Sherburn bells, after rehanging on Easter Saturday. An invitation was extended to members of the Society to take part in the subsequent ringing.

During the afternoon and evening some 50 members and friends, representing 19 towers, had once again enjoyed these bells and the hospitality of this tower.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Enthusiastic Meeting at Halifax

Most successful was the first meeting of the year of the Western District at Halifax on March 17th. The bells of All Souls', Haley Hill, were available during the afternoon, and touches in various methods followed in quick succession under the able direction of the Ringing Master, Mr. Vernon Bottomley.

The local company had obviously given much thought to the tea arrangements, and the 50 members who had ordered tea were delighted to find turkey and tongue on the menu, followed by home-made cakes and pastries.

The Vicar of Haley Hill, the Rev. E. C. Henderson, joined the company for tea, but was unable to stay to the business meeting. He was welcomed by the vice-president, Mr. P. J. Johnson. The Vicar expressed pleasure at seeing so many ringers present, and also said how grateful he was to his own ringers for the conscientious way in which they performed their duties Sunday by Sunday. He added that he thought bellringing was the most important branch of voluntary church work (hear, hear!), admitting afterwards that, being a tactful man, these words were usually amended to suit the particular audience he was addressing!

The chair at the business meeting was taken by the vice-president. It was a pleasure to see Mr. William Ambler, a past District secretary, at the meeting and looking extremely well. Mr. Ambler thanked the local company for their arrangements, and said how gratifying it was to see a former apprentice, after moving to another tower, having made such good progress in forming a new band—it made one feel that one's efforts had not been in vain.

Ten new members were elected: Miss S. Collins, and Messrs. H. Barron, M. Brown, W. Wheatley, J. Crapp, F. E. Waspe, J. N. Parkin, P. Searby, K. Hainsworth and J. Buckley.

The 12 bells of Halifax Parish Church were available for the evening ringing, and as many of those present rarely have the opportunity to partake in 12-bell ringing, rounds were a prominent feature. Touches of Major, Caters and Royal were also successfully brought round.

The next meeting is to be held at Bingley on June 16th, and it is hoped that the enthusiastic support given to the Halifax meeting will once more be forthcoming.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

This is the first number of the present quarter of 'The Ringing World.' Postal subscriptions are due and new readers will be welcome. A prompt renewal saves hours of work on our small staff. Please remit to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall. Rates: 3 months, 7/–; 6 months, 13/6; 12 months, £1/6/–.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

In spite of the poor weather on March 24th, many ringers came to a delightful meeting at St. Ippolyts. Ringing started at 3 p.m. and went well until it was time for the service. The Rev. A. A. Symington conducted a short evensong, and Miss Taylor played the organ. After an excellent tea, the Vicar took the chair for the business meeting. The next District meeting will be at Anstey on April 28th, and we hope for plenty of support.

Until recently, the boundaries of the Northern District have not been clearly defined; at present there are 35 ringable towers in this District, including Ardley and Walkern. Aspendon and Aston are definitely in the Eastern District now.

The bells were soon ringing again in many methods, from rounds to London Surprise, and the special method, Hull Surprise. J. S.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s. 6d.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

ENGAGEMENT

HARDING—ARKINSTALL. — The engagement is announced between Charles Henry, eldest son of Mrs. and the late Mr. H. G. Harding, 2, Grange Road, Blunham, Beds, and Mary, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Arkinstall, 88, The Ridgeway, Enfield, Middx. 8068

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The future address of Mr. H. Denman, from April 5th will be 2, Askham Road, Rockley, near Retford, Notts. 8071

PUBLICATION

AN IDEAL GIFT

'TOWERS AND BELLS OF BRITAIN.'—This beautifully produced book will soon be out of print. Obtain your copy **now**, before too late. Direct from the author: Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. Price 21s. net. 7100

MISCELLANEOUS

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Annual dinner, October 6th, 1956, at the Shirehall, Chelmsford. Further details later.—F. V. G. 8074

THE SOCIETY OF RAMBLING RINGERS. —Annual tour, August 4th to 18th, 1956. Devon and Cornwall—cycling. Will anyone interested in joining the Society on tour this year please contact Jean Brooks, 78, Melton Road, Syston, Leicestershire, for details. New members welcome. 8043

COMPLETE YOUR FILES.—Back numbers of 'The Ringing World' are available at the 'R.W.' Office, price 6d. per copy, post free.

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

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

MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Saturday, April 7th, St. Luke's, Chelsea, 3.30. Ship, Talbot Court, E.C., 6 p.m. —A. B. Peck. 8021

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Annual meeting, Derby, Saturday, April 7th. Committee, Diocesan House, 4 p.m. Tea and general meeting, Diocesan House, 5 p.m. Ringing arrangements: Alvaston 10.30 a.m. to noon, Cathedral 2.30 to 4.45 p.m., St. Peter's 3 to 4.45 p.m.; 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Buses for Alvaston (40, 41 and 43) ex Market Place.—A. B. Cooper. 8033

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Meeting on Saturday, April 7th. Rampton bells (5) 3 p.m. Service at Rampton 4.15. Tea at Willingham 5 p.m. Willingham bells (6) after tea.—R. J. Housden. 8027

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Western quarterly meeting, April 7th, Loughton. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. 7983

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—District meeting at Seale (6) on Saturday, April 7th, from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 8007

URGENT NOTICE.—HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — Quarterly meeting and contest at Friezland, April 7th, *cancelled*, owing to lack of entries.—A. Farrand, Hon. Sec. 8081

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting on Saturday, April 7th, at Bishop's Stortford. Bells (10) 3 p.m. and after meeting. Service 4.30. Tea (2s. 6d.) at Parish Hall, 5 p.m. Business includes nomination of peal secretary, also position of Stanmore band. Ringing also at Much Hadham (8), Little Hadham (5) and Braughing (8), 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Standon (6), 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Sawbridgeworth (8) and Thorley (6), 2 to 4 p.m. Lunch (3s. 8d.), Cavalier Restaurant, Bishop's Stortford, 1 p.m.—H. V. Frost, Hon. Gen. Sec. 7994

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The monthly practice meeting will be held at Cockerham, Saturday, April 7th. Ringing 2.30 to 7.30 p.m. Please bring own tea.—R. F. Eccles, Branch Sec. 8049

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Leicester on Saturday, April 7th. Bells: St. Margaret's 2 to 3, St. John's 2.30 to 4, Cathedral 3.30 to 4.30. Service in Cathedral 4.30. Others welcomed to meeting following tea, at which the new president will be elected.—W. A. Wood, Gen. Sec. 8019

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at South Anston, April 7th, at 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. Turner, 10, High Street, South Anston.—J. Seager, Sec. 8038

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM. —Quarterly meeting at Aston on April 7th. Bells (12) 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify for tea.—G. E. Fearn, 92, Etwall Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28. Tel.: SPR 1025. 8012

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS and KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Tonbridge District).—Combined quarterly meeting at Westerham, Kent, Saturday, April 7th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meetings. All welcome—good attendance, please.—P. N. Bond and Doris E. Colgate, Hon. Secs. 7991

SOUTHWELL GUILD. — Annual general meeting, Southwell Minster, April 7th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Evensong 4.15. Tea, followed by business meeting, in Trebeck Hall, 5 p.m.—J. W. Raithby. 7989

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting at Fletching (8) on Saturday, April 7th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. 8008

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting at Tichborne, April 7th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. at the School House. 8031

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Monday, April 9th, practice at St. Mary's, Lambeth, 7.15 p.m., Saturday, May 12th. General meeting, Isleworth—further details later. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. 8039

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Cawthorne on April 14th at 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. Rusby, Darton Road, Cawthorne, not later than April 11th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec. 8077

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Carhampton, Saturday, April 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea for number notified by April 10th.—A. R. Tudball, 3, West Close, Dunster. 8065

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Whatley, Saturday, April 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—E. Chivers, Chilcompton. 8067

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Marksbury (6) on Saturday, April 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea essential to Mr. W. Prescott, Oakleigh, Timsbury Bottom, Timsbury, Bath. 8003

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Arlesey on Saturday, April 14th. Bells (6) 3. Tea 5. All ringers welcome.—L. H. Bywaters, Dis. Sec. 8041

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETY.—Meeting, Parish Church, Driffield, Saturday, April 14th. Bells (6) available 2 to 8.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea in Choir Room 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday to Sgt. T. H. Huddleston, 2, Wansford Road, Driffield. 8078

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Chester Branch.—Spring meeting, Aldford, April 14th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea (2s. 6d. per head) reserved for those notifying by first post, April 11th.—Crewe, 24, Elmwood Avenue, Hoole. 8045

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—Meeting, Alphington, Saturday, April 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. St. Thomas', Exeter, available after tea; Alphington not. Names by April 10th to F. Wreford, 24, Normandy Road, Exeter. 8057

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District. — West Hartlepool (Stranton), Saturday, April 14th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by April 12th to Mr. W. Maughan, 1, Powell Street, West Hartlepool. Method: Erin Triples. 8058

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—April 14th: East Peckham 3 to 5, Mereworth 6 to 9. Tea at Torington Arms, Mereworth. Method for practice, Netherseale. Names to me by 12th. —C. A. Bassett, 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst, Sussex. 8051

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Barrington on Saturday, April 14th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at the Vicarage, 5.15 p.m. Foxton (5) after tea.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 8046

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—April 14th, Stoke Bishop (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., Church House, meeting to follow. Important business. Please attend. Note date.—A. Bennett. 8064

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Rodbourne Cheney (6), April 14th. Names for tea to Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon. Tel.: 3936. 8042

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ledbury District.—Combined practice, Ledbury, April 14th. Bells available 6 p.m.—J. Ward, Hon. Sec. 8054

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Clun District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Leintwardine on April 14th at 3 p.m. Notify secretary of numbers requiring tea.—Thomas Daviss, 20, Newport Street, Clun, Craven Arms. 8050

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, April 14th, at Shorne (6). Names for tea to me by Monday, April 9th.—Cyril S. Jarrett, 38, Balmoral Road, Gillingham, Kent. 8024

LADIES' GUILD.—Sussex Division.—Meeting at Uckfield (8) on Saturday, April 14th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Names for tea, please, to Mr. F. Weller, 14, Church Street, Uckfield, by April 11th. Ladies, please support. Gentlemen cordially invited.—Kathleen M. Yeo. 8000

LADIES' GUILD. — Hereford District. — Meeting at Leominster, Herefordshire, Saturday, April 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea must be received by Wednesday, April 11th.—Miss R. Jarrett, 22, Bulmer Avenue, Garden City, Hereford. 8063

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland Branch.—Meeting on April 14th at Waltham-on-the-Wolds (on main bus route Leicester–Grantham). Service 4.15. Names for tea to me by April 11th.—L. M. Corby, 11, Bowley Avenue, Melton Mowbray. 8080

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Furness and Lake District Branch.—Practice meeting, Ulverston Parish Church, Saturday, April 14th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names to N. M. Newby, 45, Oakwood Drive, Ulverston. —N. M. Newby, Branch Sec. 8056

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Fylde Branch.—Meeting at St. Anne's Parish Church, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, Saturday, April 14th. Bells (8)—official opening after rehanging—3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea (2s.) to W. H. Ratcliffe, 40, Hope Street, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, not later than April 11th. All ringers and friends welcome.—J. F. Turner. 8061

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—Meeting, St. Luke's, Crosby, April 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.20 p.m., followed by meeting. Names for tea before Wednesday to E. Porter, 1a, Endbutt Lane, Crosby, Liverpool, 23.—G. I. Howlett. 8072

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting at Oldham Parish Church, April 14th. Bells (12) 3 p.m. Cafés nearby.—F. Pritchard. 8053

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Preston Branch. — Meeting at Chipping, April 14th. Buses from Ribble coach station: 1.38, 3.38. Bring own food.—L. Walmsley. 8052

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Loughborough District.—Ibstock, April 14th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., in Church Room. Names to Mr. R. Tonks, 86, High Street, Ibstock, by 11th.—C. W. Hall. 8014

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—Meeting at Goxhill (6) on April 14th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by April 11th to Mr. W. Bramwell, South End, Goxhill, Barrow-on-Humber. 8009

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Eastern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Burgh-le-Marsh, Saturday, April 14th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea at White Hart Hotel 5 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, April 9th, to me.—W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs. 8025

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch. — Quarterly meeting, Barkston (6), Saturday, April 14th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, April 9th, to F. G. Vickers, Ermine Street, Ancaster, Grantham, Lincs. — F. G. Vickers, Hon. Sec. 8071

MAIDSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS' SOCIETY.—Meeting at Snodland on Saturday, April 14th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45 p.m. All members welcome. Non-members cordially invited to come and help with ringing.—Pamela J. Butcher, Sec. 8059

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Branch.—Ringing practice meeting on April 14th at Lowestoft, St. Margaret's (8). No business; own arrangements for tea. Bells from 3 p.m.—P. Newstead. 8036

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Interim meeting at Great Ryburgh on Saturday, April 14th. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, April 11th, to C. Tovell, 18, New Road, Gaywood, King's Lynn. 8037

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Warkton (5) on Saturday, April 14th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Weekley bells (6) available during evening. Special method: Carter's Principle. Names for tea by April 10th to Miss J. Luck, 40, Broadway, Kettering. 8044

SALISBURY GUILD.—Dorchester Branch. —Meeting at Upwey, April 14th. Bells 2.30. Service 4, tea and meeting to follow. Names to Mr. F. Virgin, 2, Stottingway Street, Upwey, Weymouth, by April 10th, please.—Hayne, Sec., Abbotsbury, Weymouth. 8055

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD, MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD and SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. —Joint meeting at Burton-on-Trent on April 14th. Service at St. Paul's 4.15. Tea at St. Paul's Institute 5 o'clock. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, April 11th, to Mr. B. G. Key, 54, Rolleston Road, Burton-on-Trent. Ringing arrangements: St. Paul's (10) 2 to 4 p.m. and after tea until 9 p.m., St. Modwen's (8) 6 to 8 p.m., All Saints' (6) 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., Rolleston-on-Dove (8) 2 to 3.30 p.m., Winshill (6) 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.—F. C. A. Bennett. 8010

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts District.—Meeting at South Anston (8), Saturday, April 14th. Names for tea by 11th to Mr. H. M. Turner, 10, High Street, South Anston, Sheffield.—H. Denman. 8070

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Meeting at St. Mary's, Newmarket (6), on Saturday, April 14th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at 'The Restaurant,' High Street.—E. M. Peachey, Dis. Sec. 8035

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION. — Western Division.—Practice meeting, Bosham (6), on April 14th. Names for tea, please, by previous Tuesday to W. L. Weller, Sunnyside, Itchingfield, Horsham. 8062

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover District.—Quarterly meeting at Whitchurch, April 14th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. in Parish Room. Names by April 10th to Mr. J. Clarke, 8, Firs Way, Oaklands Road, Whitchurch, Hants. 8066

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Preliminary notice.—Annual meeting, Stratford-on-Avon, April 21st. Details later.—D. E. Beamish. 8073

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting, Saturday, April 21st, Whickham St. Mary's, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Also presentation to Canon Stephenson. Names to Mr. S. Thompson, Poplar Villa, Whickham.—C. T. Lamb, Hon. Dis. Sec. 8060

LADIES' GUILD.—South Wales District.—Meeting, April 21st, at Llanfrechfa, near Newport. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting. Gentlemen cordially invited. Names for tea by April 18th, please.—Jacqueline Evans. 1, Hughes Crescent, Chepstow, Mon. 8075

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Aylsham (10) on Saturday, April 21st. Service 4 p.m. Ringing from 2 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. N. J. A. Pumphrey, 14, Buxton Road, Aylsham, as early as possible, please.—C. Bird, Branch Sec. 8034

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — South Oxon Branch.—The annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at Thame on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available at 3. Service 4. Tea and meeting afterwards. Names for tea by April 17th to H. Badger, Branch Sec., The Blue Man, Thame, Oxon. Tel.: Thame 193. 8047

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, April 21st, Compton Chamberlayne. Bells (6) 2.15 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., and business meeting. Bells available after meeting: Compton Chamberlayne, Fovant (5), also Barford St. Martin. Tea for those who send names by April 17th to Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury. 8048

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Halesworth District.—Meeting at Wrentham (6) on April 21st at 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by April 18th to R. S. Gayne, Hotson Road, Southwold. 8076

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, Oxted, April 21st. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by April 18th to Mr. J. Hollands, Dormolleen, Woldingham Road, Oxted. 8069

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Portsmouth District. — Quarterly meeting, Saturday, April 21st, Soberton. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in White Lion Inn. Business meeting follows. Names by April 17th to Mr. M. Dudman, Priestfield, Station Road, Droxford. 8079

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—South-West Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Stowford on April 28th. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by April 23rd to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth 8030

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Annual general meeting, Prestwich, April 28th. Towers available: Worsley (10), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; St. Philip's, Hulme (8), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Cathedral (10), 12 noon to 2 p.m., and 7 to 8.30 p.m.; Town Hall (12), 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., and 7 to 9 p.m.; Miles Platting (8), 7 to 9 p.m. It would be desirable if local ringers could be in attendance to meet visitors. Service in Prestwich Parish Church, 4 p.m. Tea at Prestwich Co-operative Society, 5 p.m. (3s. 6d. per head). Names, together with remittance, to Mr. R. Benson, 43, High Bank Drive, East Didsbury, Manchester, 20, by April 25th. Tower secretaries are asked to make block orders for their towers. Meeting in Prestwich Co-operative Society at approximately 6 p.m.—F. Dunkerley, Hon. Sec. 8015

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