THE RINGING WORLD

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THE COLLEGE OF CAMPANOLOGY AND ITS PLACE IN RINGING

A PROPHET is ever without honour in his own country, and how many valuable innovations and inventions have been lost to the country of their origin only to rebound against that country in future years. So may be the fate of the proposed College of Campanology except that there is not at present any other country to which its work can be offered.

At this stage one is not concerned so much with the contents of the 'Manual' except to say that a lot of work has gone into its compilation, and for those with the time and the inclination the publication of the second part is no doubt eagerly awaited.

A point however to which some are asking for information is after what cathedral the system has been named. No one at present appears to be able to identify any particular cathedral as having similar training methods. This is only a minor point, and our purpose is more to examine and analyse broadly the purposes and policies of the proposed college.

Recent debates and decisions of the Central Council recognise the desirability of some general work on the teaching of learners, and to this extent it can no doubt be said that the new body conflicts with what has already been set in motion by the Council. But the Council has never considered it has any prerogative in ringing publications. On the other hand it has supported outside enterprise. The Jasper Snowden Series and the Ringers' Handbook are only two such efforts which receive Council support.

The proposed college, however, apparently intends to go further than merely publishing a treatise and to confer diplomas of efficiency on the satisfactory completion of examinations. Tutorial establishments, whilst providing suitable test papers on what they assume will be points raised by examiners, do not usually also compile the final examination questions. Reading the suggested constitution of the proposed college, it is in itself to be both teacher and examiner. Surely the proper function of such a college is to prepare candidates for examination by a central authority, which in the case we now review would be the Central Council of Church Bellringers.

If this assumption is correct, then it presupposes recognition of the college by the Central Council and the setting up by the Council of an examining body, to prepare and mark theoretical papers by candidates submitted by the college and to arrange for such candidates to be examined in practice. Whether or not the Council will take such a step is not yet known, for so far as we are aware no application along these lines has yet been made, and one would assume that before compiling a Manual of Instruction it would be advisable to obtain some guidance from the examining body.

The letter headed 'Hard Facts about the College' raises some interesting points. It must be encouraging to the Central Council to know it has the support of the proposed college, and Council members will indeed be honoured to feel that they will have preference as officers of the college. Perhaps we shall see the day when Council members will be required to produce their diplomas before being eligible to vote at meetings or even be considered as candidates for election as representatives.

Truly the Council has not prohibited teaching activity without its prior permission, nor, it must be emphasised, does it confer diplomas of efficiency. Again, neither has the Council indicated it will recognise the qualifications granted by a college which, as has already been said, sets its own papers after itself giving tuition.

Mr. Price, in his letter on page 731 (November 16th), succinctly summarises the matter when he refers to informality as one of the most delightful attractions of bellringing, which by its removal will discourage rather than encourage recruits to the Exercise.

R. S. A.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

LINCOLN.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 44 *Minutes.*
At the Cathedral Church of Blessed Virgin Mary,
A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CINQUES
Tenor 24 cwt.

Ronald F. Diserens	*Treble*	George E. Evenden	7
John N. Diserens	2	*Edward J. Clements	8
Doreen D. Dutton	3	Noel J. Diserens	9
R. George Morris	4	*David Beacham	10
John N. Diserens	5	Roger O. Fry	11
S. Antony Jesson	6	*Bryan C. Stirland	*Tenor*

Composed by David E. Parsons. Conducted by Noel J. Diserens.
* First peal on 12 bells.
Rung by members of the Society of Roving Ringers.

TEN BELL PEALS

HILLINGDON. MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 5 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,
A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS
Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in E flat.

Thomas G. Bannister	*Treble*	Frank C. Price	6
W. Norman Genna	2	John E. Chilcott	7
Fredk. W. Goodfellow	3	Michael P. Moreton	8
John S Mason	4	Albert R. G. Twinn	9
*N. David Robinson	5	Tony Price	*Tenor*

Composed by John Carter. Conducted by Albert R. G. Twinn.
* First peal of Grandsire Caters. First peal as conductor.
A birthday compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. F. C. Tyler. Also rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Price on the birth of a daughter, Karen Gail.

EWERBY. LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 12 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Andrew.
A PEAL OF 5001 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor 16 cwt.

John Freeman	*Treble*	Geoffrey Paul	6
Gwen I. Rusby	2	George H. Randles	7
Charles E. Brown	3	Frank G. Bloomfield	8
Norah M. Bibby	4	Geoffrey R. Parker	9
Sydney A. Chambers	5	Walter Tomlinson	*Tenor*

Composed by A. W. T. Cleaver. Conducted by John Freeman.
Rung for the Patronal Festival.

MACCLESFIELD. CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 26 *Minutes,*
At Christ Church.
A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL
No. 3 Version. Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

Alan A. Potts	*Treble*	John Worth	6
Fred Dunkerley	2	Peter Laflin	7
Edward Jenkins	3	Leslie Boumphrey	8
James Fernley	4	*Brian Harris	9
C. Kenneth Lewis	5	Joseph W. Whittaker	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by C. K. Lewis.
* First peal in the method.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

HUGGLESCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Nov. 14, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 57 *Minutes.*
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,
A PEAL OF 5088 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. in F sharp.

John A. Acres	*Treble*	†Arthur E. Rowley	5
*Roland Beniston	2	Ernest J. Jelley	6
*†Joseph W. Cotton	3	Brian S. Chapman	7
John M. Jelley	4	Brian G. Warwick	*Tenor*

Composed by James W. Washbrook.
Conducted by Brian G. Warwick.
* 100th peal together. † 100th peal together.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 17, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 5 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Thomas,
A PEAL OF 5472 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR
In nine methods, being 1,024 London, 832 Bristol, 800 Watford, 640 Cambridge, 512 Dorchester, 416 Cassiobury, 384 Superlative and 352 Lincoln, with 125 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

Mrs. L. Boumphrey	*Treble*	C. Kenneth Lewis	5
Fred Dunkerley	2	Leslie Boumphrey	6
James Fernley	3	John Worth	7
Basil Jones	4	Joseph W. Whittaker	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. Pitman. Conducted by C. Kenneth Lewis.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Nov. 23, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 58 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist.
A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt.

Cyril S. Jarrett	*Treble*	Ralph Bird	5
Herbert E. Audsley	2	George J. Butcher	6
Arthur G. Mason	3	John L. Morris	7
Frederick J. Cullum	4	Brian Bladon	*Tenor*

Composed by Chas. W. Roberts. Conducted by Ralph Bird.
First peal in the method as conductor.

BACKWELL. SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours,*
At the Church of St. Andrew,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 19¼ cwt.

*William R. Drissel	*Treble*	†Cecil Bishop	5
Marjorie Legg	2	‡Kenneth A. Lewis	6
Thomas G. Phillips	3	George Prescott	7
Robert Brice	4	Sidney Smith	*Tenor*

Conducted by George Prescott.
* First peal. † First peal of Triples. ‡ First peal 'inside.'

BARTON-ON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 56 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Peter.
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.

Steven Broomfield	*Treble*	Walter Tomlinson	5
*John R. Ketteringham	2	*Arthur Crowder	6
*†Michael W. Crowder	3	George W. Moody	7
*Louis Willders	4	George E. Feirn	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. Pitstow. Conducted by George E. Feirn.
* First peal in the method. † 25th peal.

BROUGHTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 57 *Minutes.*
At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,
A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt.

Vernon Forshaw	*Treble*	*Lawrence D. Clement	5
James E. Burles	2	Alan Capstick	6
W. Thomas Turner	3	Raymond Suart	7
Clifford H. Ford	4	Nicholas M. Newby	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. Worsley. Conducted by Nicholas M Newby.
* First peal of Major.
Rung for the 21st birthday of Clifford H. Ford, and the birthdays of W. T. Turner and R. Suart; also Miss E. M. Suart, of Dalton.

CHIPPING BARNET, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 3 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Johnson's Variation. Tenor 24 cwt.

H. George Hart	*Treble*	*Dennis C. Bowen	5
Elsie K. Hart	2	G. William Critchley	6
Claudia A. Critchley	3	James Wallman	7
Mrs. T. J. Lock	4	Thomas J. Lock	*Tenor*

Conducted by Thomas J. Lock.
* First peal of Surprise.
Rung to welcome the new Rector, Rev. C. W. Earle, M.A.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 40 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF 5056 GAINSBOROUGH SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10¼ cwt. in G.

PAUL J. RIGBY	*Treble*	J. EDWARD CAWSER	5
ANN BARR	2	RICHARD J. WARRILOW	6
JOAN BERESFORD	3	JEFFREY B. WEBB	7
EVELYN M. FLETCHER	4	PETER BERESFORD	*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSER.
First peal in the method by all the band and for the Society.
Rung to commemorate the dedication of the new organ by the Bishop of Birmingham.

GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 56 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF 5120 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.

*REV. P. MICHAEL FREEMAN	*Treble*	FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD	5
GWEN I. RUSBY	2	GEOFFREY R. PARKER	6
*DENIS A. FRITH	3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	7
†GILES C. GALLEY	4	JOHN FREEMAN	*Tenor*

Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.
* First peal in the method. † First in the method 'inside.'

GILLINGHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 49 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.
A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr.

*ALBERT DUNK	*Treble*	HARRY SPRINGATE	5
JOHN L. MORRIS	2	RALPH BIRD	6
*TERENCE BARTON	3	BRIAN BLADON	7
IAN H. ORAM	4	MALCOLM S. CLOKE	*Tenor*

Composed by J. COX. Conducted by MALCOLM S. CLOKE.
* First peal of T.B. Major.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 45 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 8 cwt. 23 lb. in G.

PATRICIA M. CLARKE	*Treble*	CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	5
JAMES BENNETT	2	WILLIAM J. BUTTON	6
HARRY D. LISTER	3	CECIL W. PIPE	7
GEORGE A. FLEMING	4	ERNEST V. BLAKE	*Tenor*

Composed by N. PITSTOW. Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

KIDLINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 2 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.
A PEAL OF 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 23¼ cwt.

*ROBIN N. PITTMAN	*Treble*	*DONALD H. NIBLETT	5
SHIRLEY V. RYMER	2	*PETER R. SANDERS	6
WILLIAM M. JACKSON	3	*STEPHEN IVIN	7
*ROBIN A. HODGSON	4	PETER BORDER	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by PETER BORDER.
* First peal in the method. The first peal in the method for the Society.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 20 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part (seventh observation). Tenor 15 cwt. 8 lb. in F.

*ALICE E. J. LESTER	*Treble*	*LEONARD S. SHARPE	5
ROSEMARY J. SEABROOK	2	*ARTHUR F. BALLAM	6
*ROBERT E. LESTER	3	*KENNETH G. BROWN	7
SAM J. TWITCHETT	4	*HENRY IVINGS	*Tenor*

Conducted by KENNETH G. BROWN.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples.

NORTON, MALTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 12 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr.

*JOHN A. ROBERTSHAW	*Treble*	JAMES A. PARKER	5
*MARGARET E. WILKINSON	2	BERT SUTTON	6
†JAMES WOOLFORD (14)	3	STEDMAN H. STEER	7
HAROLD PARKER	4	HAROLD WALKER	*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by HAROLD WALKER.
* First peal of Bob Major. † First peal. First peal of Bob Major on the bells.

ROTHBURY, NORTHUMBERLAND.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 8 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF 5024 BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt.

CHARLES MCGUINESS	*Treble*	*GEORGE S. DEAS	5
MARGARET A. SOFTLEY	2	PETER M. GILES	6
MRS. K. ARTHUR	3	J. ALAN AINSWORTH	7
CHARLES N. LEA	4	A. NEVILLE BROWN	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by J. ALAN AINSWORTH.
* First peal in the method.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
and
THE ORDER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF ENGLAND.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF EMMANUEL.
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Variation. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. in A flat.

COMP. JACK N. BROWN, Excelsior Engineers' Chapter, No. 4248	*Treble*
COMP. NORMAN HEAPS, Bridson Chapter, No. 613	2
EX. COMP. THOMAS R. BUTLER, Everton Chapter, No. 823	3
COMP. DAVID VINCENT, De Sala Chapter, No. 5657	4
COMP. EDWARD ASHCROFT, Ormskirk Priory Chapter, No. 4007	5
COMP. EDWIN C. BIRKETT, Thermopylæ Chapter, No. 4386	6
COMP. PETER CROOK, SEN., St. John's Chapter, No. 348	7
COMP. ALLEN P. SANDFORD, Coronation Chapter, No. 2927	*Tenor*

Conducted by EX. COMP. THOMAS R. BUTLER.
50th peal of Stedman Triples as conductor.
First peal in the method by a band of Royal Arch Companions, the only other peal by such recorded in the Masonic peal book at Grand Lodge, London, being one of Grandsire Triples.

SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 51 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND, KING AND MARTYR,
A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN W. BLYTHE	*Treble*	C. JACK GIBSON	5
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN	2	STANLEY W. COPLING	6
RICHARD S. PAYNE	3	L. EDWARD ETHERIDGE	7
REGINALD J. DARCH	4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT	*Tenor*

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by JOHN W. BLYTHE.
Rung for the Patronal Festival.

THAXTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 10 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST, OUR LADY AND ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF 5056 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt.

ROBERT C. HEAZEL	*Treble*	RONALD SUCKLING	5
MRS. RICHARD F. DEAL	2	TERRY EARLE	6
*BRIAN J. HOWARD	3	CHARLES E. WILLMINGTON	7
LEWIS W. WIFFEN	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION	*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.
* First peal in the method.

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MORPETH, NORTHUMBERLAND.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Nov. 26, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 47 *Minutes,*
AT THE WATCH TOWER,
A PEAL OF 5024 BOB MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt. 26 lb. in G.

*NICHOLAS I. WRIGHT	*Treble*	J. ALAN AINSWORTH	5
CHARLES MCGUINESS	2	GEORGE S. DEAS	6
KENNETH ARTHUR	3	KENNETH W. CHEESEMAN	7
A. NEVILLE BROWN	4	ERIC N. HARRISON	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS (C.C.C. No. 9).
Conducted by ERIC N. HARRISON.
* First peal on a hunting bell.

DORCHESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Thurs., Nov. 29, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 8 *Minutes,*
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5120 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt.

DONALD H. NIBLETT	*Treble*	‡ROBIN A. HODGSON	5
SHIRLEY V. RYMER	2	‡COLIN J. B. TAYLOR	6
*D. ROY STODDARD	3	‡PETER R. SANDERS	7
†ROBIN N. PITTMAN	4	STEPHEN IVIN	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.
* First peal of Surprise Major. † First peal of Surprise Major 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Cambridge. The 250th peal by the Society.

LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Nov. 29, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 56 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF 5008 BOB MAJOR
Tenor 13¾ cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN W. G. KINDRED	*Treble*	REV. A. G. G. THURLOW	5
RICHARD W. R. COATES	2	SYDNEY J. MERRY	6
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN	3	ALBERT E. COLEMAN	7
JOSEPH SAUNDERS	4	PETER KINDRED	*Tenor*

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by PETER KINDRED.
Rung in thanksgiving for the life and ministry of the late Rev. Canon R. L. Whytehead, former Rector of Lowestoft and Rural Dean of Lothingland.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

HUNTINGDON.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
On Thurs., Nov. 15, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 32 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR
Being seven extents. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

*STUART E. DYER	*Treble*	JOHN R. G. SPICER	4
†MISS B. SPICER	2	HAROLD S. PEACOCK	5
GORDON D. WHITEHEAD	3	STANLEY GILBERT	*Tenor*

Conducted by STANLEY GILBERT.
* First peal in Surprise methods. † First peal 'inside.'
Rung by the Sunday service band as a farewell peal to Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Whitehead, both members of this tower, upon their departure to reside in Cambridge.

RUMBURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Thurs., Nov. 15, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 41 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS AND ST. FELIX,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES
Being two extents of Stedman and ten extents each of Grandsire, Plain, St. Simon's and St. Martin's. Tenor 10 cwt.

*REGINALD J. DARCH	*Treble*	†EDWIN T. CHAPMAN	3
JOHN W. G. KINDRED	2	PETER KINDRED	4
H. WILLIAM BARRETT	*Tenor*		

Conducted by H. WILLIAM BARRETT.
* First peal of Doubles. † First peal on five bells and in five Doubles methods.

CROUGHTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Nov. 16, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 6 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES
Being 720 each of St. Nicholas', St. Martin's, Reverse Canterbury, St. Simon's, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire.
Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.

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

Conducted by WILLIAM A. YATES.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 17, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 49 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being one extent each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 15 lb. in A.

HARRY STEBBINGS	*Treble*	PETER J. CAME	4
IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS	2	PATRICK W. SALTMARSH	5
*GERALD M. ROUSE	3	HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE	*Tenor*

Conducted by IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS.
* First peal of Minor and first peal for the Association.

EAST PECKHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 17, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 52 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being two extents each of St. Clement's and Single Oxford, and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 14¼ cwt.

*OLIVE D. COUCHMAN	*Treble*	*EDWARD J. JENNER	4
BERNARD V. COLLISON	2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT	5
*STANLEY JENNER	3	COLIN A. TESTER	*Tenor*

Conducted by COLIN A. TESTER.
* First peal in three Minor methods.

ECCLESHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 17, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 5 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR
Being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob, and three extents of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 10¾ cwt.

JOHN NIXON	*Treble*	DAVID JACK	4
ANNETTE M. GRATTON	2	GEORGE W. BIDDULPH	5
CHARLES S. RYLES	3	EWART H. EDGE	*Tenor*

Conducted by EWART H. EDGE.
The first peal on the bells.

HILLFARANCE, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 17, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 55 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,
A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR
Being seven extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM G. GIGG	*Treble*	STANLEY N. BRISTOW	4
REGINALD BEALE	2	GORDON WALFORD	5
ARTHUR H. READ	3	WILLIAM F. SLOCOMBE	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM F. SLOCOMBE.
Believed to be the first in the method on the bells.
Rung as a compliment to Stanley Bristow upon his silver wedding anniversary.

LEIGH, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 17, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 2 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDBURGA,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being 720 each of (1) London Surprise, (2) Cambridge Surprise, (3) Oxford Treble Bob, (4) Kent Treble Bob, (5) Double Oxford, (6) Single Oxford, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 17¼ cwt. in E.

JOHN THOMAS	*Treble*	SIDNEY T. HOLT	4
R. GEORGE MORRIS	2	REGINALD WOODYATT	5
ALLEN MORGAN	3	THOMAS W. LEWIS	*Tenor*

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.
First seven-method peal on the bells for over 30 years.

NORTHAMPTON.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 17, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 14 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST, KINGSTHORPE,
A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR
Being seven different extents. Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

*B. PICKEN	*Treble*	STANLEY F. EARL	4
FRED BENFIELD	2	JACK PAYNE	5
†JOHN W. FELCE	3	BERNARD E. FROST	*Tenor*

Conducted by BERNARD E. FROST.
* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'
Rung as a farewell to B. Picken, who is leaving the district.

SHORNE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 17, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 42 *Minutes,*
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,
A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*Anthony D. Bax .. .. *Treble*	George Kenward 4
†Ronald C. Burns 2	Cyril S. Jarrett 5
Terence Bartqn 3	Ralph Bird .. .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by Ralph Bird.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor 'inside'

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Jill Price, of Tunbridge Wells.

CASTON, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Nov. 18, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 48 *Minutes,*
At the Church of the Holy Cross,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of one extent each of Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob, two of St. Clement's and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. in G.

Betty Syrett .. .. .. *Treble*	Robert C. Button 4
C. Frank W. Phillippo .. 2	Frank C. J. Arnold.. .. 5
Charles E. G. Banham .. 3	John S. Barnes .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by John S. Barnes.

A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Barnes, parents of the conductor, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of their wedding.

HARTEST, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sun., Nov. 18, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 50 *Minutes,*
At the Church of All Saints,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 600 each of St. Simon's, St. Martin's, St. Nicholas', Winchendon, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Grandsire, and 1,400 Plain Bob.
Tenor 12 cwt.

George Garwood .. .. *Treble*	Kenneth G. Brown .. 3
M. Willoughby 2	*H. Clarke 4
Richard Seabrook .. .. *Tenor*	

Conducted by Kenneth G. Brown.

* First peal. First peal by all in seven Doubles methods.

ST. MARY BOURNE, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., Nov. 18, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 58 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Being seven 720's, each called differently, all 5-6's at backstroke.
Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

*Peter R. Dollery .. .. *Treble*	‡Oscar G. Smart 4
*Terry A. Tarrant 2	‡Geoffrey K. Dodd.. .. 5
†Vera Smart 3	A. Patrick Cannon .. *Tenor*

Conducted by A. Patrick Cannon.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. ‡ First peal of Bob Minor. The first peal of Minor on the bells.

Rung to the memory of the local inhabitants who gave their lives in the two great wars.

WITHYHAM, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Nov. 18, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 56 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 each of Single Oxford Bob and Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob.
Tenor 15 cwt. 9 lb. in E.

Frederick J. Lambert .. *Treble*	Ivan A. C. Butcher .. 4
*Patricia M. Howard .. 2	†Stanley G. Ponting .. 5
*Henry N. Vaughan .. 3	Frank H. Hicks .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by Frank H. Hicks.

* First peal in four methods. † 50th peal.

Rung after meeting short for Major.

BROAD HINTON, WILTSHIRE.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Nov. 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 48 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Peter-ad-Vincula,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 30 extents of Grandsire (ten callings) and 12 extents of Plain Bob (four callings). Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

*Derek M. Porter .. .. *Treble*	Michael B. Kemp 4
John G. Webb.. 2	Anthony R. Peake.. .. 5
*David T. Darby 3	*F/O D. J. K. Wise .. *Tenor*

Conducted by Anthony R. Peake.

* First peal.

Rung by an R.A.F. band from R.A.F., Yatesbury, and R.A.F., Compton Bassett.

COITY, GLAMORGAN.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Nov. 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 48 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being two 240's and 38 six-scores Tenor 11 cwt.

*Ellis C. Turner (14) .. *Treble*	Thomas E. Hiddins 4
John Hale 2	D. Walford Davies .. 5
William T. Petty 3	David L. Hughes .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by William T. Petty.

* First peal.

Rung in memoriam Alfred W. Wright (81), of Bridgend, who was interred the previous day.

GREAT LIVERMERE, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Thurs., Nov. 22, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 21 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being five extents each of St. Nicholas', Winchendon, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Grandsire, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, and seven extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt.

Harry King .. .. .. *Treble*	Kenneth G. Brown 3
Ernest Bishop 2	Leonard Sharpe 4
Douglas H. Rooke .. .. *Tenor*	

Conducted by Kenneth G. Brown.

First peal in eight Doubles methods by all. Believed to be the first peal in eight Doubles methods for the Guild.

WINTERTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Nov. 22, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 43 *Minutes,*
At the Church of All Saints,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Single Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.
Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.

*Richard Hall .. .. .. *Treble*	C. Aubrey Harrison .. 4
John Hall 2	Jack Bray 5
Ronald Chafer 3	Harry Hall .. .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by Jack Bray.

* First peal and first attempt.

HELMDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Nov. 23, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 10 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of York, Primrose, Carlisle, Beverley, Wells, London and Cambridge. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

*George Shellard .. .. *Treble*	‡Montague Saunders .. 4
*Barry Saunders 2	Ernest Lines 5
†William J. Chester .. 3	‡William A. Yates .. .. *Tenor*

Conducted by William A. Yates.

* First peal in seven Surprise Minor methods. † 150th peal. ‡ 25th peal together.

Rung as a farewell to Barry Saunders, who is joining H.M. Forces.

HANDBELL PEALS

GOSPORT, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., Nov. 18, 1956, *in* 1 *Hour and* 46 *Minutes,*
At 35, Brighton Avenue,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In seven methods, being one extent each of Westminster, Annable's London, Netherseale, Norfolk, Ipswich, Primrose and Cambridge.
Tenor size 7 in D.

*S. Kathleen M. Knight 1—2	Robin G. Leale .. .. 3—6
Roger Baldwin .. .. 5—6	

Conducted by Roger Baldwin.

* 50th peal this year. First Surprise peal in seven methods by all the band, and on handbells in the county and for the Guild.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., Nov. 18, 1956, *in* 1 *Hour and* 38 *Minutes,*
At 24, Doyle Avenue, Hilsea,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in ten methods: (1) Kent Treble Bob, (2) Crayford Little Court and Cromer Alliance, (3) Little Bob and Walsingham Alliance, (4) Double Court, (5) Double Oxford Bob, (6) St. Clement's Bob, Plain Bob and Double Bob, (7) Plain Bob and Double Bob.
Tenor size 7 in D.

S. Kathleen M. Knight.. 1—2	Robin G. Leale .. .. 3—6
Roger Baldwin.. .. .. 5—6	

Conducted by Roger Baldwin.

* First peal in ten methods by all the band.

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Nov. 18th, 1,260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob Doubles: J. P. Martin (first away from cover) 1, Pamela R. Gough (first in method) 2, C. D. Linington (first in method) 3, R. D. Brown 4, H. W. Brown (cond.) 5, Diana M. Gough (50th quarter in the tower) 6. For Evensong.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. Piper 1, A. H. Winch 2, F. Oakshott (cond.) 3, Brenda Payne 4, J. Hayns 5, D. G. Astridge 6, A. H. Smith 7, H. H. Hayns 8. A birthday compliment to Janet, daughter of the tenor ringer and sister of the ringer of the fifth.

BARROWBY, LINCS.—On Nov. 17th, 1,320 Grandsire and Bob Doubles: Miss J. Owen (first quarter) 1, J. E. Cook 2, P. A. Hill 3, P. E. Parry 4, W. R. Read (cond.) 5, D. A. Frith 6. Rung for the enthronement of the Rt. Rev. Kenneth Riches, D.D., as Bishop of Lincoln.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On Nov. 11th, 720 Bob Minor (with tenor covering): Gwen Reeves (first in method) 1, H. Wingrove (cond.) 2, Ann Shiels (first in method) 3, Dorothy Fletcher 4, J. Harrison 5, A. Bridges 6, S. Hatfield cover bell. For Remembrance Day.

BLEWBURY, BERKS.—On Nov. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Corderoy 1, H. Dunsden 2, A. Greenough 3, H. Bishop 4, C. Aldridge 5, C. Corderoy (cond.) 6, R. Blond 7, J. Grace 8. Rung half-muffled in memory of C. E. Gregory, many years captain of this tower.

BOURNEMOUTH.—At St. John's Church, on Nov. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss L. Evenden (first quarter) 1, Mrs. C. Boyes 2, Miss K. Fletcher 3, Miss S. Titchener (first 'inside') 4, J. Daniels 5, B. Gould 6. H. A. Mitchell (cond.) 7, R. Boyes 8.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, WORCS.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. H. Turner 1, W. C. Boughton 2, F. V. Nicholls 3, B. C. Ashford 4, R. Smith (cond.) 5, A. W. Glazzard 6, G. W. Boughton 7, J. H. Hicks 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Jones, who attained the age of 79 on Nov. 29th. He has been a chorister and ringer at this church for 55 years.

CHELSFIELD, KENT.—On Nov. 18th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 780 Grandsire): Miss G. Outhwaite (first quarter) 1, Miss J. George (first 'inside') 2, J. Parker 3, N. Martin 4, D. Manger (cond.) 5, A. Smith 6. For patronal festival.

CHIGWELL, ESSEX.—On Dec. 1st, 1,440 Bob Minor: N. King 1, Daphne Hyams 2, Janet Evans 3, L. Cordell 4, J. McPhail 5, W. Wedlock (cond.) 6. Rung by the North Weald ringers for the wedding of Miss Anne Low to Mr. Michael Smith.

CHILCOMPTON, SOMERSET.—On Nov. 24th, 1,296 Surprise Minor (720 Ipswich, 576 Cambridge): R. E. Beck 1, A. P. Beck 2, R. G. Beck 3, D. Targett 4, E. J. Targett 5, E. J. Chivers (cond.) 6. For Gift Day.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKS.—On Nov. 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Wood (first quarter) 1, J. E. Lloyd 2, J. A. L. Thompson 3, Mrs. D. E. Beamish 4, A. H. Beamish 5, J. Draycott 6, J. F. Clarke (cond.) 7, J. E. S. Moreton 8. Rung to mark the 80th birthday of Mrs. W. Harding, mother of Mr. A. Harding, people's warden at this church and a former ringer.

COMPTON BISHOP, SOMERSET.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Brinsen 1, A. Peters 2, H. Hooper 3, A. Hooper 4, G. Burge 5, F. S. Paramore (cond.) 6. For the patronal festival.

COWBRIDGE, GLAM.—On Nov. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: T. Hutchins 1, C. Evans (first 'inside') 2, R. E. Coles (cond.) 3, H. Blick 4, E. Carter 5, R. Brown 6, C. Howells 7, I. D. Davies 8. Rung half-muffled with 7, 6, 8 covering as a tribute to the Rev. Gilbert Williams, late Vicar of Cowbridge, and to the memory of Mrs. Mary Coles, mother of the conductor, both of whom were interred during the week.

DARLINGTON, CO. DURHAM.—At St. Cuthbert's Church, on Nov. 19th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Miss P. Dowse (first quarter) 1, Miss D. M. Killingley 2, F. Hodgson 3, T. Senior 4, T. Hill 5, T. Cooke (cond.) 6.

EAST HARLING, NORFOLK.—On Nov. 25th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Jill Creasy (first of Minor) 1, P. Jonason 2, L. King 3, W. Gibbons 4, E. Shingfield 5, J. S. Barnes (cond.) 6. For morning service.

QUARTER PEALS

ESHER, SURREY.—On Nov. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss E. Sturgess (first quarter) 1, Mrs. J. Rooke 2, J. Maybrey (first quarter) 3, B. A. Rose (cond.) 4, Miss J. Barbrook 5, R. Rooke 6.

FARNWORTH, LANCS.—On Nov. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mavis Speakman (first of Triples) 1, R. Bagnall 2, Eileen Hudson 3, N. Tompkins 4, P. J. Hudson 5, O. Davies 6, P. Crook (sen., cond.) 7, H. Prescott 8. Half-muffled for Remembrance Day.

GLOUCESTER.—At St. Mary-de-Crypt, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Blowen 1, G. L. Hewitt 2, P. Clarkson 3, G. Green 4, R. Hazell 5, S. C. Milton 6, L. Barry 7, J. Whiting 8.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.—On Nov. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Gould 1, A. R. Andrews (cond.) 2, R. Duesbury 3, A. E. Honeywood 4, F. H. Erith 5, H. F. Pike 6, C. A. Andrews 7, D. B. Munro 8. First of Grandsire for all except 2 and 7.

HEDDINGTON, WILTS.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss A. Hillier 1, Miss B. Hacker 2, P. Walker 3, Miss R. Maundrell 4, W. Hacker (cond.) 5, H. White 6. Rung for Family Communion service to close annual Gift Day.

HELLINGLY, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Price (first quarter) 1, Miss S. Tonkin 2, Miss K. Yeo 3, L. Baldock 4, G. Beeney (cond.) 5, B. Stepney 6. For Advent Sunday.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.—On Nov 18th, 1,260 Bob Minor: S. E. Dyer 1, C. J. Young 2, Miss D. Robinson 3, J. R. G. Spicer 4, F. R. Nicholls 5, H. S. Peacock (cond.) 6. Rung before morning service.

HIGH BARNET, MIDDLX.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Marvella Braithewaite (first quarter) 1, R. Harrison (first 'inside') 2, M. Soper 3, Margaret Johnson (first 'inside') 4, C. Ward 5, D. Bowen (cond.) 6, W. Poolman 7, W. Langley 8. Rung as a farewell to ringers of 3, 4, 5 and 8, who are ringers at Monken Hadley but have been assisting at Barnet.

KIRBY-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.—On Nov 30th, 1,264 Bob Major: J. Butler 1, Miss M. Mills 2, Mrs. P. W. Mills 3, E. B. Smith 4, L. E. Sharp 5, W. A. Theobald 6, D. Welham 7, U. W. Wildney (cond.) 8.

LAMBETH, S.E.—At St. John's Church, Waterloo Road, on Nov. 18th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: D. Randall (first of Major) 1, N. G. Hollingworth (cond.) 2, L. J. Batley 3, J. A. Hales 4, F. Ranson 5, P. J. Hutchings 6, C. W. Ottley 7, W. D. O. Grainger 8. For Evensong.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. M. J. Gray (cond.) 1, Valerie Willard 2, H. B. Whitney 3, Joan Gray 4, E. Conquest 5, R. Woodruff 6, C. Loke 7, V. W. Conquest 8. For Matins, and to the memory of F. J. Dedman.

LONDON, E.C.—At St. Olave's Church, Hart Street, on Nov. 18th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Miss E. Aldridge 1, Miss M. Floyer 2, Mrs. J. Armstrong 3, D. Jackson 4, W. A. Theobald 5, W. Cook 6, J. Armstrong 7, R. Keeley (cond.) 8. First of Cambridge for 1, 2 and 3.

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.—At St. Paul's Cathedral, on Nov. 18th, 1,260 Bob Triples (on the light eight): Elizabeth Smith 1, G. W. Pipe (cond.) 2, Brenda Sheppard 3, K. Minchinton 4, A. Fisher 5, C. Pearson 6, J. F. Roper 7, C. R. Williams 8. First quarter of Bob Triples by all the band except the conductor. For Evensong and as a farewell to Elizabeth Smith, who sailed for England on November 19th after three years in Australia.

NANTWICH, CHESHIRE.—On Nov. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Merrill 1, T. S. Astbury 2, F. Barnard 3, J. Thomas 4, A. A. Jaques 5, F. Ollier 6, J. E. Brough (cond.) 7, H. Cadman (first quarter) 8. For Sir Edmund Wright's Charity Day.

NORTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On Nov. 11th, 1,440 Minor (720 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Plain Bob): Wendy Bowak 1, Daphne Hyams 2, Janet Evans 3, L. Cordell 4, J. McPhail 5, W. Wedlock (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled for Remembrance service.

OXFORD.—On Nov. 18th, at St. Thomas' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. J. Roaf (cond.) 1, Miss R. S. Hodgson 2, N. J. Maggs 3, P. R. Sanders 4, R. A. Hodgson 5, C. R. C. Coussmaker 6. First in method for 1, 3 and 6. For Matins.

PRESTON (WEYMOUTH), DORSET.—On Nov. 30th, 1,320 Bob Minor: H. T. Cornick 1, Mrs. A. J. Slade 2, Miss B. Marsh 3, G. H. Perry 4, A. J. Slade (cond.) 5, H. T. Corben 6. To commemorate St. Andrew's Day.

QUEENSBURY, YORKS.—On Nov. 14th, 1,296 Little Bob Major: E. Simpson 1, Mrs. H. B. Schofield 2, C. Sutcliffe 3, N. Parkin 4, H. B. Schofield 5, F. Rayment 6, M. J. Thurmott (cond.) 7, S. Longbottom 8. First quarter of Little Bob by all except 1 and 8. Rung in honour of the birthday of H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall.

ROADE, NORTHANTS.—On Nov. 14th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of St. Simon's, St. Martin's, Winchendon Place Bob, Plain Bob, and 300 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure): Miss J. E. Crow 1, H. E. Curtis 2, A. G. Osborne 3, R. Line (cond.) 4, N. Line 5. A farewell to A. J. Baker, who joined the R.A.F. on November 7th.

ST. MARY CRAY, KENT.—On Nov. 11th 720 Bob Minor: R. Beard 1, G. Wheller 2, S. Zobal 3, F. Zobal 4, B. Aldridge 5, P. Braund (cond.) 6. For Remembrance Sunday.

SEAL CHART, KENT.—On Nov. 11th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: E. Acott 1, G. Acott 2, H. Wolley 3, A. Wenban (cond.) 4, S. King 5, G. Godfrey 6. Rung half-muffled by the local band for Remembrance Sunday.

SHOREDITCH, E.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Nov. 25th, 1,295 Grandsire Caters: Doreen A. Deverell 1, T. Bevan 2, G. F. Carter 3, J. M. Payton 4, A. J. Frost (first of Caters) 5, G. A. Parsons 6, B. J. Willis 7, A. W. J. Butler (first on 10 as cond.) 8, E. V. Williams 9, J. T. O'Dell 10. First on ten bells for 1, 4 and 7.

SILSOE, BEDS.—On Nov. 14th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Plain Bob and 1,020 Grandsire): B. Martin (first quarter) 1, J. F. Olney 2, Stella J. Devereux (first 'inside' in two methods) 3, T. P. Harris (cond.) 4, P. J. Lawton 5, A. Martin 6. Rung in honour of the birthday of Prince Charles, Duke of Cornwall.

TENDRING, ESSEX.—On Nov. 11th, 1,260 Bob Minor: A. Brazier 1, Mrs. A. Hales 2, Mrs. R. Rouse 3, F. Harvey 4, I. Cooper 5, E. E. Davey (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled for Remembrance Sunday.

TRUMPINGTON, CAMBS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (780 Grandsire, 240 each Stedman and Plain Bob): Sonia Shepherd 1, Miss C. E. Willers 2, A. L. M. Shepherd (first 'inside') 3, Jane Thorpe 4, E. M. Bullman (first as cond. in three methods) 5. For Evensong, and as an engagement compliment to Frank E. Haynes and Jane Thorpe.

WANDSWORTH, SURREY.—At Holy Trinity Church, on Nov. 27th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Rea 1, J. Chapman 2, M. Sinden 3, J. Tomsett 4, J. Cook 5, F. Corfield 6, J. Euston (cond.) 7, R. Sanders 8. Rung on the anniversary of installation of the bells.

WAVENDON, BUCKS.—On Nov. 11th, 1,320 Bob Doubles: K. Garner 1, M. Hooton 2, Margaret Welton (first quarter) 3, Rev. C. E. Wigg 4, A. Butcher (cond.) 5, R. Williams 6. Rung half-muffled for Remembrance Day.

WENDOVER, BUCKS.—On Nov. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. Andrews 1, H. C. Jones 2, F. Kirtland 3, W. Lee 4, R. Woodruff (cond.) 5, D. Harding 6. Rung half-muffled for Remembrance Sunday service.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On Nov. 18th, 1,440 Bob Minor: D. Holland (first of Minor) 1, Susan Porter 2, L. W. G. Skinner 3, W. A. Hughes 4, A. S. Richards (cond.) 5, J. E. Cannell 6.

WIMBORNE MINSTER, DORSET.—On Dec 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Willis 1, C. Bishop 2, R. Tubbs 3, L. Groves 4, C. Burt 5, E. Bishop 6, P. Tubbs (first of Triples as cond.) 7, A. Waterman 8. Rung for Confirmation service; also farewell to Canon T. W. Page Phillips.

WOBURN, BEDS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: P. Shipton 1, Joan Gray 2, A. E. Kershaw 3, P. M. J. Gray 4, Valerie Willard (cond.) 5, M. Hooton 6, K. Spavins 7, B. Cope 8. First in the method for 3. First of Surprise as conductor. For Evensong.

WOLVERCOTE, OXON.—On Nov. 11th, 1,260 Doubles (420 Grandsire, 360 April Day, 480 Bob): D. Roaf 1, E. J. Morton 2, N. Chamberlain (first as cond.) 3, W. Godwin 4, J. Venn 5, Miss D. Castelt 6. For Evensong, and in honour of the birth of a daughter to the Rev. and Mrs. Ottoway.

YOUNG RINGERS' KEENNESS IN EAST DEVON

In a rural part of East Devon there are three small parishes, Farway (3 bells), Northleigh (4 bells) and Southleigh (4 bells), with a total population of about 600, yet they can muster 27 young ringers who regularly ring at these three towers. The ringing was started by Mr. F. W. Foot in 1952, and it was thought to be a 'flash in the pan,' but as can be seen by the present number this is not so.

Recently a competition was arranged amongst the ringers and was held at Northleigh. Four teams of four ringers competed, the captains being Michael Berry, Michael Denning, Philip Tucker and Leslie Glanville. The Rector of these three parishes, the Rev. W. Wright, conducted a short service which was well attended, and then the ringing commenced. This consisted of rising in peal, rounds and Stand. Then five minutes of changes, a form of Bob Minimus changing on each sally only, and lowering in peal. Quite a good standard was attained.

Afterwards the ringers, together with the two judges—Mr. William Webb, of Honiton, and Mr. Ernest Rowe, of Sidmouth—were invited to the Rectory for a cup of tea and sandwiches.

The keenness amongst these ringers in view of their small number of bells should be a real lesson to other areas where the bells are not regularly rung.

Two quarter peals with five 'firsts' from Burwell, Cambs, denote the progress of the local Sunday service band, which was formed when the bells were reopened last December. Mr. R. J. Housden, their conductor, has hopes of a first peal by this new band before the end of 1956.

Christmas Bells on the Air

On Christmas Day bells will ring out greetings to the nation, from 9.20 to 9.30 a.m. in the Home Service, from the belfries of Chester Cathedral; All Saints' Parish Church, Long Ashton, Somerset; St. Thomas's Church, Belfast; St. Mary's Parish Church, Lambeth, London; St. George's Parish Church, Greenock, Renfrewshire; St. Woolos' Cathedral, Newport, Monmouthshire; the Abbey Church of St. Mary and St. Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham, Norfolk, and (recorded) the Church of the Nativity at Bethlehem.

All these bells, with the exception of Bethlehem, will be heard 'live.' It will be appreciated that such a broadcast entails, overall, a tremendous amount of work on the part of the Outside Broadcast Department, B.B.C. engineers and the Post Office.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

The following are the newly-elected officers for 1957 of the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers:—

President, Rev. C. Elliot Wigg; vice-presidents (new), Dr. D. H. Niblett, Dr. D. A. Edwards; Central Council representatives, Mr. R. B. Meadows, Dr. D. H. Niblett; Master, Mr. P. R. Sanders; joint secretaries, Mr. R. N. Pittman and Mr. C. J. B. Taylor; treasurer, Mr. R. A. Hodgson; steeple-keepers, Mr. H. J. Stanley and Mr. S. J. Ivin.

NORWICH DIOCESAN

An Interesting Anniversary

Fifty years ago, on November 5th, 1906, Mr. E. Barker, a Shouldham ringer, journeyed to St. Faith's Church, Gaywood, to take part in the ringing of the six new bells while King Edward passed through the village on his way to open the King's Lynn Grammar School.

On Saturday, November 24th, Mr. Barker was again among the ringers at the church, the occasion this time being the third quarterly meeting of the Western Branch.

Some 40 ringers representing 14 towers attended, and the Master, Mr. C. V. Ebberson, arranged the ringing. The Rector of Gaywood, Rev. D. N. E. Bringloe, conducted the service and the president of the Association, Rev. H. G. Lillingstone (Rector of Marsham), read the lesson. The organist was a local ringer, Mr. D. Little. Relatives and friends of the local band arranged tea, and the profit of £1 5s. 5d. was paid to the Gaywood Bell Fund, which now amounts to £124.

At the business meeting, at which Rev. R. G. Dodson (Rector of Gressenhall) presided, ten new members were admitted.

The chairman expressed sincere thanks to the ladies who prepared tea, also to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to the organist. Replying, the Rector invited a band from the Western Branch to ring an afternoon peal at Gaywood.

Methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Plain Bob, Stedman, Grandsire, St. Clement's, Double Court, Double Oxford, Kent, Oxford, and Cambridge Surprise; also rounds and call-changes for the learners.

The next meeting, which is the annual, will be at Fakenham on February 23rd, and the dates for the quarterly meetings are May 25th, August 31st and November 30th, 1957.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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BELFRY GOSSIP

A former member of the Chilvers Coton band, Mr. Harry Wright, who has lived in Umtali, Southern Rhodesia, for the last eight years, in a letter to Mr. A. H. Beamish, writes of his excitement to find a sally in his hand again after a trip of 1,340 miles in 3½ days to Durban. Call-changes and Grandsire Doubles with covering bells were rung at both St. Mary's (8) and St. Paul's (10). He mentions meeting a ringer from Rugby and one from Kidderminster.

Owing to the shortage of ringers the peal attempt at Newbury on December 1st was reduced from Grandsire Caters to Bob Major.

Fourteen-years-old Roland Cook rang two peals on December 1st — Yorkshire Surprise Royal at St. Andrew's, Derby, and Bob Minor at Asfordby.

As an act of appreciation for the use of the bells for a peal one reader sends a copy of the performance to the incumbent. A happy idea that could well be followed for outings.

John and Peter Kindred rang their 25th peal together at Loddon on November 19th. So far John has not stood in a peal without his brother Peter.

A happy relationship with ringers has the Rev. Wm. Garner, for the last 21 years Vicar of All Saints', Madeley, Staffs. The anniversary was marked by a peal in six methods on Madeley bells, and afterwards the Vicar entertained the ringers to tea.

The departure of Mr. Michael Thomas into the Services is regretted by a large circle of friends at Oxford. It was celebrated by a course of Grandsire Doubles rung silent on thumbs at Oxford Station. Other travellers called in the duly authorised officer, and the latest report from the county asylum is that the ringers are shortly to be allowed out on probation!

Mr. Frederick Oakhill, who rang the third in the peal at Wotton-under-Edge to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the installation of the bells, has been a ringer at this church for 63 years and a member of the Gloucester and Bristol Association for over 57 years. After the peal the ringers were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. O. Mills.

Seventeen-years-old Donald L. Mills has conducted 17 of his 25 peals. He has now conducted a different composition from every position in the octave.

Mr. John H. Wilson, who rang his first peal at Higham-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire, on Nov. 24th, has only one effective arm. He is to be congratulated on the way he handled his bell in his first peal.

Centuries were very much in evidence in the peal of Cambridge Surprise at Hugglescote. It was the 100th together of Roland Beniston and Joseph W. Cotton, and also Arthur E. Rowley and Joseph Cotton.

Mr. T. Merritt, of Bishop's Cannings, Wilts, whose 40th wedding anniversary was commemorated by a quarter peal at Bishop's Cannings on November 28th, has completed 60 years as a ringer in this tower.

A belfry clock is being dedicated at Weston Favell, Northants, at Evensong on Sunday, December 16th, to Joseph W. Linnitt, a Weston Favell ringer, who died seven years ago, aged 26 years. His ringing friends are invited to be present. Ringing is from 5.30 p.m.

The band who rang in the Masonic peal at Southport on November 24th wish to thank the Vicar (the Rev. B. F. F. Crane) for his permission and interest, Mr. Ronald Kenrick (local captain) for his ready co-operation, and Mrs. Heaps and family for their splendid hospitality after the peal.

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ROYAL CHURCH OF SAN FRANCISCO EL GRANDE, MADRID

By RANALD W. M. CLOUSTON

MR. DOVE's celebrated Guide has started quite a number of things, and there can be no doubt that it was the originator of this expedition; unfortunately, Mr. Dove was unable to add any further information about the bells in this church than he had already published and he could not quote any references from which further information might be gleaned. Numerous books were scoured through without even finding a fleeting reference to the bells.

Having worked on the Continent for some while and having seen bells there of all shapes and sizes, I had never come across a stay or a slider, even though ball bearings are far from being unknown. I was therefore extremely sceptical of there even being a faint possibility of a set of ringable bells on the Continent.

However, a year ago I heard that a Spanish-speaking friend of mine was going to spend a holiday in Madrid, where at one time he used to work. As he does not ring I did my best to arm him with all the available information about the bells and with illustrations of bells hung for ringing, and asked him to visit the above church.

The result was unexpected. Even though he was not allowed to see any of the bells, he did find in the sacristry of this Franciscan monastery a card stating that the bells were cast by John Warner and Sons, of the Cripplegate Foundry, London. He also learnt (erroneously) that there were nine bells in one tower, of which four were said to be hung similarly to the sketch I had sent of a bell hung for ringing in changes.

This raised fresh doubts in my mind as the nine bells would infer the presence of a semi-tone bell and the possibility that only a few of the actual octave were hung for swinging, the others being used for tune-playing only. Though my friend speaks fluent Spanish, even for him permission to inspect the bells was 'out of the question.' It was obviously not worth my while going all the way to Madrid without having prior permission to see the bells, especially as my knowledge of Spanish is slight.

Some while ago I acquired the foundry papers of the late Robert Warner, the last owner of the bell-foundry. The latest catalogue was dated 1877 and made no mention of these bells; the other records also contain no reference to them. This placed the bells in the period 1877 to 1920, and it seemed reasonable to assume that given favourable conditions they might be ringable if they ever were in this state.

The first step was to confirm that the church did belong to the Franciscan Order of Friars Minor, and this I did by contacting the headquarters of the Order in England: this done, I enlisted the aid of the British Council in Madrid. The staff of the Council were of very considerable assistance to me and the necessary permissions were all obtained through them.

On contacting the church authorities it was discovered that the fabric comes within the jurisdiction of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and that application would have to be made to the section of the Ministry dealing with it. So approaches were made via the British Council, the Cultural Attaché in the Spanish Embassy in London, and via the church authorities, with the successful result that I was granted permission to see, and if necessary (or possible), to overhaul the bells in the church.

This stage having been reached, I arrived in Madrid on Sunday, September 30th, last, equipped with a bell rope, bearing oil, a hydraulic jack, a boiler suit and various tools.

The Monday was a public holiday so it was Tuesday before I could make arrangements to see the bells. A visit was first paid to the British Council to meet the staff who had so kindly assisted in the project, and then to the Spanish Foreign Ministry, now housed in the magnificent Palacio de Santa Cruz, once the headquarters of the dreaded Holy Inquisition.

There I met Sr. Ernesto La Orden, who is responsible for the maintenance of this church. He spoke good English, and with the aid of a model bell in a frame brought from England and with various illustrations the process of swinging a bell in a full circle was explained. An explanation of change-ringing was not so readily understood, and as at that stage it was uncertain whether he even had a ring under his care, the matter was not pursued. Sr. La Orden



THE CHURCH OF SAN FRANCISCO EL GRANDE

very kindly arranged a meeting with his resident curator at the church for later that afternoon, and I undertook to report to him on the state of the bells.

THE CHURCH

Though the church is not the Cathedral of Madrid it is the Royal Church, and in the time of the monarchy coronations were held here. Under the present circumstances all State services involving the attendance of the diplomatic corps are held in the church, and it is not inappropriate to note that General Franco's patron saint and the patron saint of the church are one and the same.

The church is situated some half a mile south of the Royal Palace. The magnificent building mainly dates from the 18th century, though it does incorporate part of a 15th century fabric.

The arrangement is somewhat reminiscent of St. Paul's Cathedral in London: there is a large central dome with twin flanking towers on, in this case, the east front. Due to the peculiar site conditions the altar is at the west end and the east front faces on to a square surrounded by fairly tall blocks of flats in one of the older parts of Madrid. The twin towers are set back in the east front and are about 130 feet high. The church contains some very fine mediæval walnut choir stalls and some paintings by Goya and others.

During the Civil War the church was at one time in the front-line and extensive monastic buildings on the south side were completely destroyed. At the moment the authorities have a three-part plan of restoration; the first part, being the restoration of the remaining monastic portion, is already complete. The second one, restoring the frescoes and painting, is well in hand, and the remaining one of restoring the two eastern towers is yet to be undertaken.

THE BELLS

I found a ring of eight bells (tenor 8 cwt.) in the southern of the two towers and a chime of 11 in the other (tenor 15 cwt.). All were cast by John Warner and Sons, of the Cripplegate Foundry, London, in 1882, and a number of bells in the ring have the same notes as others in the chime.

The ring of bells is now unringable and has been so since about 1910, and for the reasons given below would have only just been termed 'ringable' when brand new.

The bell-founders were faced with a tricky problem. The two towers are identical and have their two lower floors taken up with rooms and spaces in the church proper, each floor being on a stone vault. On the second floor rises a 50 ft. spiral staircase which occupies the complete inside area of the tower, except for a hole some 3 feet in diameter down the centre. The towers are square externally, circular internally in the staircase zone and octagonal in the bell chamber.

At the head of the staircase there is a floor between the octagonal tower walls and the circular aperture of the stairway. This hole is protected by a 3 ft. high balustrade of iron. As the staircase is so large there is only some 19 inches between the balustrade and the tower walls. Some 3 feet above this floor is the bottom of the four window openings, one in each wall, these being some 14 ft. high by 4 ft. wide.

The problem the bell hangers had to face was where to put the bells. If they put them on the floor at the head of the staircase then there would be nowhere for the ringers to stand other than at the bottom of the 50 ft. staircase, and that would mean piercing the staircase treads to feed the ropes through and making the stair virtually unusable.

The compromise decided on was to locate the bell frame high up in the window openings so that the bells when set inverted would just clear the top of them and the stone vault in the bell chamber roof. This left the bearing level some 13 feet above the floor at the head of the staircase and a clearance of some 8 feet from this floor to the lowest frame beam.

The area available inside the tower was insufficient to hang all the bells in one level without allowing some of them to hang actually in the window openings, which are in a wall thickness of some 4 feet. Having the bells in two tiers would have been impossible due to the very restricted head room. So the second, fourth, sixth and tenor bells are hung in the window openings with the remainder inside the tower. No louvres have been fitted but iron grillages have been clamped to the outside tower walls to stop bells, ringers, etc., falling to the ground.

The ringers stand on the floor inside the tower at the head of the circular staircase, in a position somewhat akin to that at Merton College, Oxford, and Southwell Minster. But the poor ringers of the treble, third, fifth and seventh have to ring their bells in a gap of 19 inches between tower wall and balustrade, and the fourth bell rope descends only 1¼ inches from this 3 ft. high iron railing. On the other hand, the rope circle is excellent!

There is nothing between you and the bells, and the risk to life and limb if a clapper dropped out would be considerable. The din must be quite appalling, and in inclement

(Continued next page)

Ringing Bells at Madrid—Cont.

weather it could be more than a little d aughty, wet and cold in the completely open ringing chamber. The bell ringing season would appear to be somewhat limited—early spring and late autumn only!

It would not be hard to visualise a band of ringers kitted-up to meet all eventualities, equipped with tin hats and chain mail (against the clappers), walkie-talkie sets (to hear the conductor), special acoustic headgear (to stop the noise), protective clothing (for snow, rain, cold winds, etc.). If the temperature is over 100° F. it would be best not to go for the peal! A 'silent' peal would not require walkie-talkie sets.

Early this century Warners appear to have returned and fitted an electrical chiming system to the chime of 11 bells in the other tower and also to the treble, third, fifth, seventh and tenor in the ring. This necessitated the removal of the wheels from these bells and also the sliders. In the process of time this electrical system became useless and it has now been completely removed.

The bearings are ordinary blocks let into the frame beams and covered by wooden boards, and most of the gudgeon pins are either rusty or scored. The clappers from the third and fifth bells are now in the seventh and tenor, leaving the former pair without any. The bells and framework are in quite good order but a number of the fittings are missing, e.g., five wheels, seven sliders, etc.

Later I saw the chime of 11 bells in the other tower. These just hang dead with no means of sounding them at all, though the tenor did have what appeared to be a pierced 4-inch-diameter canon ball hung by a hemp rope from the crown staple and hitting the soundbow just by the lip, some 3 inches too low.

So all together, out of 19 bells 13 have no means of sounding them at all and only the tenor of the ring is used. This latter bell is clocked in a most Heath Robinson way which involves a chain on the clapper, levers, a weight and a wire passing down outside the tower through the lead roof of the church to the ringer.

As arranged with Sr. La Orden, I have written a report on the state of the bells and I have set out proposals for restoring them and making improvements so that they can be rung far more easily and comfortably. It is perhaps opportune to make such a report in view of the proposed restoration of the towers themselves and in the not-too-far-distant future the bells may be made ringable again.

The Devil's Knell

A Middle Age custom was 'Ringing the Devil's Knell'—tolling the tenor bell 4×4 strokes on Christmas Eve, it being believed that the Devil died each year at the birth of Christ. On Christmas Eve the 'Devil's Knell' will be rung on the Mitchell Tower Chime at Chicago University, U.S.A. A carillon concert of Christmas carols will follow.

Is the 'Devil's Knell' observed anywhere in England today?

Two Issues In One Week

Because of Christmas holidays, two issues of 'The Ringing World' will have to be produced in one week. The last date for receiving Notices for the issue of December 28th is Friday, December 21st. Will District secretaries please co-operate or be disappointed.



BELLS HUNG IN THE WINDOW AT MADRID

Peal Board Dedicated at Wolborough

The Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild of Ringers held a by-meeting at Wolborough, Newton Abbot, on November 24th, when an enjoyable time was spent by those who attended. Ringing throughout the afternoon consisted of touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major, this being followed by a short service in church, conducted by the Rev. J. G. M. Scott (assistant priest), assisted by Preb. E. V. Cox, president of the Guild. During the service a handsome peal board was unveiled by Mr. J. E. Lilley, chairman of the Branch, and dedicated by Preb. Cox. This records a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major rung on the bells earlier in the year, the first peal in this method rung by an entirely resident band in the county of Devon.

The visitors subsequently adjourned to a local café for tea, and although there was no official business to transact, two new members, Mr. and Mrs. Long, of Coffinswell, were elected, and the president congratulated those who rang in the above-named peal for which the peal board had been erected. A. L. B.

WOODCHESTER BELLS RESTORED

Bellringers from all over Gloucestershire were among a congregation of several hundred people at the service of rededication of the recently restored ring of six bells at St. Mary's Church, Woodchester, on November 29th.

The dedication was performed by the Rural Dean, Canon S. H. A. Bennett, rector of Amberley, the service being conducted by the rector (Rev. W. N. R. J. Back) and prayers said by a former rector (Rev. H. D. Woolcott) who, together with his wife, had travelled from Westcliffe-on-Sea to attend the service.

Midway through the service the clergy, led by the churchwardens, Mr. L. J. Birt and Col. E. A. Airy, processed to the ringing chamber high in the steeple where the dedication took place.

As they made their way back into the church the local ringers 'rang up' the bells ready for the change-ringing which followed the service. The first ring was performed by Messrs. A. Howell, R. L. Brunt, R. Bowley, G. Latham, F. W. Garland and L. Cordwell.

HANDBELL RINGERS CARRIED ON

Hymns during the service were accompanied on handbells rung by the younger ringers who, week by week, have rung their bells while the tower was undergoing repairs. The ringers comprised Michael Brunt, Anthony Burford, Terry Randall, Philip Raymond and Brian Vanstone.

During his address, Canon Bennett referred to the bandbell ringers, saying he thought they had done a 'wonderful job' while the tower was silent. He also praised the efforts of the villagers in raising money to pay for the renovation.

Canon Bennett said change-ringing was an English art. 'It is always a joy for us on the top of the hill to hear the bells of Woodchester. They have been a source of inspiration to many people,' he added.

Church bells, the speaker said, were often the means of cheering up sick people and giving courage to those who had been laid aside through illness.

The lesson was read by the tower secretary (Mr. W. J. S. Brunt) and the collection for the church bell fund was taken by three ringers.

Most disappointed ringer that evening was the Woodchester tower captain, Mr. Raymond Thain. Only a few hours before the commencement of the service he was sent to bed suffering from influenza. However, he will be able to hear a complete record of the service thanks to the efforts of a local recording enthusiast, Mr. Reg Watkins, of Paganhill.

Visitors included Mr. W. A. Hughes, of Mears and Stainbank of London, who carried out the renovation, Mr. W. F. Scudamore, of Winterbourne, the general secretary of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, and Mr. S. T. Price, the Stroud Branch secretary.

After the service the visiting ringers enjoyed short touches on the bells. Almost every tower in the Stroud district was represented at the service.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GETTING MOST OF THE GAME

Dear Sir,—'The onlooker sees most of the game,' so may I, as a non-ringing associate member of the local County Association, venture to comment upon some aspects of bell-ringing and ringers as they occur to me?

I usually see 'The Ringing World' each week as one member of our household is an active ringer—always in the belfry twice on Sundays and visiting other towers during the week. My perusal of the paper leads me to the opinion that the ringer of peals is considered to be the leading man in the Exercise, the 'tower-grabber' coming in as a very poor second.

Now let us consider what each of these two members gets out of his hobby. The ringer of peals usually associates himself with ten or a dozen like-minded ringers. They fix up peal attempts together in towers mainly in their own neighbourhood, and very often the same tower is chosen over and over again for the attempt, as it is thought to be of importance to ring so many peals together or to 'circle' the tower. And whilst the peal is being rung the people outside—some of whom object—have to listen to two or three hours' solid ringing without a break.

The 'tower-grabber,' however, on receiving his 'Ringing World' turns not to the first opening but the last. 'Ha! a meeting at Toad-in-the-Hole! I haven't rung there! How do you get to it?' Out come maps and time-tables; what does it matter if it is across a couple of counties and a three-mile walk at the end? Off early on the Saturday by bus or coach or train, seeing the beauties of the countryside and striking up acquaintance with fellow travellers en route.

Then, when the venue of the meeting is reached, ringing a little, talking a lot, attending a service in the church, enjoying a good tea, and taking part in a meeting; making new friends and renewing acquaintance with old ones—all with similar tastes and hobbies. Then back home again after another enjoyable day and a new tower or two to credit.

Yes! As an onlooker, it seems to me that the 'tower-grabber' gets much more sheer pleasure and enjoyment from his ringing because he is obliged to travel the country to get his new towers. The peal ringer misses all this—he has only satisfaction in performing a difficult task. Pleasant, no doubt, but not sufficiently so that derision should be the lot of the 'tower-grabber.'—Yours faithfully,

THOS. W. CLARK.

Bushey, Herts.

RINGING IN CORNWALL

Dear Sir,—Mr. R. Collins appears to be not a little hard on Alan Carveth in the matter of ringing in Cornwall, particularly when one considers the natural obstacles such as appalling isolation of towers, poor communications, etc., which have to be overcome by those endeavouring to keep change-ringing alive in this county. Hardly a week passes by without a record of some sort of activity by Mr. Carveth and his stalwart followers in the band at Kenwyn Church appearing in 'The Ringing World,' both in their own tower and elsewhere, and this is 'some going' for that part of the world, not to mention their unpublicised labours in the matter of assisting at practices in less fortunately placed towers, tuition of learners, etc.

Although I hold no brief whatever for Cornwall in the matter of scenery, climate or the amenities of a civilised life, its ringers, particularly in the Truro district, are a grand and gallant crowd, deserving of credit rather than criticism, direct or implied.—Yours sincerely,

W. E. BOX.

Harborne, Birmingham.

THE DEVIL'S PEAL

Dear Sir,—If I may venture to offer a correction to Mr. Cluett's letter, I believe that the title of the book mentioned by him is 'Herod's Peal,' written by Russell Thorndike, author of the famous 'Dr. Syn' books.

I, too, was very much interested when I read it, by the author's conception of the fatal significance of certain peal compositions. Perhaps legend will in time attach itself to modern compositions, and the daring band who go out with grim faces to ring a certain famous composition of Double Norwich will come down from the belfry to be greeted by the news that one of the villagers has fallen dead in the churchyard.

There is also reference in Thorndike's book to the thoroughly sinister appearance of a band of travelling peal-ringers, which bears good witness to the author's observant eye and memory for detail.—Yours sincerely,

DAPHNE R. CASTELL.

Oxford.

Christmas Greetings

Our seasonal feature, 'Christmas Greetings,' whereby members of the Exercise send their good wishes to ringing friends, will appear in our issue of Friday, Dec. 21st. The charge is 4s. per insertion of 36 words, afterwards 1½d. a word.

CAPE TOWN'S INVITATION

Dear Sir,—Next year we hope for some renewed activity at Cape Town with the arrival of a Cheshire ringer who will settle in Cape Town. The return of two very useful members after longish absence is promised, and early in February we shall be honoured with a visit from the president of the Coventry Diocesan Guild, Mr. Frank W. Perrens. Bob Stickley returns from Nigeria towards the middle of 1957, and Mr. J. Bennett, of Grundisburgh, is coming for a few weeks in October. To all these we look forward with keen anticipation.

Despite the great increase in shipping calling here, Merchant Navy visitors are rare birds. We would bring to the notice of all Australian and New Zealand travellers the advantage of this route to snatch a tower.

With every good wish,

V. SHEPPARD.

Box 1073, Cape Town.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION

St. Michael's, Heighington, whose bells have recently been rehung on ball bearings, attracted an attendance of 18 at the meeting of the Southern District held on November 24th. The visitors included Mr. W. Oliver, who is 81 years old, and Mr. H. Simpson, two old Heighington ringers, and the president of the Association, Mr. Kenneth Arthur.

The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. J. Meek, with Mr. Thompson at the organ.

The business meeting was held in a local inn, and thanks to the Vicar and warden were expressed by Mr. W. N. Park. Miss Goodship, of Stockton-on-Tees, was elected as a new member, and the next meeting in January was fixed for the Parish Church, Stockton-on-Tees. The ringing commenced with Bob Minor, and later various touches of Doubles, Treble Bob and Surprise Minor were rung. F. W. C.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

At St. Mary's, Taunton, Again

It is almost ten years since the Bath and Wells Association held a meeting at St. Mary's, Taunton—the only ring of 12 in the Association's area. For several years the tower has been regarded as unsafe for ringing, but it has now been passed by the architect as safe for ringing for short periods only.

The meeting, held there on December 1st, was the annual of the Taunton Branch. At the business meeting, held at the nearby Corfield Hall, in the absence of the Branch chairman (Rev. Edwin Hirst) through illness, the Branch vice-chairman welcomed the Vicar of St. Mary's (the Rev. H. L. Bothamley) to the meeting, thanked him for his granting permission for the band to meet at St. Mary's, and also welcomed his interest in the ringers and especially his own young band of learners, who were being very ably trained by Mr. W. Tarr. All the Branch officers were re-elected for 1957 and the secretary's name was added to the list of nominees for the diocesan representatives on the Central Council.

It was agreed to hold the 1957 annual meeting at Wilton, with quarterly meetings at Ruishton, Bishops Lydeard and West Buckland, subject to the respective incumbents' permission.

A resolution was passed expressing the Branch's strong disapproval of the recent articles published in 'The Ringing World' regarding the College of Campanology Manual. This is to be forwarded to the Diocesan General Committee for their consideration of further action. The secretary of the N.E. Branch of the Devon Guild, who was present, stated that it was hoped to hold a joint meeting with the Taunton Branch at Sampford Peverell during 1957.

Ringing after the meeting ranged from Triples to rounds on the 12 for the learners present, and included a good course of Bob Royal in which two ringers were ringing their first touch on ten bells.

During the course of the meeting ringers were present from towers as far away as Dulverton, Tiverton and Cannington, as well as representatives from ten local towers. F. W. S.

THE LADIES' GUILD

West Midland District

Members and friends of the West Midland District visited the church of St. Bartholomew, Edgbaston, Birmingham, on December 1st, where the eight bells are ideal for ladies to handle. Ringing during the afternoon was under the direction of Mrs. C. A. Barron. A band of ladies rang a course of Cambridge Major, only to have their efforts surpassed by a touch of Spliced Surprise Major when the gentlemen were given a chance to perform.

The Rev. Canon Ronald Allen conducted the service, which was held in the choir stalls, and gave an address. The organist was Mr. Russell Green, who also played the new organ following the Blessing.

A splendid tea was prepared in the Parish Hall by Miss Evelyn Fletcher, Miss Ruth Russell and other local ringers. Again the gentlemen were outnumbered at tea. A vote of thanks to all the people who had helped make the meeting so enjoyable was proposed by Stella Hughes.

At the business meeting which followed, the chair was taken by Mrs. C. A. Barron. Twelve members representing seven towers were present. Two new members, Jill Morgan, of Lichfield, and Margaret Hampton, of Erdington, were elected.

The next meeting will be held at a Worcestershire tower early in March.

THE LADIES' GUILD CAME TO ACLE

PRESENTATIONS TO MRS. FLETCHER

THE Eastern Branch held its winter meeting at its usual venue, Acle, the village on the edge of the marshes, where the ring of six bells is hung in a 'false' steel tower within the actual round tower of the church, which would not be able to support a ring.

The service was conducted by the Vicar of Great Yarmouth, Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, a vice-president of the Association, the lesson being read by Mr. Nolan Golden, and a visitor from Spalding, Mr. R. C. Noon, played the organ.

After a splendid tea the meeting started its deliberations, and because of the very welcome presence throughout the afternoon of several ladies, including such personalities as the Ladies' Guild president, Mrs. K. Lock and Mrs. A. Richardson, it was evident 'something was afoot.'

In the unfortunate absence, occasioned by last-minute family ill-health, of Mr. E. R. Goate, the Branch chairman, the chair was taken by the president of the Association, Rev. H. G. Lillingston, supported by the Association Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Barrett, and other Branch officers.

The chairman commented how happy they all were to see so many Ladies' Guild members, and noting the first item on the agenda was 'Ladies First' straightway called on Mrs. K. Lock.

Mrs. Lock thereupon explained the reason for their presence. She said 44 years was a long time in anyone's life to serve any one organisation, and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher had served the Ladies' Guild ever since its foundation in 1912—for 36 years as general secretary and treasurer, then for eight years as president, retiring from the latter office this year. The Guild felt such a record could not be allowed to go unrecognised. To their great regret Mrs. Fletcher was unable to attend their annual meeting at Worcester in July, so they resolved then to try and carry out their intention at a meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association whenever one was held near Caister.

The Ladies' Guild, Mrs. Lock continued, were very grateful to the Eastern Branch of the Norwich Association for allowing them the time and opportunity to express their appreciation of Mrs. Fletcher's work. Mrs. Lock then thanked the Branch secretary, Mr. P. G. W. Newstead, for his efforts on their behalf.

Because of the petrol restrictions several of their members were prevented from attending, Mrs. Lock said, but nevertheless she was sure they were with them in thought at that moment.

Mrs. Lock then asked Mrs. Fletcher to accept their gifts, which were a cheque and a full dressing table set with a beautiful floral design executed in petit-point.

Mrs. Fletcher was much moved at this welcome surprise, and in her reply of thanks said that whatever hard work she had put into the Ladies' Guild from its foundation, her efforts were amply rewarded in the healthy state to which it had grown. She had always been able to rely on the keen and loyal support of such stalwarts as their new president, Kathleen Lock, and Mrs. Ann Richardson, both of whom she was happy to see at Acle.

The meeting then passed to its own business and subject to the usual permission voted Loddon as the venue for the 1957 Branch annual meeting on February 16th.

Belfry elections of Messrs. S. J. Merry, of Caister-on-Sea, and J. Saunders, of Great Yarmouth, were ratified.

The question of the Branch peal attempt at Wymondham Abbey Church scheduled for Easter Monday next year was discussed. The Branch secretary reported that only four names of ringers desirous of taking part had been handed to him. Two other names were then added and it was suggested a Saturday might suit members better; Mr. H. Tooke, of Wymondham, thereupon undertook to try and arrange for a Saturday in March to be made available. He was thanked and the meeting deferred further action until the Branch annual meeting.

Closing the meeting, the chairman congratulated the G.O.M. of the Branch, Mr. H. W. Lidbetter, on ringing a peal recently on his 84th birthday. The Rev. H. G. Lillingston proposed votes of thanks to the Vicar of Great Yarmouth for conducting the service, Nolan Golden for reading the lesson, Mr. Noon, the volunteer organist, and the local ringers with their lady helpers for the excellent tea arrangements. Last, but certainly not least, they must welcome and thank Mr. Watkin Jones, the Rector's warden, who because of the present vacancy in the living had readily smoothed the way for the meeting.

Some ringers also visited Ranworth and South Walsham in the evening.

A RING OF EIGHT FOR SOUTHAMPTON

The Church of the Ascension, Bitterne Park, Southampton, is to have a full ring of bells in the near future.

Six of the bells will come from St. Maurice's Church, Winchester. This gift of six bells was made available to Bitterne Park if a donation of £300 was given to the people of St. Maurice's towards the restoration of their other church, St. Laurence's.

The ring at St. Maurice's is of interest. Two bells are late 14th century from the Wokingham foundry; the tenor was cast in 1610 by an unknown bell-founder; the fourth by John Wallis, of Salisbury, in 1603. The second, dated 1639, was by an unknown bell-founder, and was recast by Gillett and Johnston, makers of the treble.

Metal for the two new bells comes from two old bells Bitterne has obtained—one from St. Laurence's Church in High Street, Southampton, and the other from Holy Trinity Church. These bells are to be recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

A bell frame, proper belfry floor and the overhaul of the old bells are necessary. The total cost of the work is over £1,600. Part of this is being met by a legacy, but the sum of 1,000 guineas remains to be raised and an appeal for this was launched on Advent Sunday.

ST. NICHOLAS', ISLIP, HAS NOW A RING OF EIGHT

FOUR new presents to St. Nicholas' Church, Islip, were dedicated at Evensong on Nov. 18th by the Bishop of Oxford. One was two new trebles given as a memorial to Mr. E. W. F. Gilman, a churchwarden at St. Nicholas' for 13 years, by members of his family.

Other gifts dedicated were a lectern Bible, given by the widow and members of the family of Mr. W. H. J. Perry; a processional cross, from the family of Mrs. Florence Young; and a ciborium, which perpetuates the love Mr. and Mrs. Forbes had for the church.

The Bishop dedicated the bells first, and as he walked back to the altar with the Rector, the Rev. A. W. Blanchett, the local ringers, augmented by visiting ringers, rang rounds which, in the words of the Rector, 'was most effective and added dignity to the service.'

The dedication of the other gifts followed, and the Bishop, in his sermon, expressed his pleasure at his first visit, as head of the Diocese, to Islip, and his good wishes for the life and work of the parish

The theme suggested by the bells, he pointed out, was the joyousness of Christian worship and the happiness to be found in it. He stressed the need for churchpeople to show those virtues outside the church; young people in particular should show that the Christian religion was not one of restriction and dullness, but one of gladness and hope.

After the service the bells were rung by the visitors and the local ringers from rounds to Cambridge Surprise Major. It was agreed that Messrs. Mears and Stainbank had made an excellent splice, but the trebles are tricky to handle due to new ropes, light bells and a long draught without guides.

The history of these bells is interesting. Originally there were five bells and these were recast into a ring of six (tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.) in 1859 by G. Mears. The old bells were taken down and the new ones rehung by Alfred White, of Appleton.

The inscriptions on the old five and their weights were as follows:

Treble: This bell was made 1611; 5½ cwt.

Second: James Keene made mee 1652; 6 cwt.

Third: Omnia Parata Venite, Anno Domini 1623; 7½ cwt.

Fourth: Michael Darbie made mee 1655; 10 cwt.

Tenor: James Brady Relph Harwell, C. W. 1652; 14 cwt.

Mr. E. Morris makes the following reference to Islip bells in 'The History and Art of Change Ringing.'

'On Tuesday, March 14th, 1871, six members of the University of Oxford paid a visit to the neighbouring village of Islip, and succeeded in ringing, on the pretty ring of six, several peals of six-score Grandsire Doubles. Rev. E. P. Barrow (Oriel), treble; J. S. Leadam, Esq. (Univ.), second; R. Troyte, Esq. (Trinity), third; H. C. Sturges, Esq. (Univ.), fourth; J. E. Troyte, Esq. (Christ Church), fifth; W. B. Ingham, Esq. (Univ.), tenor. Conducted by John E. Troyte, Esq., College Youth.

'Probably these are the first peals on record rung entirely by "gentlemen of education." The bells were fairly struck, without any breakdown: three of the ringers had only been learning since last November. What an encouragement to others to follow their example! Besides being able to sing, we think every young clergyman should be able to ring, and then he will be able to take his proper place in the belfry.'

THE SUFFOLK GUILD

Saxmundham District held their last meeting of the year at Kelsale, when the eight bells were put to good use during the afternoon and evening, many methods being rung, with ringers coming from as far as Newmarket and Beccles. Canon Eddows, Rector of Kelsale, took the service, and gave an interesting address. Tea was taken at the inn named very appropriately 'Eight Bells': a good tea was enjoyed by 14 members. At the business meeting Canon Eddows took the chair, Mr. G. N. Churchard, of Sotherton, was elected a probationer member, and Miss O. Turney, of Barney, an honorary member. Place of next meeting, Aldeburgh, after Easter, 1957. A. R. B.

WITH THE R.A.F. AT YATESBURY

It was a cold autumn afternoon, and the wind blew noisily over the Wiltshire downs, shaking the few remaining leaves from the trees, sending them scurrying down the lanes. Two cars stopped outside Yatesbury village church; soon the bells were raised and another meeting of R.A.F. Yatesbury Campanology Club was in full swing.

Following a chance meeting in the church centre of the camp, two keen bellringers had approached the padre with the intention of forming a ringers' club. It was realised that few ringers continue ringing while in the Services; the majority do not bother or fear they will be unwelcome in a new district and, as a result, much badly-needed talent lies dormant. To foster interest among ringers in camp, a club was formed and, permission having been obtained from the rector and tower captain of the parish church, activities commenced early in November.

Since then a band, numbers varying from six to ten, has rung every Wednesday afternoon at Yatesbury (5, 12 cwt.). Two learners are making steady progress and rounds, Plain Bob, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles are rung regularly. Evening discussion meetings are held in camp, followed by ringing at nearby Calne (8, 24 cwt.). Members of the club are also able to visit many of the other local towers for practice nights, meetings and Sunday service ringing.

Youth is ambitious, and the club had not long been in existence before whispers of quarter peals and peals were heard. It was not possible for a peal to be rung by airmen from Yatesbury alone, and to ring the peal an alliance was made with Compton Bassett camp (R.A.F. camps seem to be more frequent than villages in this part of Wiltshire). A convenient time and date were arranged and the 'neutral' tower of Broad Hinton (6, 8 cwt.) was chosen as the venue. On Wednesday, November 21st, a peal of Grandsire and Bob Doubles was rung. Of the six ringers three recorded their first peal.

There are snags, as always. Since we rely on the goodwill of the local parish for our tower, we are always visitors. Before the petrol shortage we had hoped to travel to other towers in the area, but lack of transport makes this rather difficult at present. Many ringers spend only a few weeks at the camp, and hence there is a 'floating population.' A welcome awaits any ringers who may be stationed at Compton Bassett or Yatesbury.

LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY

The Society's last meeting in 1956 was held at St. Chad's, Headingley, on November 24th. In all, more than 40 members and friends were present during the afternoon and evening, and a company of 25, including the Vicar and the president and his wife, sat down to the very enjoyable tea provided by the local ringers.

At the business meeting which followed, and at which two new members were elected, the president took the chair. In proposing the vote of thanks he took the opportunity of expressing his own personal gratitude for the many kindnesses shown to him during his illness. The Vicar, in reply, said how pleased everyone was that Mr. H. Lofthouse had felt well enough to attend the tea and business meeting.

Before tea, and again afterwards, a variety of methods were rung on the fine ring of eight bells.

The next meeting of the Society will be held at Bradford Cathedral on January 26th.

There appears to be no record of the longest length in Minor. Can any member supply the Exercise with the answer?

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Bowdon, Stockport and Mottram Branch

The last meeting of the year was held at Bredbury on November 23rd, when some 50 members and friends were present. The usual form of service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. G. N. Esther), who gave the Branch a very warm welcome. In an address which avoided the usual approaches to ringers, he left no doubt in the minds of his hearers of the value he attached to the service of ringers and their part in the worship of the church.

Tea was served in the schools, and after tea the Vicar presided over the business meeting. Reference was made to the passing of Mr. J. W. Hartley, of Norbury, a member of the Branch for 52 years and who did much to lay the foundations of the present standard of ringing in the District, particularly in the field of Spliced Minor ringing. The death of Canon E. P. Tyson, of Mottram, was referred to as a loss not only to the Branch but to the life of the church and the village of Mottram, and in the same way the village of Rostherne had been distressed to learn of the passing of its beloved Vicar, one week after his retirement on account of ill-health after serving them faithfully for 22 years. The meeting stood for a moment in silent tribute to the memory of these friends. Reference was made to the illness of Mr. G. Bason, of Rostherne, and the meeting sent its good wishes for his early restoration to health.

The main business of the meeting was to compile a provisional list of meetings for 1957. As a result of the change of date of the Guild Annual Festival to May 12th, it was decided to break with tradition and hold a Branch meeting in Lent. The provisional list was decided as follows: January 26th, Stockport St. Mary; March 30th, Norbury; June 29th, Chapel-en-le-Frith; September 28th, Dunham Massey; November 23rd, Staley.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens, the organist, the local ringers and the ladies who had prepared and served tea. Further ringing was enjoyed until late in the evening, touches in various methods being rung to accommodate all comers. C. K. L.

CUMBERLANDS & MIDDLESEX

Joint Meeting

Another very successful joint meeting between the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths and the Middlesex Association was held on December 1st. Ringing during the afternoon took place at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, and was followed by a magnificent tea in true Bishopsgate style, which was enjoyed by a company of 50.

After tea, the Master of the Cumberlands, Mr. H. E. Audsley, expressed his great pleasure at seeing so many present at the meeting, and spoke of the good feelings that existed between the Cumberlands and the Middlesex Association. Mr. F. A. Finch, hon. secretary, S. and W. District of the M.C.A., thanked Mr. Audsley for his remarks, and said that he hoped these joint meetings would long continue. So many Societies and Associations were represented that he almost wondered whether the occasion was a general ringers' reunion, and it gave him great pleasure to see so many old friends present.

As is customary, no business was transacted at this meeting, and the majority of those present adjourned to the belfry of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, where ringing on the fine 12 took place in methods up to Kent Maximus.

So ended another of what it is hoped to be one of a very long series of happy and enjoyable joint meetings between the two Societies.

OBITUARY

MR. GEORGE H. DAYNES

It is with sincere regret that we announce the death of Mr. George Henry Daynes. He passed peacefully away in St. Alphege's Hospital, Greenwich, on December 4th, in his 87th year.

MR. JOHN T. GRANT

Mr. Jack Grant, as he was familiarly known, was found dead in bed on December 1st. He had been a member of the Leicester Cathedral band for more than 30 years, and was 76. He had not been in good health recently, but had been ringing up to a week before his death.

Of a quiet, unassuming character, Mr. Grant had never aspired to ringing beyond the tenor behind, and occasionally the treble. He had been a loyal and conscientious member of the band and had rung numerous peals on the tenor with a precision that always assured a good beat.

The funeral service was held at Leicester Cathedral on December 5th, conducted by the Provost, and most of his ringing colleagues attended. An attempt to ring a muffled peal as tribute to him unfortunately came to grief, owing to a shift, but a quarter peal of Stedman Cinques was rung on December 6th. His son Richard is a member of the Cathedral band and a most efficient steeple-keeper. H. G. J.

MR. THOMAS HENRY HALL

It is with deep regret we report the death of Mr. Thomas Henry (Tas) Hall, of Grantham, Lincs, which took place at Hill View Hospital, Grantham, on November 26th in his 73rd year, after a brief illness.

Mr. Hall was a member of Lincoln Diocesan Guild and was the oldest member of St. Wulfram's band, Grantham, having joined the local band some 56 years ago. He was a regular Sunday service ringer, and mostly rang the ninth bell, his favourite one. Mr. Hall had taken part in about 60 peals, and at one time excelled in ringing the tenor to odd-bell peals.

The funeral service, attended by a number of his ringing friends, took place at St. Wulfram's Church on November 30th, followed by cremation at Leicester. In the evening members of the local band rang the bells open (by his request) to his memory. H. R. W.

MR. JOHN HOLME

We regret to report the death of Mr. John Holme, of Silverdale, Lancs, on December 4th, at the age of 92. Four of his ringing colleagues acted as bearers at the funeral service at St. John's Church, Silverdale, on December 8th, which was attended by many ringing friends. A report of his ringing activities will be published shortly.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—O. M. 5s., Anonymous 10s.

Peals.—Cavendish 3s., Wotton-under-Edge 2s., Meldreth 3s., Asfordby 2s. 6d., Broughton-in-Furness 4s., Southport 4s., Ewell 4s., Durleigh 3s., Goxhill 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Heddington 2s., Compton Bishop 3s., Wolvercote 2s. 6d., Wimborne 2s. 6d., Kirby-le-Soken 2s. 6d., Preston (Weymouth) 2s. 6d., Seal Chart 3s., Hellingly 2s., Ashtead 4s., Trumpington 2s. 6d., North Weald 3s., High Barnet 2s. 6d., Chilcompton 3s., Shoreditch 2s. 6d., Cowbridge 1s. 6d., Esher 2s. 6d., Chelsfield 2s. 6d., Bournemouth 2s. 6d., Nantwich 2s., Wandsworth 2s. 6d., Chilvers Coton 2s., Gloucester 2s.

SOME THOUGHTS ON A NEW RING OF BELLS

THE well-known Church of St. Nicholas', North Stoneham, made famous by the late George Williams after he 'migrated' there from Brighton, had its new bells dedicated by the Bishop of Southampton on December 8th. The back seven, which were previously a very 'mixed bag,' and of a quality to produce varying comments from connoisseurs, have now been recast and tuned to match the front three, which were cast by Taylors in 1931, so that the whole ring at last belongs to one family. The tenor is now 10 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. as against 9 cwt. 26 lb. before they went away, and the others have been adjusted accordingly.

I have recently spent a few pleasant hours reviewing the past 12 months or so since the project was put in hand. The local band had for some considerable time past been urging the P.C.C. to call in the bell founders, but other mundane things such as worn out floors, hot water systems and leaky roofs had to be given first consideration (although for the life of me I can't, as a ringer, understand why; after all, even an efficient hot water system makes a ghastly noise most of the time, and there's no music in a roof which doesn't leak!). So it was not until just before Christmas last year that the Rector came to discuss the offer of the ringers to raise the money by their own efforts. He asked how much they reckoned they could raise by the end of 1956, and was confidently told that by then they should be able to reach £250. This was obviously satisfactory, for before long the bell founders had been written to and estimates obtained. In March the estimate of John Taylor and Co. was accepted by the Church Council, for the back seven bells to be recast, metal added where necessary, and all rehung on ball bearings, at a cost of £618. The front three and the sixth were already on ball bearings.

And so an appeal was launched for £650, and the bells were taken away in June. Since then the ringers have been busy in a variety of ways: sending out leaflets, knocking on doors, seeking publicity in any way whatever, cleaning the belfry of 60 years' accumulation of matter-out-of-place, painting and creosoting, and learning to ring handbells into the bargain. As a result (or in spite of?) this activity, the bell fund is now at about £335— a creditable effort, I think. It is interesting to see just how this has been accumulated, and a summary of the several sources is given below.

1. *Ringers and Ringing Associations* — about £160. This includes grants from the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, collections at meetings, £7-odd from the Southampton University Association (which was virtually born at North Stoneham under the leadership of our friend Derek Jackson, whom we miss very much, and we wish him well!), and a very fine contribution of some £150 as the result of two excellent jumble sales, under the expert guidance and organised entirely by Alan Smith and Leslie Stead, to whom great credit and thanks are due.

2. *Non-ringers*—£115, mainly in comparatively small amounts, from local residents for the most part, but one donation of 5 guineas from as far away as Westmorland! Amongst these it is so heartening to see the small amounts from people who love to hear the bells but have missed them and will be glad to have them back again.

3. *Anonymous*—£21.

4. *Casual visitors*—£15, collected in a box affixed to a pillar in the church, with a 'thermometer' above it to show how the fund is growing.

5. *Sundry sources*—£20-odd, from parish groups such as the Mothers' Union, the Over-60's Club, Girl Guides, etc.

To my mind this is a very encouraging achievement, although there is still another £300 or so to find, but we are confident that this will be done in good time. However, I feel sure that there are ringers who would like to help the fund along, and I appeal to those who know North Stoneham, and particularly ringers who have participated in any of the 249 peals which have been rung in the tower. (How many ringers are there, I wonder, who have had peals specially arranged for them there, and how many were guided through their first in a new method there by 'Old George'?) Many such have already responded, and our thanks go out to them all.

This is a ringers' effort, and we seek support from all other ringers. Please send your donation to the Rector, Rev. W. F. Shail, The Rectory, Glen Eyre Road, Bassett, Southampton, or to Mr. R. A. Reed, 135, Chamberlayne Road, Eastleigh, Hants. All donations will be gratefully acknowledged. Thank you. R. A. R.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION

Cirencester Branch

Fairford proved a popular choice for the Branch annual meeting on December 1st. Well over 40 ringers visited this well-known church during the day, from as far afield as London, Nottingham and Penzance. After tea at the Bull Hotel, the business meeting was held, with Mr. W. A. Godwin presiding. The minutes, secretary's report and balance sheet were all read and approved.

The retiring officers were all re-elected as follows: Chairman, Mr. W. A. Godwin; secretary, Mr. R. E. W. Wenban; and representative on the management committee, Mr. E. H. Jefferies.

It was decided to retain the rota of meetings for another year, those for the ensuing quarter to be held at Ampney Crucis, Lechlade and Rendcomb with North Cerney.

The Branch chairman thanked all those who had made the meeting a success, and Mr. H. Falkner thanked the officers for their work during the year. Canon Janvrin conducted the service which followed, with Mr. Falkner at the organ. Ringing afterwards continued in a variety of methods up to Double Norwich until 8.30 p.m., when the bells were lowered in peal to end a very enjoyable day. R. E. W. W.

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BY LAND ROVER TO N.E. STAFFORDSHIRE

UNDER the pilotage of Eric Edginton, of Kings Bromley, ringers drawn from Cannock, Yoxall, Stafford and Walsall visited several towers in North-East Staffordshire on Saturday, September 29th.

The first call was at St. Peter's, Alton, a fine old church somewhat eclipsed by the palatial Alton Towers, which has brought fame to this small village. It is pleasing to hear that this unmusical five (tenor 12 cwt.) are shortly going to be recast and augmented to eight.

At St. Peter's, Ellastone, we were met by the Vicar, the Rev. J. L. S. Smylie, and here we found a large notice, 'Welcome,' facing us as we entered the ringing room. The bells are a heavy six (tenor 18 cwt.) which have long, multi-coloured sallies on the ropes. Unfortunately, we had only rung 60 Grandsire Doubles here before the fifth rope broke.

At St. John-the-Baptist, Mayfield, we found an excellent six (tenor 12 cwt.) which seem to ring themselves. It is a great pity that the clock case, which is in the ringing room, means that the ringers of five and six never see each other.

A sandwich lunch in the Pennine foothills was followed by the long run to Kingsley, which tested the skill of our driver and everyone else's nerves. On arrival at St. Werburgh's, Kingsley, the third church we had visited which was decorated for harvest festival, we were met by Mr. W. Carnwell. Everyone agreed that this six (tenor 12 cwt.) must be one of the best in the county.

At Cheadle arrangements for ringing were not so straightforward, and we soon discovered the disadvantage of having two churches in one town which possessed bells, let alone both being dedicated to St. Giles! After searching the town for various people, ranging from vicars to men in green trousers and blue coats, we were led to the belfry of the 6-bell tower by the Rev. J. P. B. Ashton.

The next tower was All Saints', Dilhorne, whose partly Norman octagonal tower is unique in Staffordshire. Here we had our second breakage, this time the clock hammer wire.

After leaving Dilhorne our road lay through Draycott-le-Moors and (on the advice of the back-seat drivers) to what looked vaguely like a disused airfield.

Checkley was our only disappointment. The Rector, who was on holiday, had not received our letter and consequently no one was expecting us. After tea at Uttoxeter we made our way through the gathering dusk, down a lane which seemed to go on 'ad infinitum' to Leigh. All Saints' Church is really massive, and the magnificent mediæval tower is equally large. The tenor, according to 'Dove,' weighs 14 cwt., but Mr. Whittingham and Mr. Darby, the 'locals' who met us, told us that it was a ton, and it certainly felt more like that. At first we found these bells difficult to handle, but discovered after a while that they 'weren't all that bad.'

We thank Eric Edginton very much for driving us through North-East Staffordshire for 12 very happy hours. S. H.

EMERGENCY OPERATION ON MR. W. DENYER

After ringing for last Sunday evening service at Aldershot, Mr. W. Denyer (74) was found at home seriously ill by a member of his family. Medical aid was immediately sought, and he was removed to Farnham Hospital, where an emergency operation for strangulated hernia was performed in the early hours of Monday morning. He is in the Pilgrims' Way Ward.

We are also sorry to learn that Mr. Charlie Denyer's little son is ill with scarlet fever.

NOTICES

New Scale of Charges

Meetings: 3/6 (minimum) for 30 words, afterwards 1½d. a word. Each additional insertion half charge.

Other Notices: 4/- (minimum) for 36 words, afterwards 1½d. a word.

Displayed: 6/6 per single column inch.

Latest Date: Monday first post.

BIRTH

PRICE.—On Tuesday, November 20th, 1956, at Hillingdon, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Price, God's gift of a daughter, Karen Gail, a sister for Beverley. 9418

DEATH

GRANT.—John Tilley, suddenly on December 1st, 1956, at 54, Myrtle Road, Leicester, aged 76 years. Member of Leicester Cathedral Guild of Ringers. Funeral, Gilroes Cemetery, December 5th. 9417

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

FOR SALE.—In excellent condition, 56 handbells. — Write for particulars, Box No. 9425, 'The Ringing World,' Guildford. 9425

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MISCELLANEOUS

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TO SECRETARIES AND DISTRICT SECRETARIES.—Two issues of 'The Ringing World' will be produced next week because of the Christmas holidays. Last date for receiving Notices for the issue of December 28th is *Friday*, December 21st. Remember, posts will be late.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Nominations and notices of motion for A.G.M., 1957, should reach me by February 1st, 1957. (Rules VIII and IX.).—F. V. G. 9414

The bellringers of St. Nicholas' Church, BRIGHTON, will hold their practices on Thursday evenings at 7.30.—J. D. Smithers. 9413

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS will appear in our issue of December 21st. Charge, 4s. per insertion of 36 words, afterwards 1½d. a word.

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum change). 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.—Meeting, Saturday, Dec. 15th. Ringing at St. James', Clerkenwell, 4.15 p.m. Ship, Talbot Court, 6.15 p.m.—A. B. Peck. 9370

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Hunts District.—Meeting at Brampton (5) on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 9382

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Walsoken, Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Bells just been rehung and retuned by Mears.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 9392

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Annual nomination meeting at Aldershot (8) on Saturday, Dec. 15th, from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 9399

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Sedlescombe, Saturday, Dec. 15th, 2.30 p.m.—G. Billenness. 9385

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—Meeting at St. Peter's, St. Albans, Saturday, Dec. 15th, 3 p.m. Afternoon ringing only. Meeting in tower 5 p.m. — S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 9407

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting, Saturday, Dec. 15th; 45th anniversary of the District, 1911—1956; St. Mary Magdalen, Holloway (8), 3 to 4.30 p.m. Tea—own arrangements. Further ringing from 6 to 8.30 p.m. Everyone welcome. A good attendance requested.—L. Bullock, Dis. Sec. 9391

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Banbury Branch.—Monthly practice, Deddington (8), Saturday, Dec. 15th, 5 p.m. No tea. All ringers welcome.—H. L. Roper. 9420

RAILWAYMEN'S GUILD.—A meeting will be held at 17, Euston Square, London, at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 15th, followed by tea (3s. 6d. per head). Names for tea to G. A. Morris, Central Dispatch Office, Euston Station, London, N.W.1.—S. Foskett, 38, Miller Road, Bedford. 9419

SUFFOLK GUILD. — District Meeting, Woodbridge, Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 5 p.m., for all who apply to C. W. Pipe, Grundisburgh. 9387

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Nomination meeting, Reigate, Saturday, Dec. 15th. St. Mary's bells 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m., Parish Hall. Meeting follows. Bells till 8.30 p.m. 9319

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Uckfield (8), Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—K. C. Knight, Hon. Div. Sec. 9395

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Rededication of Cheriton bells on Saturday, Dec. 15th, at 2.45 p.m., by Bishop Lang, tea to follow. Tichborne available after tea.—R. F. Brewer, Dis. Sec. 9397

ESSEX.—The dedication of a new treble bell will take place at Goldhanger on Monday, Dec. 17th, at 7 p.m. All ringers and friends will be welcome. 9384

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Beaconsfield, Saturday, Dec. 22nd, 4 p.m. Tea at 6.30 p.m. for those who notify me by Dec. 18th.—W. Butler, 17, Forest Road, Windsor. 9415

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Annual meeting, St. Peter's, Derby, Dec. 22nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. All welcome.—V. M. Horton, Hon. Dis. Sec. 9426

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Bury St. Edmunds District.—Meeting at West Stow (6), Saturday, Dec. 22nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—Kenneth G. Brown, Dis. Sec. 9411

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Meeting at Wood Green on Saturday, Dec. 29th. Bells 3 p.m. Service and tea. Important business to follow. All ringers cordially invited. 9428

WENHASTON, SUFFOLK.—Dedication of recast and retuned bells, Saturday, Dec. 29th, at 3.30 p.m. Bells available after service. All welcome. 9421

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Preliminary notice.—The annual meeting of the District will be held on Saturday, Jan. 12th, in Guildford. There will be a social evening for which tickets are now available, price 1s. 6d., from Mrs. V. Collins, 3, Hawthorne Way, Burpham. Please bring your friends.—A. M. Cox, M. E. Collins, joint Hon. Dis. Secs. 9381

QUARTER PEALS

BRADFORD, YORKS.—At the Cathedral, on Nov. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Gillian Schofield (first attempt, 11 years) 1, Mrs. H. B. Schofield 2, Mrs. M. Evans 3, H. B. Schofield 4, F. Rayment 5, M. J. Thurmott 6, E. H. Simpson (cond.) 7, T. Pedder 8. For Remembrance Day.

BURES, SUFFOLK.—On Nov. 14th, 1,260 Bob Triples: D. L. Mills (cond.) 1, Mrs. L. Mills 2, Miss E. Cansdale 3, Miss J. Spurgin 4, C. Bower 5, S. T. Hume 6, L. D. Mills 7, R. Downing 8. Rung half-muffled after the funeral of Mr. Jesse H. Newman, an honorary member of the Bures St. Mary's Society. Also on Nov. 18th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss E. R. Cansdale 1, E. C. Hynard 2, Mrs. L. Mills 3, Miss J. M. Spurgin 4, C. Bower 5, D. L. Mills 6, L. D. Mills (cond.) 7, S. T. Hume 8. For Evensong. Also on Nov. 20th, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: C. Bower 1, D. L. Mills 2, Mrs. L. Mills 3, Miss J. M. Spurgin 4, Miss E. R. Cansdale 5, A. W. Cansdale 6, L. D. Mills 7, E. C. Hynard (cond.) 8. For a special service to commemorate the 1,100th anniversary of the coronation, in Bures, of Edmund K. and M.

BURWELL, CAMBS.—On Nov. 19th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: W. J. Cowperthwaite 1, A. G. Orbell 2, S. Fenn 3, R. J. Housden (cond.) 4, C. F. Sargeant (first 'inside') 5, S. Faircliffe 6. First quarter for 1, 2, 3 and 6. Also on Nov. 24th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: M. J. Lawrence 1, A. G. Orbell 2, R. J. Housden (cond.) 3, C. F. Sargeant 4, A. G. Fuller 5, S. Faircliffe 6. First quarter for 1 and 5. Rung for the wedding of Miss P. Wallis and Mr. T. Jaunkalns.

HARROW WEALD, MIDDLX.—On Nov. 1st, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: Mrs. P. M. Mayne 1, Miss F. Clayton 2, Mrs. E. K. Hart 3, W. Wenban (cond.) 4, H. G. Hart 5, H. D. Butler 6, P. D. Beedie 7, W. N. Genna 8. For evening service.

HOLBORN, W.C.—On Nov. 11th, at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Scrutton 1, M. Sinden 2, Miss B. Nolder 3, Miss E. Wooldridge (first 'inside') 4, G. Parsons 5, W. G. Wilson (cond.) 6, F. E. Corfield 7, J. Tomsett 8. Half-muffled for Remembrance Day.

NUTFIELD, SURREY.—On Nov. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Dunn 1, Nancy Kempsell (first 'inside') 2, Betty Saggers (first in method) 3, A. Harwood (first 'inside') 4, G. Oliver (cond.) 5, A. R. Clarke 6. Rung half-muffled for Remembrance Day.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICS.—At the Church of St. Thomas, on Nov. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. J. Jelley 1, J. M. Jelley 2, Joan K. Brown 3, B. S. Chapman 4, R. Jelley 5, A. E. Bodycote 6, B. G. Warwick (cond.) 7, R. K. Stretton 8. Half-muffled for Evensong on Remembrance Sunday.

STAMFORD HILL, N.—At St. Ann's Church, on Nov. 10th, 1,440 London Surprise Minor: M. Cubitt 1, Miss J. Secker 2, Miss F. Secker 3, B. Bladon (cond.) 4, M. Rowe 5, E. J. Rowe 6. First in the method by a Sunday service band. Also on Nov. 11th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Miss J. Secker 1, Miss L. Hawes (first 'inside') 2, Miss F. Secker 3, M. Rowe 4, W. Theobald 5, B. Bladon (cond.) 6.

5,088 Teddington Surprise Major

By R. F. B. SPEED.

23456	W	M	B	H
42356				—
54326	—			3
42563	—		X	2
35264		—		—
63254	—			
56234	—			
52364	—			2
32465		—		3
(32654)	—		X	
32546	—		X	
25346		in/5ths		
34256	—			—
53246	—			
45236	—			3
23456	—			—

Rung at Willesden on November 22nd, 1956.

5,120 Cambridge Surprise Major

By STEPHEN IVIN.

23456	B	M	W	H	
35264	X			3	
56342	X				
36245		—			
64352	X				
2375468				— 4ths	
25463	In	—			A
56234	X				
42563		3A			
64523				—	
42635	X			3	
23456	X			3	

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