THE RINGING WORLD

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THE VOICE OF THE CHRISTMAS BELLS

By The Rev. Canon C. Carew Cox

NOT everyone, not every Christian even, goes to church on Christmas Day, hears the organ and the choir, or joins in the carols and the hymns. And, whatever music or jollity may be going on in countless homes celebrating the season, the world outside has no voice which is peculiarly capable of stirring the hearts of men to the Truth which makes the Festival.

For such broadcasts of a Christmas nature as are made are not blazoned from the hill tops, or in the public places of our towns and cities, say Trafalgar Square or Hyde Park in London. They are only heard really at the discrimination of people in their homes. Apart from that, generally speaking, Christmas would be wrapped in silence were it not for the church bells.

And those church bells, discordant and annoying as they may seem to a certain section of the people, are there to drown the yet more discordant voices and the turmoil of discontent and strife which are unhappily sounding over this earth.

Imagine Christmas without the church bells! Imagine them silenced by a national authority, not as a precautionary measure against an enemy invasion, but as the consequence of a wholly materialistic, God-denying policy, such a policy as in the early years of Christianity drove Christians underground to gather for worship—if they could—at the risk of their lives! We would cry, perhaps, that the chances of anything like that happening here are far off indeed. But, whatever might happen, it is well to remember that the Christian Church endured and spread by virtue of those very attempts to silence her and clip her wings.

'Silent Night' it was on those hills around Bethlehem when the Babe was born who was to revolutionise human ideas and hopes. There the proclamation of Christmas Day came, but *not* from the lips of men. And that gave it its wonder and its drive. So unfamiliar then, so thrilling and astonishing! But now, so familiar, so usurped by mundane thoughts and customs that the purpose and wonder of the observance does not affect people in the same way. They shrug their shoulders as if to say 'We are not any more on the level of the simple shepherds! We are a sophisticated generation. We can create our own satellites in space; we can split the atom; we can transport ourselves from one end of the earth to another in a few hours; we can hear and see what is going on miles and miles away!' Indeed, yes: what intelligence; what brilliance of ideas; what cleverness in working them out! What a power man wields! What *is* there that man cannot accomplish? Well, is one to believe that there is no time for the religion of the Incarnation in this enlightened age while the echoes of Swinburne's ecstatic chant reverberate in widening clamour from our workshops, our technical training centres, even from our universities and schools?

'Thou art smitten, thou God, thou art smitten.
Thy death is upon thee, O Lord;
And the love-song of earth as thou diest,
Resounds through the wind of her wings:
Glory to man in the highest,
For Man is the master of things.'

But, as Alfred Noyes wrote: 'The splendour of those words was, after all, a stolen splendour. The beauty of that *Gloria in Excelsis*, true or false, was not Swinburne's property.' As a greater poet suggested: 'It is hardly just to abuse the Deity in language whose beauty is entirely borrowed from the Bible.' Yet the fact is that Swinburne was unconsciously asserting one more isolated fragment of the philosophy of Christendom. For 'man in the highest,' strange as it may seem, is acceptable to human reason, but only on those conditions which are illustrated in the majestic structure of the Christian religion. 'God was in *man* reconciling the world to Himself.' 'All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth,' said the triumphant living Jesus. And, 'After He had spoken to them He was received up into heaven and sat on the right hand of God.'

'Not thine to understand
How the two worlds accord:
The Will of Love, our Lord,
With this dark wheel of Time.
Yet thou didst hear them chime
Like one deep sanctus bell.'

Who can picture what the world would be like if the new light of Christianity had never dawned upon the human mind? For one thing, there would be no church bells. And Art, for example—as one has written—'would have lacked the spiritual light that haunts the eyes of "The Madonna and Child," a light that is like no other. We should have lost, too, the deepest musical harmonies of the world. There would have been no Passion music from Bach, and ten thousand choirs of Europe would have been

dumb. The very stones of her cities and towns would have been more silent, for they would never have soared into her great cathedrals. Not a child on the face of the planet would ever have been taught the Lord's Prayer or heard the magic word "Christmas".'

But these expressions and joys *have* come into being, and they do live today to live on into the dim distance. Therefore in the 'Silent Night' the church Christmas bells will herald the dawn once again; defying the threatening and selfish voices of the world; catching up the heavenly anthems of the past; proclaiming the simplicity of long ago Bethlehem; witnessing to that maturity of soul which the Son of God laboured and suffered as Man to bequeath.

And, unseen as the ringers may be, they will know they are moving the earthly accompaniments to the Angels' praise at the birth of the Prince of Peace: 'Glory to GOD in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.'

UNIVERSITY OF WALES ASSOCIATION'S TOUR

NEWTON NOTTAGE, GLAMORGAN.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., June 12, 1959, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In five methods, viz.: (1) Cambridge Surprise, (2) Oxford Treble Bob, (3) Kent Treble Bob, (4), (6) and (7) Plain Bob, (5) St. Clement's College Bob. Tenor 8¼ cwt.

T. T. LEWIS (Cardiff) ..	*Treble*	D. G. ASTRIDGE (Swansea)	4
B. R. KINGSTON (Cardiff)..	2	D. K. WALKLATE (Aberyst.)	5
D. J. LLEWELLYN (Cardiff)	3	N. BENNETT (Aberystwyth)	*Tenor*

Conducted by D. K. WALKLATE.
Fastest peal on the bells.

TREVETHIN, PONTYPOOL, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., June 18, 1959, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CADOC,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In two methods, being four extents Kent T.B. and three of Plain Bob.
Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.

*M. HART (Lampeter) ..	*Treble*	N. BENNETT (Aberystwyth)	4
*A. R. HUTCHINGS (Swan.)	2	D. K. WALKLATE (Aberyst.)	5
*M. HOLT (Lampeter) ..	3	D. G. ASTRIDGE (Swansea)	*Tenor*

Conducted by D. K. WALKLATE.
* First peal of Minor.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 3 Hours and 43 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.
A PEAL OF 5280 PRITTLEWELL SURPRISE MAXIMUS
Tenor 24 cwt.

G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ..	*Treble*	JOHN D. ROCK	7
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY ..	2	MICHAEL P. MORETON ..	8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.. ..	3	JOHN H. CRAMPION	9
J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE ..	4	CECIL W. PIPE	10
STEWART F. KIMBER	5	MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT ..	11
BRIAN D. THRELFALL ..	6	JOHN E. CHILCOTT	*Tenor*

Conducted by G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY.
First peal of Maximus in the method by all except the conductor.

LONDON, S.E.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 4 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,
A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS
Tenor 48 cwt.

TUDOR P. EDWARDS ..	*Treble*	*STEWART F. KIMBER ..	7
*JOHN D. ROCK	2	†TERRY EARLE	8
JAMES G. A. PRIOR	3	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON ..	9
*ALAN J. FROST..	4	MICHAEL P. MORETON ..	10
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY ..	5	JOHN H. CRAMPION	11
JOHN ARMSTRONG	6	WILFRID F. MORETON ..	*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.
* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus. † First of Maximus.
Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Fenn, who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on September 6th, 1959.

TEN BELL PEALS

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 7, 1959, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

EDWARD JENKINS	*Treble*	JOHN WORTH	6
*EDWARD POTTS..	2	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER ..	7
BASIL JONES	3	LESLIE BOUMPHREY	8
ALAN A. POTTS	4	PETER LAFLIN	9
BERNARD F. L. GROVES ..	5	BRIAN HARRIS	*Tenor*

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
* First peal of Surprise.

DERBY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 3 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in E.

BRIAN G. WARWICK	*Treble*	ALBERT E. THOMPSON ..	6
FRANCIS R. LOWE	2	*CLIVE W. WALKLATE ..	7
ROGER BALDWIN	3	*MICHAEL R. BLORE	8
GORDON A. HALLS	4	RUSSELL S. MORRIS ..	9
CHARLES W. WALKLATE ..	5	G. RONALD EDWARDS ..	*Tenor*

Composed by S. IVIN. Conducted by GORDON A. HALLS.
* First peal of Royal.
Rung for the Patronal Festival.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5000 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb. in E flat.

KATHLEEN E. CHILCOTT ..	*Treble*	MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT ..	6
JOAN BERESFORD	2	BRIAN D. THRELFALL ..	7
FRANK E. DARBY	3	DAVID E. PARSONS	8
*JEAN L. LAVENDER	4	JOHN CHILCOTT	9
RAYMOND I. F. PARSONS..	5	ALAN ROGERS	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by FRANK E. DARBY.
* First peal of Stedman, also on ten bells.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.
A PEAL OF 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL
Tenor 18 cwt.

WALTER AYRE	*Treble*	THOMAS J. SOUTHAM ..	6
AUDREY M. BAILEY.. ..	2	REGINALD W. DARVILL ..	7
*REGINALD D. HAYDEN ..	3	GERALD PENNEY	8
ERIC EDMONDSON	4	*EDWARD J. ROCHESTER ..	9
†KENNETH J. DARVILL ..	5	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ..	*Tenor*

Composed by G. W. DEBENHAM. Conducted by THOMAS J. SOUTHAM.
* First peal of Royal. † First of Royal and first in the method.

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MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

*EILEEN M. FEARN	*Treble*	BERNARD F. L. GROVES	6
FRED DUNKERLEY	2	EDWARD JENKINS	7
BASIL JONES	3	ALAN A. POTTS	8
†CAROL FERNLEY	4	LESLIE BOUMPHREY	9
C. KENNETH LEWIS	5	BRIAN HARRIS	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by BASIL JONES.
* First peal of Royal. † First of Cambridge Royal.
Rung as a compliment to Mr. Peter Laflin on his 70th birthday.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Oct. 16, 1959, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5024 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	*Treble*	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	5
IAN H. ORAM	2	RALPH BIRD	6
ARTHUR G. MASON	3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	7
FREDERICK J. CULLUM	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	*Tenor*

Composed by MAURICE HODGSON. Conducted by IAN H. ORAM.
First peal in the method as conductor.
In memoriam Cecil V. Ebberson and Cecil J. Matthews.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Nov. 13, 1959, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

ARTHUR G. MASON	*Treble*	CYRIL S. JARRETT	5
JOAN BERESFORD	2	IAN H. ORAM	6
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	7
*WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT	4	RALPH BIRD	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.
* First peal in the method.

SWANSCOMBE, KENT.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Sat., Nov. 14, 1959, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
Washbrook's variation. Tenor 18 cwt. 5 lb. in F.

GEORGE J. BUTCHER	*Treble*	IAN H. ORAM	5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	2	*HUBERT H. FURMINGER	6
ARTHUR G. MASON	3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM	7
JOHN R. COOPER	4	PETER F. BORER	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.
* First peal in the method 'inside.'

BIGGLESWADE, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 21, 1959, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.

GEOFFREY W. MAYES	*Treble*	FRANK H. BRISCOE	5
ALAN S. SMITH	2	PETER G. SMITH	6
SHEILA PERCIVAL	3	JOHN G. HOBSON	7
JILL MAYES	4	BRYAN F. SIMS	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by BRYAN F. SIMS.
Rung as a compliment to Alan and Sheila Smith on the birth of their daughter.

EATON SOCON, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 21, 1959, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Holt's Original. Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. in F.

J. SCHOFIELD (King's)	*Treble*	A. J. GRIFFIN (Trinity)	5
P. H. LANGTON (Trinity)	2	M. D. S. HOOD (Trin. Hall)	6
FRANCES SECKER (Girton)	3	W. J. RIDGMAN (Queens')	7
HILARY MUIRHEAD (Newn.)	4	P. B. HODSON (Emmanuel)	*Tenor*

Conducted by P. H. LANGTON.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Nov. 24, 1959, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.

ARTHUR W. HOODLESS	*Treble*	*RICHARD HALL	5
STEPHEN BROMFIELD	2	GEORGE W. MOODY	6
JACK BRAY	3	SEPTIMUS NEAVE	7
HARRY HALL	4	MICHAEL CROWDER	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JACK BRAY.
* First peal in the method.

PINCHBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Nov. 26, 1959, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5024 ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 18 cwt. 9 lb.

FRANK TAYLOR	*Treble*	STANLEY E. BENNETT	5
JOHN E. ALLEN	2	ALBERT W. A. LEGGETT	6
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN	3	CYRIL R. BURRELL	7
MAURICE BENNETT	4	RONALD C. NOON	*Tenor*

Composed by T. E. SONE. Conducted by RONALD C. NOON.
First peal in the method by all except conductor.

BLOXHAM, OXON.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF BLOXHAM,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
Heywood's transposition. Tenor 26 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

JOSEPH D. JOHNSON	*Treble*	‡DENNIS C. BOWEN	5
*CHRISTINE V. PULLIN	2	‡CHRISTOPHER C. CLARKE	6
EDWIN T. NEWBURY	3	‡PETER D. WARREN	7
†MICHAEL W. COLEMAN	4	‡EDGAR S. HITCHCOX	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.
* First tower-bell peal. † First 'inside.' ‡ First of Stedman Triples.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTER AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,
AT THE BELL TOWER,
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 35 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in C sharp.

ARTHUR GIBBS	*Treble*	ALAN E. HARTLEY	5
GEOFFREY M. BREWIN	2	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN	6
RALPH G. EDWARDS	3	GERALD C. HEMMING	7
GEOFFREY J. HEMMING	4	STEPHEN IVIN	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by STEPHEN IVIN.
Rung after meeting short for Royal.

HOLLESLEY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 17 cwt. 11 lb. in F

JACK PILGRIM	*Treble*	LESLIE N. MELTON	5
TREVOR N. J. BAILEY	2	PETER S. BEDFORD	6
ERNEST G. PEARCE	3	JOHN W. BLYTHE	7
C. JACK GIBSON	4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT	*Tenor*

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by JOHN W. BLYTHE.
A birthday compliment to the tenor ringer.

NANTWICH, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN AND THE RAILWAYMEN'S GUILDS.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Groves' variation of Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb.

RICHARD D. LANGFORD	*Treble*	GEORGE A. PACKER	5
FREDERICK SEAGER	2	RODNEY B. MEADOWS	6
*FRANK R. MORTON	3	JOHN E. BROUGH	7
FREDERICK S. SUTTON	4	WM. FRANK STENSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN E. BROUGH.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples.
A compliment to Mr. Frank Stenson for his 71st birthday on the 29th, which he would like to share with Miss 'Pam' Bailey (Nantwich) and his young neighbour, John Harding, married this day at St. Paul's, Crewe.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Mrs. C. W. Lawton	*Treble*	Harold Lonyon	5
Alan A. Potts	2	Charles W. Lawton	6
Edward Potts	3	Barry Corbishly	7
*Dennis Henshaw	4	John Worth	*Tenor*

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by John Worth.
* First peal of Surprise. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

ROCESTER, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael,
A PEAL OF 5056 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 13 cwt. 17 lb. in F sharp.

Edmund Malin	*Treble*	Frederick E. Wilshaw	5
Robert J. Warrilow	2	Arthur Pritchard	6
*Brian J. Wylde	3	*David W. Friend	7
*David W. Brunning	4	Derek P. Jones	*Tenor*

Composed by Stephen Ivin. Conducted by Derek P. Jones.
* First peal in the method.

SUTTERTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

J. Martin Thorley	*Treble*	John G. Ames	5
*Joseph W. Bailey	2	William E. Clarke	6
Harold Barsley	3	Bernard H. Dalton	7
Frank Taylor	4	C. Harold Whitton	*Tenor*

Composed by F. Bennett. Conducted by C. Harold Whitton.
* First peal of Major. Tenor 12¼ cwt.

THURCASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
At the Latimer Church of All Saints,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
J. J. Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 10 cwt. 7 lb.

*J. Richard Perkins	*Treble*	Derek M. Sawyer	5
†B. Stedman Payne	2	Hugh Matthewman	6
Royston Wilmore	3	Ernest Morris	7
H. Leslie Wykes	4	Frederick T. Bindley	*Tenor*

Transposed and Conducted by Ernest Morris.
* First peal on eight bells. † 25th peal of Grandsire Triples. 100th peal on the bells.

WATFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in E flat.

Stephen F. Dolley	*Treble*	Michael Hatchett	5
Richard G. Bell	2	Kenneth R. Dunstan	6
Raymond G. Smith	3	Christopher W. Woolley	7
Walter G. Paul	4	John R. Mayne	*Tenor*

Composed by Charles J. Sedgley. Conducted by John R. Mayne.
Rung to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Hertford County Association.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

William A. Theobald	*Treble*	William T. Cook	5
Robin G. Leale	2	William S. Deason	6
Wilfred Williams	3	Jack A. Waugh	7
Frederick R. Scott	4	Thomas J. Southam	*Tenor*

Composed by Charles J. Sedgley. Conducted by Wilfred Williams.

AYLESTONE, LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Nov. 30, 1959, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew,
A PEAL OF 5184 BRAUNSTONE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb.

Brian Smith	*Treble*	Brian G. Warwick	5
*Patricia Wardle	2	*Terry I. Roper	6
*Geoffrey M. Brewin	3	*Peter J. Staniforth	7
Ernest Morris	4	Russell S. Morris	*Tenor*

Composed by H. Poynor. Conducted by Peter J. Staniforth.
* First peal in the method.
Rung for the Patronal Festival of St. Andrew.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(North Bucks Branch.)
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lb. in F.

Joseph Marks	*Treble*	George W. Holland	5
Harry Sear	2	Roger Cadamy	6
William A. Yates	3	Donald J. Meager	7
*James Linnell	4	Harry V. Sear	*Tenor*

Composed by John Carter. Conducted by William A. Yates.
* First peal of Triples. Donald J. Meager has now 'circled the tower.'
Rung to mark the 60th anniversary of the first peal of Triples on the bells, and believed to be the same composition. Harry Sear has the distinction of ringing the second in both peals. Also rung to mark the 82nd birthday of Francis Hedges, the only other survivor of the 1899 band.

CHORLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Preston Branch.)
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Laurence,
A PEAL OF 5088 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 12¼ cwt. in G.

John H. Gartside	*Treble*	*John H. Owens	5
Arthur Rigby	2	*Peter Barrand	6
Cyril Crossthwaite	3	*W. John Couperthwaite	7
Thomas Barker	4	Stanley Walmsley	*Tenor*

Composed by Nolan Godlen. Conducted by Stanley Walmsley.
* First peal in the method. First of Major in the method as conductor.
Rung for the 73rd birthday of John H. Gartside, as an appreciation of his past and present services rendered to the Preston Branch.

EWELL, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in F sharp.

*Maureen Candy	*Treble*	Ralph C. Spittle	5
*Margaret Howard	2	Arthur S. Besant	6
John E. Beams	3	Derek G. Spittle	7
Janet M. Besant	4	Charles W. Munday	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. Pritchard. Conducted by Charles W. Munday.
* First peal of Major.
Rung to mark the christening of Martin Charles, son of Ralph and Pauline Spittle, members of the local band.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part (second observation). Tenor 23 cwt. in D flat.

*Richard Chambers	*Treble*	Frederick Boreham	5
Stedman H. Symonds	2	Frederick F. Mortlock	6
*Ronald A. Knight	3	Wilfred Jarvis	7
†Maurice T. Symonds	4	Leonard Pryke	*Tenor*

Conducted by Stedman H. Symonds.
* First peal on eight bells. † 50th peal.
A silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. L. Pryke. Also a birthday compliment to Jane Symonds, grand-daughter of the conductor.

OAKHAM, RUTLAND.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Johnson's variation. Tenor 24 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb. in E flat.

Norah M. Bibby	*Treble*	George H. Randles	5
*Ronald J. Hill	2	*J. Frederick Hubbard	6
Cynthia Bibby	3	John H. Bluff	7
John Walden	4	Jack L. Millhouse	*Tenor*

Conducted by Jack L. Millhouse.
* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Major.
In memoriam the Rt. Rev. Arthur Ivan Greaves, Bishop Suffragan of Grimsby, 1937–1958, Archdeacon of Oakham, 1924–1934.

LONG STANTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 2, 1959, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,
A PEAL OF 5184 WYMONDHAM BOB MAJOR
Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in A flat.

T. G. Page (Downing)	*Treble*	A. R. Withyman (Emma.)	5
D. J. Kirby (Selwyn)	2	M. D. S. Hood (Trin. Hall)	6
Frances Secker (Girton)	3	P. H. Langton (Trinity)	7
J. Schofield (King's)	4	J. R. Taylor (St. Cath.'s)	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. Parker. Conducted by J. R. Taylor.
First peal in the method by all the band, and for the Guild.

STEVENAGE, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas,
A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt.

Jill Mayes	*Treble*	Colin A. S. Harwood	5
J. Richard Castledine	2	Patricia M. Bourn	6
Claudia A. Critchley	3	G. William Critchley	7
George A. Spencer	4	Jack S. Dear	*Tenor*

Composed by Dennis Knox. Conducted by G. William Critchley.

SIX BELL PEALS

SWANMORE, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 14, 1959, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Barnabas,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Being seven different extents. Tenor 8¼ cwt.

*Nelson F. S. Bush	*Treble*	Mrs. R. T. Jones	4
†Dorothy G. Smith	2	*Keith Sansom	5
Betty J. Daysh	3	Reginald T. Jones	*Tenor*

Conducted by Reginald T. Jones.
* First peal. † First of Plain Bob Minor.

BIRSTWITH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
At the Church of St. James,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR
Tenor 11¼ cwt.

D. Margaret Hawley	*Treble*	Edward M. Bradley	4
*Mrs. J. Render	2	*John Potts	5
*Alan Evans	3	*Alan Sheppard	*Tenor*

Conducted by Alan Sheppard.
* First peal of Surprise.
Birthday compliments to Mrs. Render and Mr. Sheppard.

HARTFORD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being two 720's Oxford T.B., two 720's Kent T.B. and three 720's Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 20 lb.

Cecil Raddon	*Treble*	John Ryder	4
Reginald W. Worrall	2	Harold Worrall	5
Harry W. Howard	3	Henry Parker	*Tenor*

Conducted by Henry Parker.
Rung to mark the 61st wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. S. Worrall, of Great Budworth (parents of the ringer of the second).

IGHTHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
One extent each of Oxford T.B., Single Oxford, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Kent T.B. and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

Ralph Bird	*Treble*	*Derek A. N. Holland	4
*Peter J. Milton	2	Colin F. McGill	5
Andrew M. Macve	3	Trevor A. Cross	*Tenor*

Conducted by Ralph Bird.
* First peal in seven methods.

HORBLING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1959, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR
Being seven extents in 14 methods: (1) Norfolk and Primrose, (2) Hexham and Berwick, (3) London and Wells, (4) Lightfoot and Wearmouth, (5) Beverley and Surfleet, (6) York and Durham, (7) Ipswich and Cambridge. Tenor 9 cwt.

Cyril R. Burrell	*Treble*	Cecil Wade	4
*Edwin T. Chapman	2	*Albert W. A. Leggett	5
*Stanley E. Bennett	3	Ronald C. Noon	*Tenor*

Conducted by Cecil Wade.
* First peal in 14 methods.

MILLAND, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Nov. 29, 1959, in 2 Hours and 4¼ Minutes,
At the Church of St. Luke,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, and four different extents of Plain Bob.
Tenor 12¼ cwt.

C. R. Chad Coussmaker	*Treble*	Raymond A. Brown	4
S. Kathleen M. Knight	2	Leonard Stilwell	5
E. Winifred Keys	3	Bernard E. Matthews	*Tenor*

Conducted by Bernard E. Matthews.

WENHASTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Mon., Nov. 30, 1959, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Being seven different 720's. Tenor 12 cwt. 6 lb.

James R. Napthine	*Treble*	Peter S. Bedford	4
Jack Pilgrim	2	John W. Blythe	5
C. Jack Gibson	3	H. William Barrett	*Tenor*

Conducted by John W. Blythe.
Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to Edward G. Battle, ringer and clerk at this church.

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.
THE MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 2, 1959, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist, Miles Platting,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent T.B., Oxford T.B., Plain Bob, Single Oxford, Double Oxford and St. Clement's.
Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lb. in G.

*David A. Hoult	*Treble*	Robert J. Warrilow	4
Barrie Hendry	2	*Ronald J. Johnston	5
*Barry S. Sheppard	3	Trevor Taylor	*Tenor*

Conducted by Trevor Taylor.
* First peal in seven Minor methods.
A 21st birthday compliment from the Guild to Miss Margaret Ross.

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DARLINGTON, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 4, 1959, *in* 2 *Hours and* 33 *Minutes,*
At the Church of The Holy Trinity,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being 720 each of Durham, York, Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge, Wells and London. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. in B flat.

*Ian Walker	*Treble*	†Thomas Cooke	4
†Doris M. Killingley	2	W. Norman Park	5
Richard Busby	3	Roland Park	*Tenor*

Conducted by Roland Park.

* First peal. † 50th peal together.

Rung in connection with the 121st consecration festival of the church and for the 68th anniversary of the installation of the bells.

COPT OAK, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, *in* 2 *Hours and* 33 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents in six methods: (1) Chester, (2) Munden, (3) Cambridge, (4) Primrose, (5) Beverley, (6) Surfleet, (7) Cambridge. Tenor 10 cwt.

Tom Harris	*Treble*	John A. Underwood	4
*Cecilia Cowley	2	Frank Chambers	5
C. William Hall	3	Roland Beniston	*Tenor*

Conducted by Roland Beniston.

* First peal in six Surprise Minor methods.

Rung as birthday compliments to Cecilia Cowley and Mrs. J. A. Underwood.

DODLESTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, *in* 2 *Hours and* 38 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being an extent each of London Bob, Lytham Bob, Hereward Bob, Double Court, Double Bob, Fulbeck Bob and Oxford Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

George F. Sperring	*Treble*	Edward V. Rodenhurst	4
John W. Griffiths	2	Percy Swindley	5
John S. Dean	3	Geoffrey Parting	*Tenor*

Conducted by John W. Griffiths.

GAMSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, *in* 2 *Hours and* 41 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being one extent each of Double Oxford, Oxford T.B., Kent T.B., St. Clement's, Single Court, Single Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.

Katharine Burchnall	*Treble*	Alec Wilson	4
Valerie Waterfield	2	Richard Hobbs	5
Grace Burchnall	3	Harold Denman	*Tenor*

Conducted by Richard Hobbs.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Harold Denman.

STARSTON, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 5, 1959, *in* 2 *Hours and* 35 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Margaret,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 9 cwt.

Harry B. Fuller	*Treble*	Anthony H. Roberts	4
Ernest Whiting	2	Leonard J. Minns	5
E. Austin Head	3	L. Edward Etheridge	*Tenor*

Conducted by Ernest Whiting.

HANDBELL PEAL

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 4, 1959, *in* 1 *Hour and* 48 *Minutes,*
At 29, Forest Drive,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

In seven different extents. Tenor size 13 in C.

Dennis A. S. Symonds	1—2	Martin J. Harbord	3—4
		Howard W. Egglestone	5—6

Conducted by Howard W. Egglestone.

A birthday compliment to Jane Symonds, and an engagement compliment to Terry Earle.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

AYLESTONE, LEICS.—On Nov. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Marie Davenport (first quarter) 1, Sandra Chesterton (first of Triples 'inside') 2, P. Martin 3, Patricia Wardle 4, Christine Wakefield 5, T. Roper 6, R. S. Morris (cond.) 7, A. J. Poynor 8.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Nov. 28th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: D. E. Parsons 1, Elizabeth A. Cooper 2, Kathleen E. Chilcott 3, F. E. Darby (cond.) 4, R. J. Cook 5, L. Bance 6, L. Reece 7, A. Rogers 8. Rung by members of the St. Mary's, Beddington, Society to celebrate the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Cook.

BILTON, WARWICKS.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. C. Taylor 1, Miss J. M. Rushall (first 'inside') 2, J. C. Nichols (cond.) 3, A. Campden 4, W. E. Burnell 5, T. H. Townsend (first quarter) 6. For Advent Sunday.

BISHOP'S CLEEVE, GLOS.—On Sept. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Wendy Bird 1, I. Goulter 2, D. Field 3, D. Beacham (cond.) 4, P. Baker 5, L. Aston 6. Rung as a compliment to the Rev. A. C. Simpson on his appointment as senior assistant curate at East Grinstead, Sussex.

BITTERNE PARK, SOUTHAMPTON.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire, with 7, 6, 8 covering): Victoria Hawkins (first quarter) 1, Pamela A. Jones 2, D. E. House 3, M. J. Thomas 4, Janice E. Williamson (first as cond.) 5, Gillian Cottrill (first quarter) 6, B. Harvey 7, D. Hawkins 8.

BLACKHILL, CO. DURHAM.—On Dec. 6th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: R. Oliver 1, G. Wall 2, H. Aitchison 3, R. Skelton 4, C. T. Lamb (cond.) 5, N. Errington 6, W. Tyson (cover). For patronal festival Evensong.

BURFORD, OXON.—On Nov. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Brenda Hall (first quarter, aged 14) 1, J. W. Dixon 2, T. J. H. Prince 3, C. F. M. Collett 4, W. J. Dixon 5, B. W. Hall 6, T. W. Timms (cond.) 7, J. J. Westmacott 8. For Confirmation service.

BURGESS HILL, SUSSEX.—On Nov. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. S. Anderson (first of Triples) 1, K. C. Knight 2, Miss R. A. Stevens 3, S. W. Brown 4, R. V. Johnson 5, H. W. Brown 6, F. F. Godsmark (cond.) 7, A. Brown 8. A compliment to Mr. Harry Gravett of the local band on the completion of 55 years' service as a ringer at this church.

BURLESCOMBE, DEVON.—On Nov. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Cork 1, G. Hollis 2, G. Court 3, J. Kelland 4, W. H. Ware (cond.) 5, T. Woodley 6. For the centenary of the church school.

CHELSFIELD, KENT.—On Nov. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Smith 1, Gillian Outhwaite (first 'inside') 2, Ann Buncombe (first quarter) 3, J. Parker 4, D. Manger (cond.) 5, C. Rowe 6.

DAMERHAM, HANTS.—On Nov. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Coleman 1, J. Baverstock 2, C. Redwood 3, T. Byford (first 'inside') 4, R. N. Marlow (cond.) 5, P. Waterman 6.

DEDDINGTON, OXON.—On Nov. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. J. Sykes 1, J. M. Stretton 2, W. J. Cross 3, H. H. Morley 4, C. C. Clarke 5, R. A. Reeves 6, E. E. Pearson (cond.) 7, E. S. Hitchcox 8. Rung after the dedication service by the Bishop of Dorchester of the peal tablet erected in memory of Earnest C. Pearson.

DUNKESWELL, DEVON.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Janet Real 1, C. Manley 2, A. Hodge 3, L. Mowell 4, W. Webb (cond.) 5, S. Sweetland 6. For morning service, and also for the 700th anniversary of the church. First quarter on the bells since rehanging.

EARL'S CROOME, WORCS.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Doubles (Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Plain Bob and Grandsire): D. Penn (first quarter) 1, E. Maund 2, M. Hawkes (cond.) 3, A. Halling 4, E. W. Penn 5, D. Williams 6.

EAST HARPTREE, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Doubles (Plain Bob and Grandsire): Ruth Kortright 1, Mary Powell 2, L. Derrick 3, C. Kortright (cond.) 4, J. C. Baldwin 5, H. Hardwidge 6.

EDINBURGH.—At the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, on Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Caters: T. Lambert (first quarter) 1, Miss K. Branson 2, Miss M. Wilson (first of Caters) 3, Miss L. Beevers 4, C. C. Brown (first of Caters) 5, J. H. Martin (first of Caters) 6, R. S. C. Wilson 7, A. W. Lloyd 8, C. R. Raine 9, A. Best 10. For St. Andrew's Day diocesan festival.

QUARTER PEALS

ELVEDON, SUFFOLK.—On Nov. 29th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Ivings 1, L. Wright 2, Miss D. M. Reeve 3, H. Fuller 4, L. Nice 5, R. Rose (first of Major as cond.) 6, E. Nice 7, J. Paul 8. For evening service.

FOOT'S CRAY, KENT.—On Nov. 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: S. Hardy (82) 1, F. Gorringe (80) 2, R. Beard (78) 3, F. G. Wheller (62) 4, B. Aldridge (72) 5, P. Braund (24, cond.) 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to 2, 3 and 4.

HARPENDEN, HERTS.—On Nov. 18th, 1,260 Minor (Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob): Gillian Coker 1, A. Rushton 2, Amy Coburn 3, G. Hawkins 4, J. D. Painter (cond.) 5, F. C. Jacklin 6.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mary Rowland 1, F. Bowden 2, C. Johnston 3, Mrs. F. Bowden 4, D. Mosley 5, H. Gauntlett 6, A. Queen (cond.) 7, J. McDermott 8. For Confirmation service.

HEREFORD.—At the Cathedral, on Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Read 1, Rosemary Jarrett 2, J. Eisel 3, A. T. Wingate 4, A. W. Davis 5, T. Wood 6, F. Reed (cond.) 7, M. Munn 8. First quarter of Grandsire Triples for 1, 3, 6 and 8. For Evensong.

HURST, BERKS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. B. C. Castle 1, H. Smith 2, R. J. Castle (first of Stedman) 3, W. J. H. Parker 4, A. J. N. Rance 5, W. Hunt 6, B. C. Castle (cond.) 7, F. J. Hicks 8. For the patronal festival.

HUYTON, LANCS.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Flanagan (first quarter) 1, Audrey Adshead 2, Jean Flanagan 3, T. E. Gore 4, Rev. I. D. Campbell 5, W. R. Birchall (cond.) 6. For the institution and induction of the Rev. J. H. Richardson.

KINGSTEIGNTON, DEVON.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. G. Lavers 1, H. C. Spencer (cond.) 2, W. Simmonds 3, G. Skinner 4, W. J. Harvey 5, D. J. Roberts 6, F. Wreford 7, A. J. Garbett 8.

KNEBWORTH, HERTS.—On Nov. 21st, 1,312 Yorkshire Surprise Major: J. Dear 1, R. Castledine (cond.) 2, W. Critchley 3, C. Critchley 4, E. Buck 5, H. Woolven 6, C. Harwood 7, A. Riddington 8.

LEYLAND, LANCS.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Minor (Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob): J. Nelson (cond.) 1, R. Crowe (first quarter) 2, H. Hunter 3, J. Humble 4, J. E. Sumner 5, S. Walmsley 6. Rung to thank Mrs. France and her daughter for the gift of an electric clock for the belfry.

LLANFEIGAN, BRECONS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Doubles (with 7, 6, 8 covering) consisting of Grandsire Plain Bob, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Kennington, April Day, Seighford, Canterbury Pleasure, Southrepps, Clifford's Pleasure, Little Aston and Stedman): E. J. Smith 1, W. Chick 2, S. V. Edwards 3, D. H. Bennett (cond.) 4, W. G. Smith 5, E. Pugh 6, J. Parry 7, R. Rees 8. First quarter in 11 methods by all and in Wales. A compliment to Miss Margaret Parry and Mr. John Davies, both ringers at this church, who were married here on November 28th.

LLANGATTOCK, BRECONS.—On June 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Sandford 1, A. R. Hutchings 2, D. K. Walklate 3, N. Bennett 4, M. Holt 5, M. Hart 6, D. G. Astridge (cond.) 7, O. King 8. Rung by the University of Wales Change Ringers' Association after the loss of a peal caused by a rope breaking.

LONDON.—At Westminster Abbey, on Nov. 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. H. Crampion 1, A. B. Peck 2, W. Rawlings 3, R. F. Deal 4, M. P. Moreton 5, G. W. Cecil 6, J. Phillips (cond.) 7, J. A. Waugh 8. For the installation of the Very Rev. Eric S. Abbott, D.D., as Dean of Westminster.

LONDON.—At St. Clement Danes' Church, on Nov. 15th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Mrs. N. Bagworth 1, Anne C. Garnett 2, E. A. Barnett 3, I. H. Oram (cond.) 4, A. Bagworth 5, G. P. T. Peters 7, R. G. Leale 8. For Evensong.

MALDON, ESSEX.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. B. Mann 1, A. Hubble 2, J. Clarke 3, J. Towler 4, F. White 5, S. C. Easter (first as cond.) 6. For evening service.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.—On Nov. 28th, 1,404 Plain Bob Minor: Miss A. P. Smith 1, P. Dale 2, Miss E. M. Fearn 3, Miss C. Fernley 4, W. H. Dowse (cond.) 5, F. Osbaldiston 6. First quarter 1 and 2.

NEWBOLD-ON-AVON, WARWICKS.—On Sept. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Joan M. Cheney 1, J. R. Haycock 2, W. C. Budd 3, A. G. Grant 4, T. J. Frodsham (cond.) 5, T. Pittham 6. For Evensong and to mark the engagement of the tower captain, Mr. A. G. Eveleigh, to Miss G. Thomas. Also on Nov. 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. R. Haycock (first of Minor) 1, L. A. Whewall 2, Joan M. Cheney 3, W. C. Budd 4, T. J. Frodsham 5, A. G. Eveleigh (cond.) 6. First 'inside' for 2 and 3. For All Saints' Day Evensong.

NORTH BRADLEY, WILTS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: M. Phillips 1, F. S. Slatford 2, P. W. J. Harding 3, J. Case 4, A. Knight 5, F. Ross 6, L. E. Hitchins 7, E. J. Hitchins (first as cond.) 8. For patronal festival.

NORTON, HERTS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7, 6, 8 behind): Miss H. Pound (13) 1, Miss C. Wills (15) 2, H. Werrett 3, A. E. Pound (first in method) 4, W. Hitch (first in method as cond.) 5, Miss E. Wills (12) 6, Miss J. Sanderson 7, R. Day 8. First quarter 1, 2 and 6.

NORTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Kent Treble Bob Minor: M. McQuistan 1, Ann Hancock 2, S. King 3, L. Cordell 4, J. McPhail 5, W. Wedlock (cond.) 6. For the first Family Communion service at St. Andrew's Church.

ORMESBY, YORKS.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Crosby 1, R. Jackson 2, Mrs. L. Warner 3, A. Woodhead 4, W. Ellerington 5, P. Wishart 6, T. M. Cox (cond.) 7, C. E. Oldfield 8.

OXFORD.—On Nov. 29th, at All Saints' Church, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: E. G. Moore 1, D. R. Stoddard 2, N. I. Allnatt 3, J. G. Pusey 4, A. N. Stubbs 5, W. C. Porter 6, C. J. B. Taylor 7, J. H. Pailing (cond.) 8. For morning service. Also on Nov. 29th, at St. Ebbe's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. A. H. Wilkins 1, J. R. Harris 2, E. G. Moore 3, Christine Woodward 4, C. Coles 5, R. Elliott 6, N. I. Allnatt (cond.) 7, J. Adams 8. For thanksgiving service.

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.—On Nov. 29th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. Alderton 1, W. Shorter 2, F. Hunt 3, R. Chambers 4, L. Wright (first in the method) 5, H. Horricks (cond.) 6. For evening service.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.—On Nov. 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: G. Bacon 1, Mrs. J. Saddler 2, Miss J. Rowe 3, B. Saddler 4, J. Belcham 5, P. King 6, W. A. Smith (cond.) 7, P. Sloman 8. First in method by all except conductor. For Evensong. Also on Nov. 29th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: P. Sloman 1, Miss J. Rowe 2, D. Belcham 3, Mrs. M. King 4, B. Saddler 5, G. Bacon 6, J. Belcham 7, P. A. Saddler 8, W. A. Smith (cond.) 9, P. King 10. For Evensong.

ROYDON, ESSEX.—On Nov. 14th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: W. Aley 1, C. W. Sams 2, R. Hayden (first in the method) 3, B. G. Burton 4, S. Clark 5, W. Wedlock (cond.) 6.

RYE, SUSSEX.—On June 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): Gillian D. Sewell (first quarter) 1, A. J. Hicks (cond.) 2, Rosemary G. Hicks 3, J. Small 4, Judith Walker 5, E. Wood 6, S. Skinner 7, T. Longley 8. For Evensong. Also on Nov. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Rosemary G. Hicks 1, Felicity M. A. Rooke 3, Linda M. Southerden 3, M. Winter 4, C. H. Knowles (first of Triples as cond.) 5, J. Small 6, A. Hicks 7, S. Skinner 8. For Evensong on Advent Sunday.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—On Dec. 6th, at St. Paul's Church, Fisherton Anger, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. E. Manns 1, H. Prout 2, R. O. Fry (cond.) 3, N. Smith 4, J. Orme 5, M. D. Lewis (first quarter) 6.

SHOREDITCH, E.—On Nov. 22nd, at St. Leonard's Church, 1,311 Stedman Cinques: R. G. Leale (cond.) 1, Mrs. T. H. Francis 2, Mrs. P. Lewington 3, J. D. Painter 4, J. D. Rock 5, D. W. Stone 6, F. R. Scott 7, J. Philips 8, T. P. Edwards 9, S. F. Kimber 10, W. Hibbert 11, B. Baker 12. For Evensong.

SOUTHGATE, N.—On Dec. 6th, at Christ Church, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Ann Aldridge 1, L. G. Gates 2, W. Wainwright 3, S. G. Peck 4, J. Wallman 5, C. Aldridge (cond.) 6. First of Minor for 2 and 3.

SWINDON, WILTS.—On Dec. 4th, at St. Mark's Church, 1,272 Plain Bob Minimus (with 5, 6 covering): R. Peake 1, P. Naylor 2, M. Stanley 3, A. T. Collins (cond.) 4, A. Stratford 5, A. Sims 6. First quarter for 2, 5 and 6. First of Minimus by all the band.

'THE RINGING WORLD'

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.
HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER: E. A. BARNETT, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford, Kent. Telephone: Crayford 24989.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD (convener), Heatherbrae, South Park Avenue, Darley Dale, Matlock, Derbyshire. Telephone: Darley Dale 2184.
FRANK I. HAIRS.
W. NORMAN PARK.
R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

RELFRY

Because of the poor quality of the striking, the University of Wales Change Ringing Society are not claiming the peal attempt at St. Mary's, Swansea, when 5,040 true changes were rung.

Correction. — Yorkshire Surprise rung at Leiston on November 28th was C. J. Sedgley's No. 13, not 3 as printed.

Meeting one short for a Major peal attempt at Birstwith on November 28th, Mr. K. B. Sibbon gallantly stood down. A peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor was rung.

Will the sender of postal order P1/24/231446 (14s. 6d.), purchased at Hewlett Road, Cheltenham, please send Mr. Jeater his or her name and address which was omitted from the form.

Mr. A. Robinson, of Mirfield, who has completed 60 years' service as a member of the Yorkshire Association, has retired. Well done, thou good and faithful servant.

At Kingsteignton, Devon, where really good 'call-changes' but not 'scientific' is rung, a quarter peal of Stedman Triples was rung on December 5th. A quarter peal card is being printed to stimulate interest in 'scientific' ringing.

To mark the christening of Martin Charles Spittle, a peal was rung at Ewell on December 5th. Taking part were his godparents Margaret Howard and Ralph and Derek Spittle. Martin is the son of Ralph and Pauline Spittle, both members of the local band.

Many ringing friends and members of the Rochester and District offer their congratulations to Albert and Dorothy Dunk, of Stockbury, Kent, who celebrate their silver wedding anniversary on December 20th. Mr. Albert Dunk is a District representative of the K.C.A., and both he and Mrs. Dunk are held in very high esteem by all the Rochester and District.

GOSSIP

'The Southern Evening Echo,' in its issue of December 1st, reports, under the heading of 'Clanger?', of a local resident, summoned at Southampton Magistrates' Court for exceeding the speed limit, admitting by letter that he was 'in a hurry because he was late for his bell-ringing practice'!

The conductor and ringer of the fifth in the peal at Wookey (see page 721) was Mr. Francis C. Mogford, and not as printed.

Mr. Douglas Hughes is lecturing to the Antiquarian Horological Society on 'Bells and Bell-founding' at the Science Museum, South Kensington, on January 8th at 7 p.m.

By ringing the third at Southwark Cathedral to a peal of Cambridge Maximus on December 5th, Mr. James G. A. Prior, Master of the Ancient Society of College Youth, has 'completed the circle' at this tower.

The quarter peal in 11 Doubles methods at Llanfeigan, Breconshire, conducted by D. H. Bennett, on December 5th, was the first in 11 methods by all the band, on the bells, and in Wales.

The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, whose publication is 'Overtones,' has decided to employ a part-time corresponding secretary, 'at the very modest expenditure of $100 a month.' The individual membership fee of $5 carries with it a free copy of 'Overtones' and all publications of the Guild.

In the long list of illustrious Masters of the Ancient Society of College Youths, no member has held the office longer than Mr. Ernest G. Fenn, whose period of office embraced nine years (1938–1946). In honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Fenn, his fellow College Youths rang a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus at Southwark Cathedral on December 5th.

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REDEDICATION OF FARNHAM, SURREY, BELLS

ON Saturday evening, December 5th, the Lord Bishop of Guildford (Rt. Rev. Ivor S. Watkins) visited St. Andrew's Church, Farnham, Surrey, to hallow the work of restoration, which has kept the church closed for several months and the bells silent for many more.

In 1955 the Rector of Farnham (the Rev. H. R. Wilds) made the first suggestion for restoring, cleaning and beautifying the church and in 1958, after plans and specifications had been approved a general appeal for £15,000 was launched by the Bishop of London (Dr. Montgomery-Campbell)—a former Bishop of Guildford and resident of Farnham Castle. This amount was subsequently increased to £20,000 of which two-thirds has been raised or promised, and remainder guaranteed.

The magnificent tower was the first part to be under repair and ringing ceased in May, 1958, when the scaffolding was erected. At that time no suggestion of any work on the bells was made, but when the clock was removed for overhaul, the ringers pressed for a report on the bells and carillon (which plays a tune every three hours). It was decided to retune and rehang the eight bells in the existing frame, but when Messrs. John Taylor, who were entrusted with the work, lowered the bells to ground level, it was found that under the old wooden headstock the fourth was badly cracked in the crown.

A LADY'S INFLUENCE

Whilst the bells were at Loughborough, the Church Council at Farnham were debating ways and means of finding about £2,000, additional to the general restoration, for recasting all the bells and putting the carillon in order again. With the exception of the ringers' representative and one influential lady, the council were despondent, but within a fortnight of that meeting this lady had, by her own efforts, persuaded various local firms and families to give the money for the whole of the work.

A new faculty was necessary, but a complication set in. The Diocesan Advisory Board had not been consulted before the bells had been removed and refused a faculty until the reports and proposals had been discussed. The P.C.C. had been advised that the general restoration faculty covered the rehanging of the bells! But this was not so.

Following many weeks of letters and meetings the faculty was at last granted and work commenced. The return to Farnham tower of the bells was all worked in with the completion of the main work of restoration within the church, which consisted of two new chapels, a new high altar, baptistery, rebuilt and rehoused organ, new clergy vestry, new lighting and windows, the result being new cleanliness, a new light, a new simplicity and a new beauty, which gives a reawakened sense of worship.

A SEMITONE HIGHER

The bells originally were in the key of E flat with tenor of 20¼ cwt. But are now a semitone higher (in E) with 19¼ cwt. tenor. The third, fourth, seventh and tenor have been hung with wheels innermost, giving a closer circle for the ringers and considerably more seating in the ringing chamber. All the old inscriptions are on the new bells together with the new donors' names:—

Treble: 'Recast at the cost of their families in memory of W. W. Williams and A. J. Stedman.'

Second: 'The Surrey Iron Company.'

Third: 'The Farnham Herald Newspaper.'

Fourth: 'H. C. Patrick, Ltd.'



Farnham Parish Church

Fifth: 'William Kngham and Sons, Ltd.'

Sixth: 'Mercari, Ltd.'

Seventh: 'Taylor and Anderson, Ltd.'

Tenor: 'Laus Deo.' In memoriam Lt. A. C. P. Caspar, R.M., killed in action 1945, given by his father, Lt.-Col. E. H. Caspar.' The tenor also carries a general inscription: 'This ring of eight bells, recast Loughborough, 1959, as part of the general restoration of this Parish Church.'

Hedley R. Wilds, Rector
C. W. Denyer, captain of tower
H. C. Patrick, B. H. Ogbourn, W. R. Wilkinson, H. Becker — Church wardens

As the dedication of the bells only occupied a small part of the main service of the restoration hallowing, and there was only an hour's ringing afterwards, it was not considered advisable to issue a general invitation to ringers everywhere to attend but about 40 were present and Major E. J. Bragg, District Ringing Master, organised the touches. The improved 'go' and musical qualities were much praised, although the light set of several bells caught out many experienced ringers present. On Sunday ringing took place for three services and again many visitors arrived, and in spite of torrential rain. Twenty-three ringers were present for evensong.

Experiments are being made to get more sound into the ringing chamber, but with the old drum and housing of the existing carillon in the clock room between the bells and ringers removed, it is expected that this improvement will be accomplished.

A strong and enthusiastic band has already been re-formed at Farnham and practice night has been fixed for Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., and on Sundays ringing will be 9-9.30 a.m. and 5.45-6.30 p.m. A meeting is to be held at Farnham at the end of January.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Preliminary Notice

The next meeting of the Council will be held at the Town Hall, Folkestone, Kent, on Whitsun Tuesday, June 7th, 1960.

Headquarters will be the Princes Hotel, Bouverie Road West. Inclusive terms, 42s. a day plus 10 per cent. service charge.

All ringing arrangements for towers in the area during the Whitsun week-end are in the hands of Mr. J. R. Cooper, 39, Sussex Avenue, Ashford, Kent. Full details will be announced later, but members wishing to take part in peal attempts are requested to communicate with Mr. Cooper, stating any preference regarding method, number of bells, etc.

Further details will be published at a later date.

E. A. BARNETT,
Hon. Secretary.

GIFT OF HANDBELLS TO GREENWICH TOWER

For more than 60 years the name of George H. Daynes was prominent as a ringer and conductor in South East London. Mr. Daynes was born at Leeds, near Maidstone, into an old Kentish ringing family (his grandfather called the first peal by the Kent County Association at Frittenden in 1881).

Between the wars Mr. Daynes was in charge of St. Nicholas', Deptford, where he was also churchwarden. This church was badly blitzed, and when Greenwich Church and bells were restored he was invited to take charge of the tower, a position he held until his death some two years ago, at the age of 87.

In 1951, at 81 years of age, he called Holt's Original at Eltham, and in 1952 he rang the tenor at St. John's, Deptford, to an octogenarians' peal of Bob Major which was conducted by the late Frank Bennett.

Members of Mr. Daynes' family recently presented his set of 12 handbells to Greenwich Church, and these were received and dedicated by the Vicar (Rev. J. N. Higgins) on December 5th at a special service, which was attended by 40 ringers and friends.

After the service, those present were entertained to tea in the Parish Hall by members of the Greenwich band, during which Mr. J. Dafters, in well-chosen words, thanked the family for their gift, and paid tribute to Mr. Daynes as a ringer and a man, to which his son, Mr. S. E. Daynes, replied.

Mr. Dafters also conveyed the thanks of the band at Greenwich to Mr. E. Jones, of Lewisham, for his gift of a case for the bells and a suitably inscribed brass plate. B.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

Northern District

The Northern District nomination meeting at Benhilton on November 28th was attended by 44 ringers from 17 towers. The Vicar (Rev. Marcus Donovan) conducted the service. Tea followed in the Schoolroom, under the supervision of Miss Pat Collins and Mrs. Christine Harbott, assisted by the local young ladies.

At the business meeting, Mr. Gordon Peters, the District Master, welcomed the local band and also ringers from St. Martin's, Epsom. Two Benhilton ringers were elected to membership. Mr. F. E. Collins was nominated for the position of Master, the existing secretary, treasurer and auditor were nominated, and the Rev. C. Marshall, Mr. N. Bagworth, Mr. W. F. Oatway and Mr. N. Steere were nominated to the committee. The meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks and further ringing.

Society For The Archdeaconry Of Stafford At Dinner

This year the Society held its eighth annual dinner at Stafford on November 14th, and despite the gloomy autumn weather 96 members and friends made their way to the county town. The long room at the Swan Hotel provided an ideal setting and an excellent meal was enjoyed. The Society's president (Ven. W. A. Parker, Archdeacon of Stafford) presided over the gathering and proposed the toast of 'Her Majesty the Queen.' In his comments afterwards he announced that, consequent upon his being appointed as Suffragan Bishop of Shrewsbury later this year, this would be the last Society dinner that he would be attending as its president. He spoke of the very happy association he had had with the Society during the past 15 years, and expressed the hope that it would continue to flourish.

The toast of 'Church and State' was, at very short notice, due to the sudden illness of a speaker, ably proposed by Mrs. Joan Bennett. She spoke of the happy relationship which exists between the Church and State today. In replying, the Rector of Stafford said how proud he was to belong to the English Church and of the community feeling between his church and the town of Stafford. This community feeling was far more evident in this part of the country than in his previous parish in London.

DIOCESAN RINGING FESTIVAL

The president then called upon Mr. Ewart H. Edge, a former secretary of the North Stafford Association, to propose the toast of 'The Society.' Mr. Edge spoke of the survey of Sunday service ringing, which had been the first real census of ringers to be undertaken. It revealed, he said, that there was a vast amount of positive work for Associations to do and that there must be co-operation between towers, ringers and Associations. One of the great problems of ringers was the recruitment and instruction of beginners in the face of competition from television and other counter-attractions of today. He went on to say that his Association welcomed the proposed diocesan ringing festival, and were looking forward to future co-operation between the three Associations in the Lichfield diocese.

In his reply, Mr. John Dinenage, assistant Ringing Master of the Society, thanked the ex-secretary from the 'Barbarous North' for his very kind remarks. It was, he said, very encouraging to go to meetings these days and see all the lassies and lads there with their mums and dads.

Mr. George W. Hughes, a Central Council representative, proposed the toast of 'The Visitors.' He extended a welcome to all the visitors present and related to the company some amusing anecdotes about the habits of ringers generally. The Rev. C. J. Raby (Vicar of Claverley), in a witty speech, replied on behalf of the visitors and thanked the Society for its kind hospitality.

Once the speeches were over, the evening's entertainment began, and comprised a concert party. Mr. Frank Duggan entertained everyone with amusing stories, and Messrs. E. and A. Wiggin, accompanied by Mr. W. Robson on the pianoforte, sang well-known songs. During the interval Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells, and the ringers from Penn, Wolverhampton, afterwards gave a new variation of 'lapping' which they called 'St. Bartholomew's Shuffle.' The evening concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

A BURGESS HILL VETERAN

The ringers of Burgess Hill, Sussex, could not let the 79th birthday of Mr. Harry Gravett pass on December 5th without some record of appreciation. When the eight bells were installed at St. John's, Burgess Hill, in 1904, Harry learnt to ring. A brother of Mr. Arthur Gravett, who was for many years tower captain at St. Peter's, Brighton, he had rung several peals with Keith Hart and his band from Brighton years ago.

It is at Burgess Hill where his interest has been constant for the 55 years. When ringing was at a low ebb he gave all his support to the new band formed in 1958, together with one or two of the other old ringers in the town. He is very popular with the young ringers, and one of his biggest thrills was when this new local band struggled through a plain course of Grandsire Triples.

His completion of 55 years as a ringer was marked by a quarter peal, which is recorded on our quarter peal page.

N. C.

The Devil's Knell

At 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve the ringing of 'The Devil's Knell' will take place on the Mitchell Tower chime at the University of Chicago. This consists of tolling the tenor bell, followed by 4×4 strokes, which represent 'The Devil's Knell.'

During the Middle Ages it was believed that the Devil died each year at the birth of Christ. 'The Devil's Knell' will be followed by a chime and carillon concert of Christmas carols, preceding the annual Christmas Vesper service in the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel.

SWANSEA & BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD

About 25 members attended the Southern District meeting, held at Sketty on December 5th, when the service was conducted by the Rev. D. W. White and the address given by the Vicar (Canon Garfield James). Tea was provided by the ringers and friends, who were thanked by Mr. Arthur Hoare.

At the meeting the Vicar took the chair and asked all to stand in silent sympathy with Mr. William Dobbins, captain of Gorseinon ringers, in the loss of his wife, and also in sympathy with Mrs. Witworth, of Sketty, in the loss of her father.

In welcoming the Guild to Sketty he agreed that the Guild should hold a yearly meeting there. The secretary and auditor were both re-elected. Five new members from Gorseinon and one from Porthcawl were elected. It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Gorseinon in March, 1960. Ringing continued until 8 p.m.

J. T. W.

LIFE OF ARTHUR I. HOLMES COMMEMORATED AT EDENHAM

On December 5th, a somewhat grey and cold afternoon, a gathering of some 50 ringers and friends from a wide area attended a commemoration and dedication service in the ancient and beautiful Church of St. Michael, Edenham.

The service, conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Mr. Stainsby), took the form of dedicating a plaque to the memory of Mr. Arthur I. Holmes, who was for many years connected with Edenham Church and its bells. The Vicar paid a great tribute to Mr. Holmes for the many years of faithful and untiring service he had rendered to the church.

The plaque, which is of stone, bears the following inscription: 'Arthur I. Holmes, 1878–1958, Sexton, Bell Ringer and Steeple Keeper.' It is placed immediately above the door in the ringing chamber.

Arthur, as he was widely known, combined these three duties to his church most conscientiously. As a ringer he was always genial; an active peal ringer in his younger days, a good striker, and always ready to help the beginner; in fact he had probably instructed more beginners than any other in Lincolnshire.

He started his ringing at an early age, and when Edenham had only five bells. In the early part of this century he was chiefly instrumental in getting the bells augmented to six by the addition of a new treble. Six-bell ringing in South Lincs then began to take shape, the Edenham tower being a great stronghold.

The year 1911 saw the first peal to be rung in 14 methods at this tower, conducted by the late Rev. H. Law James. In 1931 he was again instrumental in getting two more trebles to complete the octave and the old tenor recast, thus making an excellent ring with a tenor of 16 cwt. A joiner by trade, he spent many hours in his spare time making improvements in general to the belfry, and in this respect he was most successful in adding to the comfort of ringing in this tower. The bells are perfectly heard inside the tower and out; they command the approval of the greatest critic.

Thanks must be accorded to the band of lady helpers who provided tea in the Village Hall, which was much appreciated. Before leaving, the hon. Branch secretary (Mr. G. Vickers) paid tribute to Mr. Holmes for his good work. Handbell ringing was then participated in, followed by further ringing at the tower. Some of the methods rung included Cambridge, Yorkshire and Bristol Surprise. C. T. H. B.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

Devizes Branch

Special interest was taken in the Devizes Branch meeting at Warminster on December 8th as the bells are shortly to be removed to the bell foundry for retuning and rehanging. It is hoped that they will be back in time for the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury next summer. The 40 ringers present included visitors from Swindon and Newcastle. In the absence of the Vicar the service was taken by the Rev. Mr. Whitford, and at the tea, served by ringers and their wives, he and the two churchwardens gave a hearty welcome to the visitors. Methods to suit all tastes were rung.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MOST PEALS IN A TOWER

Dear Sir,—Congratulations to Mr. F. J. Cullum (265 peals at St. John-the-Baptist's, Erith), to Mr. Edwin Barnett (264 peals at Crayford) and to Mr. George E. Fearn (250 peals at Birmingham Cathedral).

In reply to Mr. G. F. Butcher, Northfleet, my peals at St. Martin's, Birmingham, are as follows: 12 bells, 220; 10 bells, 18; 8 bells, 6; total, 244; conducted 104. (The first peal: Stedman Cinques, January 31st, 1899.).—Yours sincerely,

ALBERT WALKER.

Birmingham.

PLAIN BOB CATERS.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the article of the front page of 'The Ringing World,' please find below a copy of the composition of the peal of Plain Bob Caters referred to.—Yours faithfully,

Warwick. P. FAULKS.

5,040 PLAIN BOB CATERS

By W. H. Male

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	1	4	7	8
6 4 2 3 5 8 9 7	—	—	—	—
2 6 4 3 5 9 7 8		—		—
4 3 2 6 5	—			—
2 4 3 6 5				—
3 4 5 6 2			—	
2 5 4 6 3			—	—
4 5 3 6 2			—	
2 3 5 6 4			—	—
5 2 4 3 6	—		—	
3 5 4 2 6	—			
4 2 3 5 6	—			(—)
4 3 2 5 6		S		

Twice repeated, omitting bobs at 4 in second part, and first course of third part.

(—) omit in last part, producing rounds.

First rung at St. Mary's, Warwick, September 26th, 1959.

TAKEN A RINGING PAPER SINCE 1901

Dear Sir,—After being in hospital for a time, I was surprised when I picked up 'The Ringing World' to see that the price was to be 8d. in the New Year. Well, I am afraid it will be goodbye to ringing and the 'R.W.' I started ringing when I was 15 years of age and am now in my 83rd year. I started taking 'The Bell News' in 1901, and the 'R.W.' from the start. I have always looked forward every week to my 'R.W.', and as my eyesight is getting very poor I have to ask the wife to read it for me.

The other week there were 70 peals published. We like to see how the ringing is going on, but we do not ask for these peals to be rung. There were 356 ringers taking part: surely these ringers who ring the peals could scrape another 1d. or 2d. each to help the paper along. As to the gentleman who would willingly pay 1s. for his copy, I am afraid he could complain after 60 years.

If half of the towers took a copy for every ringer belonging to the tower there would be no price problem. Wishing the 'R.W.' every success.—Yours truly,

E. C. GOBEY.

Ilkeston, Derby.

PEAL RINGERS NOT A DIFFERENT BREED

Dear Sir,—Before reading the P.S. to Mr. Soper's letter, I had come to the conclusion that he had reached the age of intolerance. He is obviously an anti-peal ringer.

Speaking for myself, although not a prolific peal ringer, I would much rather read of other people's peals than of their meetings or outings. Do we follow Mr. Soper's suggestion to its logical conclusion and fix a charge for reporting all ringing activities? If so, dear Editor, your worries would soon be over, as a monthly leaflet would suffice.

I am sure Mr. Soper is under a wrong impression in thinking that peal ringers are a 'different breed' to the ordinary Sunday service ringer.' In my experience, the peal ringer is usually the backbone of his Sunday service band.—Yours faithfully, M. J. BUTLER.

Southampton.

ST. NICHOLAS, HARWICH

Dear Sir,—I wonder if you would be so kind as to allow the use of your columns for an appeal on behalf of the Restoration Fund of Harwich Parish Church. –

The church, which has a tower surmounted by a steeple is one of the largest in Essex. It has a ring of eight bells and can seat approximately 2,000. It forms a landmark that can be seen many miles out to sea. In view of its size and ample accommodation it serves not only as a parish church, but also as a borough, deanery or district church on national or other occasions when large crowds gather together for a united act of worship.

Harwich was once a very prosperous litttle seaport but now has lost practically all its trade (Parkeston Quay, though called Harwich, is outside the borough) and owing to war and flood damage is partly derelict. Its 4,500 citizens are all of working class families having very little money to spare.

A recent survey of the church revealed extensive damage by dry rot to the roof, and much needed attention in the fabric as a whole. The repairs were originally estimated to cost about £4,500, including £750 for the roof, but the damage was later found to be far greater than at first supposed, and it has already cost £2,500 for the roof alone and probably £15,000 will be required to put things right.

Just over £1,000 has been raised locally, which figure includes £300 from diocesan sources, but £1,500 is still owing to the builder, a local firm in a-not-very-large way of business. He must be paid before any further work is contemplated. There is little more that can be done by local people beyond what they have already done, or are doing in fund-raising efforts; thus we are hoping that through your columns our needs may come to the notice of a wider circle of sympathetic friends who may be in a position to help.

We should be grateful of any donations, however small, and these should be sent to the Treasurer St. Nicholas', Harwich Restoration Fund, care of Lloyds Bank, Dovercourt, Essex.—Yours sincerely,

H. G. W. BACHE, Vicar.

Harwich, Essex.

PEAL AT COLLINGBOURN KINGSTON

Dear Sir,—A peal was rung at the above church on Sunday, November 15th, and recorded as rung for the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Did the band know that this tower is affiliated to the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, or is this a case of *rank bad manners*?.—Yours, etc.

W. C. WEST, Hon. Sec.,
Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

'SPORTS REPORT' SHOULD BE PAID FOR

Dear Sir.—May I, through the medium of this paper, be permitted to pen a few words in support of the letter from Mr. M. J. Soper, published in the issue of November 27th.

We all know, I think (although I am sometimes doubtful), that the primary purpose for the ringing of church bells is to call the faithful to worship. Any ringing other than this, with the exception of practices, is done purely for the enjoyment of the ringer, and could come under the heading of 'sport.' I consider, therefore, that if the first three or four pages of the 'Ringing World' are to continue to be a 'sports report,' then the participants of peals and quarter peals should be prepared to pay for the publication of same.

Please do not think I am against peal ringing. I have enjoyed taking part in several peals and hope to continue to do so. However, I would be fully prepared to make a contribution to publication expenses, and I would suggest a levy of one shilling per rope for peals and sixpence per rope for quarter peals. Assuming that this were the case, the peals and quarters published in the issue of November 27th would have produced the sum of £28 2s. (that is if my mathematics are correct). I agree that this is not a vast sum, but it would certainly go a long way towards bridging the gap.

Surely no one is going to quibble about paying sixpence or a shilling for forty minutes or three hours of pleasure: after all, we must consider ourselves lucky that churches do not make a charge for wear and tear on ropes, etc. I agree that not all peals and quarters are rung 'just for the heck of it': indeed, many are rung for church festivals and other important occasions, and rightly so, too! But all the same, we should still be prepared to pay.

I know of many West Country call-change ringers who take our paper purely because they share with us a common love of bells and bell-ringing. They, like us, would much prefer to read articles of common interest, such as the dedications of Great Yarmouth and Carbis Bay bells, or to read some witty and interesting report of an outing. Let's face it: is it fair that they should be asked to pay more for their paper just to read that so-and-so has scored his 500th peal, or that someone else has 'circled' a tower to peals? I know that I am not particularly interested. —Yours faithfully,

ROBERT A. SOUTHWOOD.

Truro.

We are sorry to learn that the Ladies' Guild name peal attempt at Loughborough came to grief. There is to be another attempt shortly, a little nearer London.

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CLERGY SCHOOL GIVEN AN INSIGHT INTO BELLS & RINGING

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, vice-president of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, gave the following address to the Norwich Diocesan Clergy School in April this year. We ask readers to show the copy of this address to their incumbents. All who have the care of bells under their charge should be familiar with the points raised.

We shall have the privilege later this week of hearing lectures on Christian Sacrifice, which no doubt included the offering of ourselves, our souls and bodies in service to God. The chairman of your committee invited me to talk this evening about what may be described as a rather specialist form by which about 42,000 churchpeople in the British Isles offer their service, by ringing the bells of our churches. May I attach part of what I have to say to the tale of three of our brother clergy, one of whom suffered disaster and the other two considerable inconvenience, which they might have avoided had they heard this talk.

One Sunday afternoon a few years ago some terrified Sunday School children at Okeford Fitzpaine in Dorset fled down the stairs of their church tower, to find the nearest grown up, to whom they gave terrible news—'Please, something dreadful has happened to the vicar, in the church belfry.' Investigation showed the worst. There was the vicar's body, torn asunder, beneath one of the bells. Poor man, he had evidently taken the children up to explore the belfry, and one can only presume he didn't know anything about bells, for instance the important fact that before bells can be rung they must be 'raised' and set up (as in model), and when in this position it is extremely dangerous for anyone to go close to them. So, as any worker must begin by understanding his tools, anyone who wishes to know about ringing must learn a little about his bells.

FORCES OF BELLS

The forces set up by bells when ringing are surprising. A bell weighing X cwt. presses the tower sideways 2X and vertically 4X cwt. when ringing. So Mancroft tenor presses its tower nearly 4 tons to left and right and 8 tons downwards during ringing. In fact a ring of bells forms a valuable and important piece of engineering, whose maintenance needs the attention of a skilled mechanic at frequent intervals. It would do us good to know how much loving care is expended secretly on our bells by our steeplekeepers, who mostly do their work for nothing. We all should know just a little about belfry maintenance, for there are 5,422 churches in the British Isles with bells hung for ringing, of which about 187 are in this diocese, in 59 of which I am ashamed to say the bells are out of order and unringable. This is a poor show compared with many other parts of the country, thus in the rural deanery in which I began my ministry, in Berkshire, every parish church save one had a proper ring of bells regularly rung.

The things we should know are these points: The bells themselves are often valuable both intrinsically and historically. Bell metal is an alloy of copper and tin, and a bell is worth roughly its weight in pennies. The contents of many of our belfries form a remarkable historical record, for many of them were cast 500 years ago, and the oldest in this diocese is the 13th century bell standing on the floor of Snettisham Church. The achievements of the mediæval bell founders in overcoming transport and other technical difficulties to produce bells still of excellent tone, are remarkable and deserve a lecture to themselves.

About the time that Despencer the Fighting Bishop was hanging Lidester and giving Norwich Cathedral its priceless retable, William de Norwico was casting a bell still to be seen in St. Peter Hungate and still good enough to ring. But bell casting and tuning is a very modern art as well as an ancient one, and a course of lectures could be devoted to the science of bell tuning as understood today, involving as it does the task of getting about ten different notes to sound harmoniously together in each bell. The 13 bells in Yarmouth Church were tuned so that each sounds best when heard in concert with all the other bells, for we shall normally ring 12 together, and the clock chimes will play a theme by Bach (from the B minor Mass). A rather different method is used for a bell which sounds by itself, such as Norwich City Hall bell which has a richer individual tone.

EXCESSIVE NOISE

The bell frame is a valuable piece of engineering, subject to deterioration through rot, beetle, rust, etc., according to what it is made of. It needs to be kept in good order, the bells need to be kept well lubricated, birds must be rigorously excluded—but as this is not an Archdeacon's Visitation charge I will say no more on these lines. It is worth noting, though, that the excessive noise which some bells make can be easily remedied, thereby lessening a very real source of annoyance to neighbours. It is quite wrong for bells to hang on the level of the belfry windows, so that a fiendish clatter emerges. Thus at Mancroft, the police can hardly hear themselves telephone when the bells are ringing. All that is necessary is for the belfry windows to be blocked up inside, by thin brickwork or sound resisting material, and if you can afford it, block these windows completely and arrange sound openings in the roof. The pleasing effect is notable at Lincoln Cathedral.

One more thing we ought to know about our bells. If your bells are out of order and can't be rung, they can at least be made to chime for very little cost. It is curious how terrified some people get of doing anything to their bells. An incumbent in this diocese recently invited me to address his P.C.C. about their bells. I found to my astonishment that they had raised £600 towards the £700 needed for the complete rehanging of the bells, but they were so worried about raising the remaining £100, and so deceived by the specious words of a salesman, that they wanted to spend £500 of their £600 on erecting a hateful electric machine to make noises supposed to resemble bells, whilst they were going to start all over again raising the £700 needed for proper rehanging! and the gadget would only last 20 years whilst the bells would last several hundred. Strangest of all, the only reason why their bells wouldn't chime was because during the invasion scare in 1940 someone had tied the clappers up. They are now chiming their bells gaily without having spent a penny.

The Vicar of Okeford Fitzpaine needn't have known all these facts to save his life, but they are worth knowing nevertheless.

THE RINGING FRATERNTY

Now for the second cleric who suffered considerable inconvenience. It was Whit Tuesday morning, at a great and famous Cathedral in the north. The secretary of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers had written to the Cathedral authorities to say the Council was holding its annual meeting in that city, and it would be deeply appreciated if the members might receive Holy Communion at the Cathedral that morning. They were told that they would be most welcome. But the celebrant had not been told, or else those concerned had no idea what the Central Council consists of. The celebration was in a small side chapel as usual with one priest. But when between one and two hundred communicants appeared, the Cathedral was hard put to it, to deal with the situation with dignity. It was a pity the priest concerned did not know a little more about what ringers are like, as a body nowadays. The 42,000 ringers in the British Isles are a highly organised fraternity. The band of ringers in each tower is normally affiliated to their Diocesan Ringers Association, and all the Diocesan Associations are in turn affiliated to the Ringers' Central Council. The Central Council meets annually on Whit Tuesday, normally in an English Cathedral city.

In view of the fact that occasionally people expose their ignorance by describing ringing as a dying art, I note that when the Norwich Diocesan Association was founded in 1877 membership was small, and the optimists dreamed of the day when there would be 400 members: that was when the diocese included East Suffolk also. Since the war we have had a remarkable increase in membership: during the last three years 200 new members have been elected, and membership today for Norfolk alone is about 500. So much for the dying art. And you must be a competent change-ringer before you can be elected; this means many months of hard learning and practice.

(To be continued.)

ONLY A FEW LEFT

THE RINGER'S NOTEBOOK and DIARY, 1960

Compiled by William Viggers and Maurice Hodgson

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LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Melton District Dinner

Ringers of the Melton District of the Leicester Diocesan Guild held their annual dinner on December 5th in the Midland Woodworkers' Canteen, Melton. An excellent dinner was served by the canteen staff, 66 ringers and friends being present, including the Vicar of Melton (Canon C. M. S. Clarke), the president of the Guild and Mrs. P. J. Staniforth.

Canon Clarke, in proposing the toast, 'The Leicester Guild,' said he was very pleased to see such a good mixture of young ringers together with the older ones; it was good to see the young ones taking up the art. He also had a special word for Mr. E. Littlewood, of Asfordby, now 86 years of age and still able to carry on.

The president replied for the Guild and thanked the Canon for his words of encouragement. A very enjoyable social evening followed, led by the famous Kirby Harmony Twins, with dancing and the usual fun and games.

J. H. C.

OBITUARY

MR. E. J. JELLEY

As briefly recorded in the issue of 'The Ringing World' of December 11th, it is with deepest regret that we have to record the passing on December 3rd, of Ernest Jelley of South Wigston, Leicester. This has come as a great shock, not only to the ringers at South Wigston, where he had served the belfry for over 40 years, but to ringers all over the country, especially his many frends in the Midland Counties Guild and in Devon and Cornwall.

On October 31st he was present at the opening of the ten bells at Carbis Bay, and as recently as November 29th he was attempting what was destined to be his last peal attempt—Stedman Caters at Buckfast Abbey. He made the long journey back to Wigston on the Sunday, just at the start of a week's holiday. On December 2nd he visited his doctor who diagnosed angina, and in the evening he set out with his son John to the weekly practice at South Wigston. But he never arrived, for he turned back through feeling unwell leaving John to come alone, and during the night he passed away.

Ernest rang his first peal (treble to Plain Bob Major) at South Wigston on May 31st, 1919. Between then and November 20th, 1926, he rang 22 peals. In this period are included 10,912 Kent at Thurcaston on January 6th 1923, 9,120 Ilkeston variation at the Bell Foundry on February 16th, 1924, and an 'all-Ernest' peal at the Bell Foundry on May 1st, 1926.

His work as a driver for the Midland Red buses kept him away from peal ringing until May, 1944, and from then until June, 1953, he rang 11 peals, all at South Wigston. Then the writer came to South Wigston as choirmaster and organist and through Ernest's influence also came to be Ringing Master. From then Ernest rang 320 peals. There was no stopping his enthusiasm, largely aroused through his son, then aged 15. Both father and son made rapid strides together and through the writer's leadership peals in a variety of new Surprise methods were scored. The enthusiasm did not stop at new methods. New towers in Leicestershire were visited for peals and also for 'tower snatches' and by his enthusiasm the writer was able to visit many out-of-the-way towers which would not otherwise have been possible. In addition many of the young ringers at South Wigston had good experience in visiting these towers. What was probably the most famous of these expeditions took place on August 27th, 1956, when five ringers set out for a 'snatch' at Saddington. 'Yes,' was the reply to Ernest's enquiry, 'ring as long as you like.' 'For 2¼ hours,' said Ernest, 'Yes! I'll come and listen.' And so a peal was the result. Perhaps the peal that caused the greatest satisfaction was on November 7th, 1956, when after much hard work and preparation a peal of Braunstone Surprise Major was rung at the tiny hamlet of King's Norton. This peal came round at 9.55 p.m. and the nearest 'local' two miles away. The famous black van never travelled so fast!

In all Ernest rang 353 peals: over 225 were with his son and 208 with the writer. At South Wigston he rang 61 and 146 at the Foundry (including over 100 on the ninth).

At South Wigston Ernest was latterly deputy Ringing Master and his experience and wise counsel often proved invaluable. Not given to voicing his opinion too often, he had the knack of saying the right thing at the right time, even if it did mean disagreeing with someone else. His presence in the belfry will be sorely missed. Another tower also will miss Ernest very much. For many years he had been a regular visitor at the practice at St. John-the-Divine's, Leicester, and his help and experience there had been responsible for the training of the band.

In his spare time Ernest repaired watches and many ringers at South Wigston and elsewhere have taken their timepieces to Ernest to be repaired. He was also a pianist.

To his widow, his son, John, his daughter and son-in-law we extend our heartfelt sympathy, and we at South Wigston mourn the loss of a great friend and ringer.

The cremation was at Gilroes cemetery on December 5th. It is a matter of regret that it was not possible to ring a peal to his memory at South Wigston, where he had served the belfry for so long, but a quarter peal of Stedman Triples was rung there on December 8th. A quarter peal was also rung at St. John-the-Divine on December 5th. Peals were, however, rung at Mountsorrel on December 5th and at the Bell Foundry on December 7th, both conducted by the writer.

The most appropriate epitaph is a poem composed by Ernest on February 19th, 1922, after ringing 504 Stedman Triples for morning service.

Eight bell ropes in a chamber hang.
Eight strong men went up and rang.
5-0-4 of Stedman Triples.
Oh! how sweet the music ripples.

This took place on Sunday morning
Just as service time was dawning.
When those men all walked away
The place around was twice as gay.

Good bell music is always pleasing.
But change ringing is often teasing.
For if one man a mistake should make
The music often tends to break.

For on the very last change but one
A mistake will often come along.
And so you will see it leaves a doubt
As to whether a touch is coming out.

B. G. W.

MORRIS ALFRED TURNER
AN APPRECIATION

With the death in Philadelphia last month of Mr. Morris Alfred Turner, there came to an end a most interesting and unique ringing career. Unique, because it was divided into two parts by a period of forty seven years, when the only contact with ringing matters was in correspondence with his brother Bob in Kettering.

Starting ringing in 1900 at Kettering Parish Church, Alf progressed quickly in the art, and rang many peals, conducting two. One peal, of Stedman Triples, was conducted by the late Rev. F. E. Robinson, and Alf would relate how after the peal the conductor congratulated the Turner brothers on their ringing. In December, 1908, he rang what was to be the last peal for him for many long years — Superlative with the local band at Kettering. In 1909 he set sail for the United States, where he married, and where for the past few years his grandchildren had been a great joy to him.

After retirement from his painting and decorating business, his thoughts turned again to England, and in 1956 we in Kettering were delighted to learn of a planned holiday here. We could not, however, anticipate the boundless enthusiasm for ringing which we were to see rekindled in this 70-year-old! Within a very few weeks, with the encouragement of his brother the old mastery of the rope returned, and Alf was soon ringing as well as ever. Before long there was talk of a peal, and the first took place at Brampford Speke, Devon. Shortly afterwards Bob Major, at St. Edmund's, Northampton, was rung.

It was not surprising that this taste of the old love should lead to a visit to one of the ringing towers in the United States, and shortly after his return home we heard of visits to Kent School, Connecticut, where Alf was able to be of considerable help and was made very welcome.

In 1958, a second visit to England came, during which a tour of the Canterbury district gave him his first ringing week. A heart complaint, however, was to limit ringing this time to short touches, but the long climb to Canterbury Cathedral belfry, taken in easy stages, enabled an ambition to be realised. York Minster, too, was visited in the September, and what a joy it was to us all to see the pleasure it brought Alf to be able to ring on those magnificent bells. What a joy indeed to have had the privilege of meeting and ringing with such a man.

PATRICK I. CHAPMAN.

GAVE INSTRUCTION TO 44 PEOPLE

Most encouraging reports were presented at the annual meeting of St. Peter's Guild Staines, held at the Vicarage, Staines, on Dec. 2nd, with the Rev. R. W. Carter in the chair.

The Secretary (Miss Jean Williams) and the Ringing Master (Mr. R. I. Shepherd) reported that the first year since the reconstitution of the Guild, after a lapse of a quarter of a century, had been a very successful one and gave hope and encouragement to the officers for the future development of ringing in the Staines area.

A total of 44 persons had been given instruction in bell handling and control during the year including two persons from St. Matthew's, Ashford, where there are three bells! Sixteen Girl Guides had not, however, stayed the course leading to the Guide's Bell-ringer Badge, as they found that more was required of them than a few evenings' instruction. Five Guides would shortly be taking their badge and a further ten were waiting for the next course in January. Two Scouts had passed their first Bell-ringer Badge and four more were under instruction. The Scouts were regular and staunch members of the Sunday band. Twelve new members were elected to the Guild.

Income for the year from weddings and donations was £44. Expenditure totalled £38 and included the complete redecoration of St. Peter's belfry and the laying of lino tiles, also the provision of a set of bell mufflers. Four persons rang their first quarter peal during the year and it was to be hoped that the band would score its first peal in the new year.

The bell-ringing exhibition at the Town Hall in October had been a huge success. 1,600 persons having seen the exhibits and heard the handbells or the recordings. As a direct result of this the Guild had been invited to affiliate to the Staines and District Arts and Civics Council. The meeting decided to affiliate at an annual fee of one guinea. Some of the younger members were preparing for their part in Benjamin Britten's 'Noye's Fludde' at St. Matthew's, Ashford, and a regular weekly handbell practice was to be arranged in the new year.

The Rev. R. W. Carter closed the meeting with prayers and expressed his pleasure in seeing so many young people present at their first business meeting. R. I. S.

NEW RING OF SIX IN DEVON

Upon the advice of the American Air Force, Dunkeswell, Devon, tower and bells were taken down in 1946. They were said to be unsafe because of the excessive vibrations from the activities of Liberator bombers which flew from the airfield a few hundred yards from the church.

The tower has now been rebuilt and the five bells, augmented to six, rehung. The reopening ceremony took place on December 5th, the 700th anniversary of the church.

Dunkeswell has now one of the finest small parish churches in the county, and a good ring of bells. The splendid organ is the gift of Americans in memory of the airmen who lost their lives in missions from Dunkeswell Airfield.

Christmas Greetings to all Readers

'The Ringing World' Committee, the Editor and staff send their Christmas greetings to all readers. May the joy of ringing Christmas bells be in the hearts of all who ring and their families.

A happy Christmas to all ringing friends, and may the New Year be one of many a joyful gathering. From the ringers of ST. MARY'S, APSLEY. 5424

Miss J. S. ARMSTRONG, of 21, Duncan Gardens, Morpeth, sends Christmas greetings to the many ringers all over England who are familiar with the bells of Morpeth Watch Tower.

A happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all my ringing friends, both old and new, wherever they may be, from Mr. and Mrs. ASHDOWN, Beare Cottage, Broadclyst, Devon. 5425

A happy Christmas and lots of good ringing and pleasant company in the New Year, to all our friends. Mr. and Mrs. C. A. BASSETT, Wadhurst, Sussex. 5450

Mr. Peter N. BOND sends every possible good wish for Christmas and New Year to all his ringing friends, especially to fellow members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. 5454

To all Suffolk ringers at home and away
My season's greetings on Christmas day.
To old friends, and new, that often one meets
With memories of Southport, and kind Norman Heaps.—Les. BRETT, Suffolk. 5435

Christmas-time is greetings-time, and Mr. and Mrs. R. H. BULLEN, of Handsworth, Darley Dale, Nr Matlock, take this opportunity of wishing all ringing friends a merry Christmas and all the best for 1960. 5423

A happy Christmas with good health and prosperity in the New Year to all ringing friends, old and new, is the wish of Marjorie and George H. CROSS. 5433

The ringers of DANBURY Church tower send best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all their ringing friends, both near and far. 5442

The ringers of EMMANUEL CHURCH, PLYMOUTH, send best wishes for Christmas and 1960 to all old friends at home and abroad, to many new friends made during 1959, and to those it is hoped to welcome to the belfry in the coming year. 5412

To their many ringing friends, Paul and Flo FIELD, of Marshfield, Knole, Langport, extend best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. Many thanks for good companionship in 1959. 5448

Happy Christmas, good ringing, and a prosperous New Year to Aldenham, Monken Hadley, and Cromer bands, and to all our other bell-ringing friends, from Donald, John and Ian FRANKS, of Radlett, Herts. 5394

The Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association wishes all ringers heartiest Christmas greetings and a very happy New Year, with lots of good ringing.—Frank SKIDMORE, 80, Carlyle Road, Bristol 5. 5428

From Mr. and Mrs. F. I. HAIRS to all friends, greetings and best wishes for 1960.—Norman's Cottage, Groombridge, Sussex. Tel. Groombridge 438. 5416

Very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all our ringing friends, especially to members of the Winchester and Portsmouth and Sussex Guilds.—Mr. and Mrs. S. J. HARDING, Catherington, Portsmouth. 5445

To all ringing friends—greetings and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.—J. Arthur HOARE, Swansea. 5461

Christmas greetings to all members of the Sussex County Association, remembering especially at this time those who are ill, and those no longer able to ring.—From Reginald V. JOHNSON. 5409

A very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all our ringing friends, is the sincere wish of Edward H. and Winifred KING, 371, Margate Road, Northwood, Ramsgate, Kent. 5422

Seasonal greetings and good wishes to members of the Railwaymen's Guild and ringing friends everywhere.—Mr. and Mrs. W. B. KYNASTON, Swindon, Wilts. 5446

Christmas greetings and happiness in the New Year to all our ringing friends.—From David, Frances, George and Hilda MASSEY, Parbury Bungalow, Frome, Somerset. 5384

Wishing all our ringing friends a very happy Christmas and a prosperous and bright New Year.—N.S.T.G., Nailsea, Somerset. 5426

Christmas and New Year greetings with best wishes to all ringing friends.—From Mr. and Mrs. E. D. POOLE, Marlow, Bucks. 5437

To all our friends a happy Christmas and good health in 1960.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred. PRICE, St. Michael's, 9, Fisherman's Avenue, Southbourne, Bournemouth. 5413

To all ringing friends from far and near my sincere greetings and best wishes for your happiness at Christmas and throughout the New Year is the wish of Mrs. E. H. PULLING. 5417

A merry Christmas and a very happy and Prosperous New Year to all our friends, both near and far, is the earnest wish from all members of the ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, Barking, Essex. 5438

Mr. Albert E. SELLERS, 3, Elwell Avenue, Beverley, wishes all his ringing friends, especially those of the Beverley and District and Eastern District of Yorkshire Ringing Societies, a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year. 5407

A merry Christmas to all ringers and a special one to remaining members of 'Great Adventure' party, also congratulations to Australians on wonderful progress in change-ringing.—C. SHARPLES, 157, Preston Old Road, Blackpool. 5427

Hearty Christmas greetings and good wishes to all ringing friends everywhere, and may 1960 bring us happiness, peace and goodwill.—William SHEPHERD, Addlestone, Surrey.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank SMALLWOOD send to all ringing friends greetings and best wishes for the festive season, and for prosperity, health and happiness in the coming year.—Heatherbrae, South Park Avenue, Darley Dale, Matlock. 5429

To all my ringing friends, may you have a Christmas season that brings you special cheer, and then enjoy twelve pleasant months through a very happy year.—Evelyn STEEL. 5439

To all our many ringing friends old and new, everywhere, now too numerous to mention individually, my many Guilds and Associations, our 'Ringing World'—cheap at twice the price—our Editor (Mr. White) and staff, a very happy Christmas and prosperous New and succeeding years; also our grateful thanks for many, many happy times and years.—W. Frank and Mrs. STENSON, Crewe. 5382

Best wishes to all ringers and friends for Christmas and the New Year. From Mr. and Mrs. E. STITCH, The Laurels, 233, Penn Road, Wolverhampton, Staffs. 5415

A happy Christmas to all our ringing friends and best wishes for the coming year.—Martin, Paddy, Katharine and Penny THORLEY. 5453

NOTICES

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.

BIRTH

CLOKE.—On December 6th, 1959, to Daphne (nee Castell), wife of Malcolm Cloke, a son, Nicholas Malcolm Geoffrey, 27, Cedar Road, Botley, Oxford. 5445

SILVER WEDDING

DUNK—SOPP.—On December 22nd, 1934, at the Church of St. Mary-of-Charity, Faversham, Albert John Dunk to Dorothy Edith Sopp. 5408

IN MEMORIAM

STEPHENSON.—In ever-loving memory of our dear elder son, C. Michael Stephenson, who was called to higher service December 16th, 1957, aged 20 years.—Father, Mother and Rodney, Ossett, Yorks. 5402

Important Notice

Any communications for our issue of December 25th MUST *reach 'The Ringing World' Office by Saturday morning, December 19th, at the latest. 'Phone: Guildford 5830.*

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. F. W. Burnett is now 43, Duncan Road, Southsea. 5458

EDGE.—The address of Mr. and Mrs. Ewart H. Edge is now Bradwell House, 177, Congleton Road, Scholar Green, Stoke-on-Trent. Telephone No.: Kidsgrove 2915. 5405

FOR SALE

'Campanalogia,' 1733; 'Clavis,' 1788; Shipway, 1816; Hubbard, 1876; Snowdon's Grandsire, 1888, with his memoir. Not reprints; in fair condition; would divide. What offers?—Symonds, 57, Mornington Avenue, Ipswich. 5419

PERSONAL

MARRIAGE THRO' SOCIAL INTRODUCTIONS.—The only social service of its kind enjoying the warm approval of both Clergy and Press. It is completely confidential and operates throughout Great Britain. Interesting free brochure under plain sealed cover from The Bournemouth Bureau, 176, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. 2731

PUBLICATIONS

'ELEMENTARY CHANGE RINGING,' by F. F. Rigby: an exceptionally good introduction to the art of change-ringing: 3s. 6d.; postage 3d.—S.P.C.K., Holy Trinity Church, Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1. 5250

An ideal present, 'TINTINNABULA' (small bells), the latest book by Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., beautifully illustrated. Direct from the author, 38, Strensall Road, Eyres Monsell, Leicester; 21s., plus postage. 5180

MISCELLANEOUS

'CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR HANDBELL RINGERS. — Seven well-known seasonable tunes, arranged for six ringers with two bells each (two arrangements need an extra bell). Duplicated on stout paper, 5s. 7d. post free, from T. Ogden, 119, Smallbrook Road, Shaw, Oldham, Lancashire. 5388

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Nominations and notices of motion for the A.G.M., 1960, must reach me by February 1st, 1960. (Rules VI and IX.).—F. V. Gant. 5410

PEAL CARDS AND QUARTER PEAL CARDS.—Because of the increased wages in the printing industry, the minimum charge for sets of peal and quarter peal cards will be 6s. 6d. post free, from January 1st. Order and remittance must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals it is necessary to write out two reports—one for 'The Ringing World' and the other in the form you wish the cards to be printed.

BACK NUMBERS of most issues in recent years are available, price 6d., from 'The Ringing World' office.

MEETINGS

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Walsoken, Saturday, Dec. 19th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 5396

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting, Harpenden (8), Saturday, Dec. 19th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—S. Huckle, Dis. Sec. 5391

SUFFOLK GUILD.—South Western District.—Practice meeting, Long Melford (8), Saturday, Dec. 19th. Bells 6.30 to 9 p.m. 5372

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, Dec. 19th, Burgess Hill (8). Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.—Geo. North, Hon. Div. Sec. 5378

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover District.—Quarterly meeting, Woolton Hill (6), on Saturday, Dec. 19th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea in Parish Room. After tea at Highclere (8). 5400

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Mary's, Lambeth, Monday, Dec. 21st, 7.30 p.m. St. Clement Danes, Strand, Saturday, Jan. 2nd, 2.15 to 4.30 p.m. Service 4.45. Business 5.30 p.m. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 53, The Grove, Isleworth, ISL 3921. 5441

BABWORTH, one mile from Retford, Notts.—Ring of three rehung and augmented to six by Taylors. Dedication by the Bishop of Southwell, Tuesday, Dec. 22nd, 7 p.m. All welcome. 5440

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Annual meeting, North Petherton, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea to R. Short, Chilton Trinity, Bridgwater. 5460

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly general, Ilkeston (8), Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells 3.15 p.m. Committee 4. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Dec. 20th.—B. P. Morris, Gable End, Greenway, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. 5418

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Chester-le-Street, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Ringing from 2.30 in the afternoon. Tea at 5, followed by social evening until 9 p.m. Names for tea by Dec. 30th to D. A. Bayles, 12, Crichton Avenue, Chester-le-Street. 5451

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.E. District.—Annual meeting, Maldon All Saints', Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. p.m. Names for tea by Dec. 30th to P. W. Saltmarsh, Sycamore Cottage, Danbury. 5385

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Tonbridge District) and LADIES' GUILD (Kent District).—Joint meeting, Sevenoaks, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Ladies, please note this will be the annual District meeting. Names for tea to Miss D. Colgate, 30, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. 5377

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District.—Annual meeting, St. John-the-Divine's, Leicester, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells (10) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, followed by meeting, 5 p.m., in St. John's School Room. Names for tea by Wednesday, Dec. 30th, please, to Mr. S. Harrison, 73, Hopefield Road, Leicester. 5434

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — West Lindsey Branch.—Social evening, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Dinner and entertainment 6.15 to 11 p.m. in Lea Women's Institute. Tickets, 7s. 6d. Lea bells in afternoon.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. 5421

MAIDSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS' SOCIETY. — Meeting, Bearsted, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. Cantrill, 4, Royston Road, Bearsted, near Maidstone.—Pamela J. Usborne, Sec. 5431

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—Annual meeting, Thrapston, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday previous, please.—L. Witten, 4, John Street, Thrapston, Kettering. 5436

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting, Sheffield, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. St. Marie's bells 3 to 5 p.m. Tea in Wosterholm Hall. Names for tea, please, to Mr. H. O. Chaddock, 1, Hemsworth Road, Sheffield, 8. Cathedral bells after tea.—J. Seager, Sec. 5459

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 2nd, St. Mary's, Nottingham. Bells (10) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Business meeting 5.45 p.m. in the belfry. Own tea arrangements.—S. Adams, Hon. Sec. 5414

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District. — Quarterly meeting, Holy Trinity Church, Hull, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells (10) 2 till 9 p.m. Service 3. Tea 4 p.m., in Manor Cafe, Market Place. Names by Wednesday, Dec. 30th, to Mr. F. G. Reed, 127, Holmgarth Drive, Bellfield Avenue, Hull.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec. 5404

DEVON GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—Annual meeting, Dartmouth, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Ringing: St. Petrock's, 2 p.m.; Townstal, 3.45 p.m.; St. Saviour's, 7 p.m. Service, Townstal, 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Numbers for tea by previous Wednesday to D. Roberts, 84, Westhill Road, Torquay. 5393

COVENTRY DISTRICT GUILD
Southern District Meeting.
Make a note of this date:—
SATURDAY, JANUARY 9TH, 1960.
Harbury, Warwick.
All are welcome to enjoy the New Year's annual social and the new six. 5455

DEVON GUILD.—North East Branch.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 9th, Tiverton. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Numbers to W. H. Ware, 1, Holly Road, Cowleymoor, Tiverton. 5401

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Annual dinner, Saturday, Jan. 9th, Culverden Arms, Tunbridge Wells. Meet 6 for 6.30 p.m. Tickets, 12s., from E. Brunger, Lower Flat, Dunorlan, Tunbridge Wells. St. Peter's bells available 4 to 5.30 p.m.—C. A. Bassett. 5449

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY — Dinner Day, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Ringing: Stoke Bishop, 9.15 to 10.15; Christ Church, 10.45 to 11.45; St. Philip's, 12 to 1; Cathedral, 2.15 to 3.15; St. Mary Redcliffe, 3.30 to 4.30; St. Michael's, 5 to 6. Service 6 p.m. Dinner 7 for 7.15 p.m., Senior Common Room, University Refectory. Tickets (10s. 6d.) from Jane Cook, 4, Cotham Lawn Road, Bristol, 6. 5447

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual dinner at the Deacon's Restaurant, 6, Walbrook, E.C.4, on Saturday, Feb. 6th, at 6.30 p.m. Price 16s. 6d. Tickets available from F. J. Matthews, 145, Wimbledon Park Road, Southfields, S.W.18. 5420

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The Society's last meeting of recent months was held jointly with the Chesterfield District of the Derby Guild at Bolsover on December 5th. In addition to a good representation by the local company and surrounding towers, visitors were present from as far afield as Howden, Yorks., and Loughborough.

Bolsover is indeed a Mecca of ringers, and for years has been associated with high standards of ringing, established in the days of John Flint, when a peal of London Surprise Major by the local band was an almost commonplace event. In keeping with this fine tradition, the ringing throughout the afternoon and evening was of a generally high standard. Although good courses of London, Bristol and other Surprise Major methods were rung, there was also ample opportunity for the many keen young learners.

About 40 ringers enjoyed an excellent ham tea, after which a brisk business meeting was held with the president (Mr. H. O. Chaddock) in the chair. It was announced that the next meeting would be at Sheffield on January 2nd, when the fine eight at St. Marie's and the heavy 12 at the Cathedral would be available.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—J. H. Brittain 2s., Rev. Canon C. C. Cox 7s., G. R. Eyles 2s., J. T. Williams 2s., Salisbury Diocesan Guild, N. Dorset Branch £1 1s., Anonymous 12s., A. Carveth 7s., A. Butler £1 1s., F. H. Erith 7s., W. O. Haythorne 4s., W. Mawby 2s., G. Moorhouse 12s., F. Skidmore 2s., C. Longhurst 5s.

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24365	—	X	—	—
32465	—	X	—	—
42635	—	X		—
23645			2	
46532	—		—	
35264	—		—	
62453	—		—	
32654		X	—	
25346		X		
35426	—	X		—
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DEDDINGTON, OXON.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: B. Davis (age 13, first quarter) 1, Christine Pullin 2, R. Bentley 3, M. Coleman 4, D. C. Bowen 5, R. A. Reeves 6, C. C. Clarke (cond.) 7, W. Minnear 8.

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