THE RINGING WORLD

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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"TO HAVE A RIGHT JUDGEMENT"

BY EDGAR C. SHEPHERD

IT was one of those gatherings within a gathering, one of the several drifting together into groups that mark a stage in every informal social meeting. The little party that we joined sat near the fireplace, and smoked and talked of the parish business that had lately occupied our attention. There were two bell ringers in the group, but it was the people's warden who turned the conversation to the belfry and to ringing generally. As the topic widened, one of the ringers spoke feelingly of the friendship he found among bell ringers wherever he had gone, and of the sense of brotherhood that seemed to bind together ringers all over the land. It was, he went on to say, reasonably true to assert that no young ringer, going to live in a strange town, need lack friends and friendship if there were bell towers and bell ringers in that place. The members of the local company would welcome him and look after him. "And," said the churchwarden, "lead him off to the nearest public house."

It was a rather unexpected interruption, and whether to take it seriously or not held us silent for a moment. But the answer came aptly and very quietly from the second ringer, in words much as follows. "If that should be so, and it is by no means sure, he would at least be in intelligent company."

It is some years since the above gathering provided that interesting intermission, but thoughts of it are revived by the sturdy declaration of right made so bluntly and yet so correctly by Mr. George Pipe in "The St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich News of the Diocese." It is indeed time that the churchmanship of the vast majority of bell ringers was asserted and that much of the assumption of their standing, their work, and their habits was brought to its right proportion.

Mr. R. A. Daniell, that voluminous writer on ringing history, was a stout champion of the bell ringer, and was untiring in the task of defending both the ringer of his day and the one of olden time from some of the accusations brought by what he called uninformed opinion. He was at pains to point out that codes of conduct must be judged by the times in which they prevailed, and that what was considered right (and indeed, sometimes desirable) in one age could not be regarded as acceptable in another social environment. In the 17th century it might not be considered unfitting to use the cathedral for trade, for barter, for buying and selling; in the 18th century drinking in the belfry might be considered as a practice as normal as the squire's bottle of port in the family pew or the parson's brandy bottle in the vestry. No one could say that these were widespread customs, and, indeed, it might be argued that the only harm resulting was where excess or obsession overruled the considerations attaching to the church attendance and the church worship. To judge wisely on those men and manners is by no means easy, but a verdict must take into account the times in which they lived and the difference between liberty and licence.

It is probable that in the olden time it was the lack of attendance at Divine Worship more than his actual habits that brought the bell ringer so much adverse criticism; and today that ancient prejudice leads uninformed speakers and writers to assume that all ringers are absentees from the services at which they ring, and that the public house is the natural assembly point when ringing at service finishes. The latter point will not, fortunately, commend itself to any thoughtful person, and that for very practical reasons. It was well put by an old ringer in the Midlands, who was heard to say: "If anybody thinks we can go from our Sunday morning ringing straight to 'The Red Lion' he shows a deplorable lack of knowledge of the English licensing laws!"

The question of attendance at church services is, and always will be, a very difficult one. There are churches in the great cities that have no parochial ringing band. The ringing for their offices is often maintained by bands who must ring at one church and then go on to another to provide ringing at a later service. In many cases these same ringers are ringing at their own parish churches at Evensong. There are bands in some village churches that man the bells for three or even four services on each Sunday. Some are choristers as well. It would not be reasonable to require them to attend the full length of every service of the day.

We recollect the case of a Ringing Master whose custom it was, week in, week out, to attend Communion at 8 a.m., ring at a 9.30 service, hurry home to breakfast and get back to conduct the ringing at Matins. In the evening he was ringing again for Evensong and attending the full service. It is clear that criticism of his hurrying away from the church at 9.30 a.m. would be uninformed and entirely unjustified. Ringers know that there are many such devoted servants, and that they are found among the very greatest exponents of our art, among the many whose names rarely come before us, and in that great band of unknowns who labour on unhonoured and unsung.

There are, it must be said, ringers who never, or very rarely, attend the service of which their work is a part. Their number is probably few, and even they come to the church to make some offering once or twice a Sunday.

THE RINGING WORLD

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ON OTHER PAGES

	Page
Our Picture — Liverpool Cathedral. ..	531
Clerical Peal Ringing Gathering	531
King's Lynn Win Striking Contest ..	531
Prittlewell Festival	531
Mr. F. E. Collins Retires (picture) ..	532
Arnold Bennett Centenary	532
Overseas News — Rhodesia	532
Stoolball and Ringing (picture)	533
Obituary. — J. T. C. Barnes. — T. A. Moulds. — A. V. J. Papworth ..	533
Feminine Interest. — Ladies Rang the Bells 60 Years Ago	533
Letters. — St. Austell Bells. — Quarter Peals. — Sunday Ringing at Birmingham Cathedral. — New Names to Old Methods. — Sileby Parish Church. — Croydon Parish Church	534–5
St. Martin's Guild	535
Outings	535
Feature—Bells of St. Helens	536–7
Beginners	538
Up-and-Coming Youngsters	538
Bellfounders' Page. — Working Model of Yeovil Church. — University of Keele Society. — Rang in his 92nd Birthday Peal. — Welding Bells ..	538
Peals	539–542
Quarter Peals	542–543
Technical. — Treble Bob (contd.) ..	544
Notices	545–556
Crossword	547
Campanological Hearsay	547
Compositions	548

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OUR PICTURE

Liverpool Anglican Cathedral

BY DOUGLAS HUGHES

LIVERPOOL Cathedral is so beautifully proportioned throughout that one does not realise just how vast is the belfry which houses the heaviest ring of bells in the world. Two simple comparisons serve to illustrate its great size. There is ample room in the belfry for 25 rings of eight, with tenors of 14 cwt., all on one level with plenty of room for access and maintenance. The eight-louvred sound openings are each tall enough for an average church tower to be passed through standing up. To these, add the fact that the belfry floor is 219 feet above the nave floor, and you have some idea of the extraordinary engineering problems that faced Mr. Burnard Geen, the Cathedral's consulting engineer, who had to allow for the horizontal forces exerted by bells with a total deadweight of 16½ tons.

He solved it in a unique way by starting 40 feet below the belfry, with a reinforced concrete girdle six feet thick and just over six feet in height, completely encircling the tower; set diagonally on this, standing on roller bearings to allow for expansion and contraction,, he built two intersecting steel bridges roughly 20 feet wide by 21 feet high, which form the predominant feature in the ringing chamber. The floor of this chamber is slung from the lower members of these bridges, and the ceiling, which also forms the floor of the sound-deading chamber, takes its bearing on top, and in turn this floor supports through great concrete piers the belfry floor, concrete frame and bells. All this structure from the girdle up weighs over 2,000 tons.

The floors are insulated from the walls and the frame is insulated from the belfry floor. The radial plan of the frame is made possible by the enormous span, which is 72 feet, and allows the ropes to fall plumb from the wheels in a true geometrical circle. The order for the ring of 12 (tenor 82 cwt. 11 lb. in A flat with a sharp second to give a "light" eight in E flat, tenor 24 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb.), together with the 14½ ton bourdon was placed with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in 1938. The ring was the bequest of Thomas Bartlett, of Liverpool, who died in 1912, and the bourdon was the gift of Lord Vestey and his brother, Sir Edmund Vestey. The casting and tuning of the ring was completed in 1939 and they were moved to Liverpool for the duration of the war, as it was considered they would be safer there than to remain at Whitechapel.

Although work on the tower was suspended for the war, the building committee asked Mr. Hughes if he could proceed with the casting of the bourdon bell as they wished Lord Vestey, then an old man, to hear it. Two factors made it impossible to proceed with this at Whitechapel. The first was that the war by this time was hotting up, and the second was the loss of key men to the Services, and consequently Mr. Hughes asked Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, if they would undertake the casting of Great George. This they were able to do, but, ironically, before it was cast Lord Vestey died and the roof of the Whitechapel Foundry was blown off in a raid on London!

It was not until 1950 that the tower was sufficiently completed for work to proceed with the fittings, and the hanging of the bells, and this work was completed in 1951. Much remains to be done in the belfry when work of greater priority on the Cathedral itself is finished, notably in acoustics in the ringing chamber, which are certainly difficult for those unused to them. Undoubtedly these problems have been made more acute by the use of so much concrete, but there can be no question that this was the only suitable material. The Cathedral authorities are wisely doing nothing at the moment, for even an experimental scheme would run into four figures and may not even be effective. Time and further experience in the acoustic treatment of concrete surfaces will undoubtedly solve this problem.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting was held at Shrewsbury on Saturday, July 8th, and the change of date for the first time from January was a success, as excellent weather was enjoyed. Market Drayton, Hodnet, Atcham and Wellington towers were open for the benefit of visitors travelling to Shrewsbury, and at Shrewsbury the ten bells at St. Mary's and the 12 at St. Chad's were rung.

A service was held at St. Chad's, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. N. Lewis, and tea and the business meeting followed in St. Mary's Church Hall, at which 43 people sat down.

The Ringing Master's report was presented by the Ringing Master, Mr. E. F. Willcox, who stated that he did not wish to stand for a further term of office, and this was followed by the treasurer's report which showed a balance of £82 13s. 9d.

Mr. A. Pritchard took the chair for the business meeting, and the following officers were elected: Ringing Master, Mr. P. J. Evans; Deputy Ringing Master, Mr. R. H. Newton; secretary, Mr R. Brewin; treasurer, Mr. M. J. A. Orman; auditor, Mr. F. C. A. Bennett; trustees, Messrs. F. G. Beddow and A. E. G. Owen.

Mr F. C. A. Bennett proposed a vote of thanks to all concerned in the meeting arrangement. P. J. E.

CLERICAL PEAL-RINGING GATHERING

Following on a suggestion made during the Clerical Guild Ringing Week at Lincoln, a peal-ringing gathering was arranged by the Rev. Peter Robbins, Vicar of Charing, Kent, and prove! to be a very happy event

The party assembled on Monday afternoon, July 3rd, at Charing Vicarage, and consisted of the following: the Revs. Canon C. Elliot Wigg, R.D., St. John Smith (Guild president), S. M. Evans, R. Keeley, C. J. B. Marshall, J. B. T. Homfray, D. Sansum, P. T. Robbins and M. Hart.

There were four peal attempts in the programme, and though it was a disappointment that only one of these was successful, the ringing itself was of a good standard throughout.

The first attempt was on Monday evening—Double Norwich at Tenstall. After ringing for nearly an hour on this tuneful light eight, two bells were found to have crossed. On Tuesday morning Stedman Triples was attempted at Ospringe; this came to grief after an hour and a half. On Tuesday evening a fast, well-struck peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung at Wye, in three hours and two minutes. It was the first peal of Cambridge Major rung by the Guild since 1949, but without in any way detracting from this achievement it may be that St. Martin had something to do with it, as we had rung the peal (we discovered afterwards) in a church dedicated in his honour on the Feast of the Translation of his bones! Most certainly a great deal of credit must go to the conductor, Roger Keeley, for the masterful way he rang the tenor.

The last attempt was at Headcorn, where a second attempt at Stedman produced some of the best ringing but no peal. We also enjoyed practice rings at Throwley and Ashford.

We were specially grateful to the two hostesses, Mrs. Robbins and Mrs. Evans, for their warm hospitality, and look forward to another peal tour perhaps next year, if time and circumstances permit. J. B. T. H.

PRITTLEWELL FESTIVAL ATTENDED BY 4,000 PEOPLE

When the Prittlewell company arranged that their Ringing and Flower Festival should finish on July 10th they anticipated that the public's interest would have waned by the evening, and that they could enjoy a peaceful final practice night before the representatives of Taylor's moved in to take the bells down and away for retuning.

A measure of the success of the plans to decorate the church with flowers and to open the tower to non-ringing visitors may be gauged by the fact that almost 100 people made the ascent of the tower during Monday evening alone to watch the ringing. It was not merely idle curiosity which brought people into our "province" but, judging by their questions, a genuine desire to know what really happened when the bells rang out their message.

We were pleased to see many of our old friends among the ringers on Saturday, including Mr. A. Reeve and Mr. E. Furbank, our oldest members, as well as several new faces from North East Essex, London and Kent. All the towers were opened, especially for the day, among them Thorpe Bay, Leigh and Benfleet locally, and Purleigh and Stanford-le-Hope further afield, and they were visited by many ringers; in fact Thorpe Bay reported 60 people at the tower at one time.

It is most unlikely that St. Mary's has ever been more full of flowers and people than it was last week-end. Our ringers' service, on the Saturday, at which Canon Gilbert Thurlow preached, and the special Evensong on the Sunday when Archdeacon Welch, of Southend, preached, and which the Mayor and Mayoress attended, both saw the church filled to capacity. It is estimated 4,000 people viewed the floral displays during the three day festival. J. E. N.

KING'S LYNN WIN NORWICH DIOCESE STRIKING CONTEST

Twelve bands took part in the striking competition and handbell festival held at Drayton on July 1st by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. Humphrey Squires. The judges were the Rev. Peter Bond, Mr. Leonard Last and Mr. William Theobald.

The Rev. P. Bond, announcing the results, commented on the good entry and some excellent striking, the first three bands being very close. The others, he said, lost marks by leading too quick at handstroke and too slow at backstroke.

The following bands took part and placings were: King's Lynn, 5 faults; St. George's, Norwich, 20; St. Peter Mancroft, 22½; Aylsham, 47½; St. Giles' Norwich, 52½; Norton Subcourse, 63; Drayton, 65½; Wroxham "A", 80; Wroxham "B", 105; Holt, 120; Barnham Broom, 140. South Norfolk were disqualified for not ringing the full extent of 240 changes.

Mr. George Sayer, branch chairman, on behalf of the branch thanked the Rev. H. Squires for the use of the bells and conducting the service, the ladies for an excellent tea, Mr. Michael Frost for local arrangements, and the Association Ringing Master, Mr. F. C. Goodman, for organising.

After the service, in St Margaret's Church, the handbell festival was held in the Parish Hall. This included for the first time tune ringing and tape recordings of the Ecclesfield and Launton bands. There was also change ringing.

Tune ringers taking part included four pupils from Redenhall C. of E. Secondary School under the leadership of Mr. Archie Brown; also a band from Norton Subcourse and Wroxham. All provided a very enjoyable performance.

Mr. F. C. Goodman proposed a vote of thanks to all who had taken part to make it a great success.

Mr. F. E. COLLINS RETIRES

AN APPRECIATION

As many ringers in the Croydon area will already know, Mr F. E. Collins (Ted) has now retired to his native Ringwood. For us who remain at Croydon, however, we feel that the occasion cannot go by without an acknowledgement in "The Ringing World" of his services in Surrey.

For those who do not know Ted, he was born in Ringwood just after the turn of the century After leaving school he followed his father's footsteps as an engineer. His ringing career started in 1916, when he visited the tower to watch the ringers at work. He, together with a number of others, learnt to ring call changes and eventually learnt the art of change ringing.

Ted's interest in bells and ringing grew to such an extent that in 1925 he moved to Croydon and was employed by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston as a professional bell hanger. He spent some eleven years with the firm and travelled all over the country hanging bells, etc. It was in the early 1930's that he met Olive and they were married at this time.

In Croydon, the foundry tower was always St. Peter's Church and when Ted was at home, he would ring on the Gillett ten which at that time had a very good Stedman Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal band. His duties enabled him to visit many towers and he can recall many interesting experiences.

Ted's last job with the Croydon foundry came in December, 1936, when he helped hang the twelve at Croydon Parish Church. Feeling the need for a more settled life, he resigned from the bell founding firm and was employed at the South Eastern Gas Board where he became foreman engineer. He retired from there earlier this year.

In 1937, Ted joined the Ancient Society of Croydon Parish Church Bellringers and has been a faithful Sunday service ringer at the Parish Church of Croydon for over thirty years. He was Master of the Society from 1954 to 1966. His wife, Olive, has also attended regularly and we owe them both a great debt of gratitude on this account alone. His steeple-keeping at Croydon Parish Church will be a sad loss as the bells are in perfect condition, thanks to his care and attention.

Ted does not confine his interests to his own tower. The Surrey Association had in him a very loyal member, who served in various capacities as Master and District Master. In 1945 he was elected as one of the Association's representatives to the Central Council, of which he is now an honorary member. Here he found an invaluable niche on the Towers and Belfries Committee, which entails travelling hundreds of miles each year inspecting and giving advice on bells and towers.

In another sphere, Ted has been a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths since 1926 and was Master in 1953. He has been a member of the Sunday afternoon band at St. Paul's Cathedral for fifteen years.

In short, many ringers all over the country will appreciate that Croydon is losing a valuable and respected ringer who has given much to the service of others, and there can be no doubt that he is going to be missed in Croydon. I know many ringers will join me in wishing Ted and Olive a good retirement and a happy time with whatever the future may hold.

R. C. STEVENS.

OVERSEAS NEWS

THE PAST YEAR IN RHODESIA

Mr. H. O. Earle, Master of the Rhodesian Guild of Bell Ringers, in his report for 1966-7 expresses the regret of all members at the sudden death of Fred Mason, who for a number of years was a familiar figure in the Salisbury Cathedral tower.

The change of name of the Guild at the special meeting following the A.G.M. to the Rhodesian Guild of Bell Ringers had been agreed to by the Bishops of each diocese, who had accepted the position of vice-presidents.

At the half-yearly meeting at Que Que it was a pleasure to have five members of the Salisbury band there for the week-end. Saturday afternoon was devoted to giving the visitors an opportunity to familiarise themselves with the handling of much lighter bells and quite good striking was achieved on the Sunday morning.

With regret they said goodbye to Frank and Monica Blagrove and later in the year to James Milford. The loss of three experienced ringers resulted in a very limited amount of change ringing during the remainder of the year. Before the departure of Frank and Monica a peal of Bob Minor was successfully rung at Salisbury and a quarter peal of Bob Minimus at Que Que.

Although the Salisbury band was somewhat depleted at the beginning of the year, the faithful few keep the bells ringing on practice nights and Sunday evenings. An inrush of recruits in the last few months had certainly increased the tower activities (including breaking of stays) and had increased the enthusiasm of the members generally. "Whilst all of the older members deserve credit for their part in helping to train the newcomers I'm sure that I speak for you all in giving special credit to the tower captain Ken Cross, for his patience and perseverance in the early stages of training."

"Progress at Que Que during the year has been rather slow. Quite a number of parishioners have shown interest but few have come forward. However, we have managed to keep the bells ringing on Sundays and other special occasions. Whilst it is difficult to progress far in change ringing with a band of learners we have rung on a few occasions the Single Court method in addition to our usual Bob Minimus.

"Of our visitors during the year I would especially mention John Chamberlain who, in next to no time, became one of us and was only too willing to attempt to improve our individual ringing at all levels."

SHARES RINGING WITH TRACTION ENGINES AS HOBBY

Mr. Pip Gare, the popular and accomplished ringer of Queen Camel, featured in a Bristol "Evening Post" picture as he polished the brass of his giant traction engine before the parade at the Somerset Traction Engine Rally. He is a farmer and steam traction engine enthusiast.

ARNOLD BENNETT CENTENARY

Everyone who lives in the Potteries, and a great many others, must be aware that this year is the centenary of the birth of Arnold Bennett, who is generally acknowledged as the areas most famous son. Various commemorative events were organised, and it seemed appropriate to add some quarter peals to the exhibitions and lectures. Not only was Bennett born in the Potteries, he wrote about them too, although the inhabitants of Fenton, one of the six towns that make up the City of Stoke-on-Trent, have never forgiven him for ignoring their town in the "Five Towns" novels. It would have been appropriate if quarters could have been rung at all six towns, but Burslem bells are practically unringable and so a series was planned to include the other five.

THE QUARTERS

TUNSTALL.—On June 19th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: P. W. Gay (cond.) 1, Sue Gay 2, Hilary Pardoe 3, Jackie Quickfall 4, Felicity Webber 5, J A. Tandy 6, D. J. Midgley 7, R. J. Ballard 8.

HANLEY.—On June 20th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Jackie Quickfall 1, Sue Gay 2, Felcity Webber 3, Hilary Pardoe 4, J. A. Tandy 5, A. D. Steel 6, R. J. Ballard 7, P. W. Gay (cond.) 8.

FENTON.—On June 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: Sue Gay 1, Hilary Pardoe 2, Felicity Webber 3, G. W. Biddulph 4, J. A. Tandy 5, D. J. Midgley 6, P. W. Gay (cond.) 7, P. H. Allen 8.

STOKE.—On June 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Sue Gay 1, Margaret Booth 2, Felicity Webber 3, Hilary Pardoe 4, R. J. Ballard 5, P. W. Gay (cond.) 6. Rung after meeting one short for Major, J. G. Burton standing down.

LONGTON.—On June 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Sue Gay 1, Felicity Webber 2, P. Atkins 3, D. J Midgley 4, A. D. Steel 5, R. J. Ballard 6, P. W. Gay (cond.) 7, C. Morey (first quarter) 8.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

Devizes Branch

The July quarterly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at Christ Church, Bradford-on-Avon on July 1st. The attendance was poor, only 22 members being present, representing ten towers, but visitors were welcomed from Colerne, Chiseldon and R.A.F. Colerne.

The service was ably conducted by Mr. Nibbs, of Holt, the father of two of the best-known young ringers in the Branch, in the absence of the Vicar, who was attending the annual outing of his choir. The admirable tea which followed was served by the young lady ringers of Christ Church, who were given an ovation for a good job.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. A. T. Weeks (Devizes), vice-chairman, in the absence of Mr. C. Andrews, who was on holiday. Good wishes for a speedy recovery from illness are being sent to Mr. S. Grant. Tributes were paid to the memory of Messrs. C. Pretty, of Holt, and E. F. Marlow, of Warminster, who had passed away during the previous month, and the meeting stood in remembrance.

New members elected were Stephen Moore (Holy Trinity, Bradford-on-Avon), Christopher Wheeler (Rowde) and Richard Greenaway (St. James', Devizes). These were presented with Ringers' Handbooks by Mr. Weeks. Mr. G. Davis (secretary) read a letter of congratulation from the ex-general secretary, praising the Branch for the organisation of the Guild annual meeting in May. He also pleaded for outstanding subscriptions to be paid.

Ringing took place at Christ Church before tea, and at Holy Trinity in the evening, under the direction of Ringing Masters R. Purnell (in the afternoon) and N. G. Knee (in the evening). During the evening members from Steeple Ashton and visitors from Bristol, Weston-super-Mare and Wincanton joined in the ringing, which ranged from rounds to Cambridge Surprise Major.

Next monthly meeting: Potterne; striking competition, Corsley, in November.

OBITUARY

MR. J. T. C. BARNES

With much regret we heard of the passing on July 7th of Mr. J. T. C. Barnes at the age of 82. For 30 years he was a regular ringer at St. Mary's, Nottingham and during those years he endeared himself to all who knew him, by his kind and unassuming manner.

Cecil was a very conscientious and reliable ringer and rarely missed ringing for Sunday service or practice until some months ago, when through failing health he gave up his home in Nottingham and went to live with his daughter at Harlaxton, near Grantham, where the funeral service was held on July 11th. Among those present were W. Nicholls (Ringing Master) and R. E. Elson (secretary), representing St. Mary's ringers. R. E. E.

MR. T. A. MOULDS

A very faithful ringer at St. Michael's Church, Hose, Leicestershire, Mr. Thomas Alfred Moulds, died at his home on July 2nd, aged 72.

For 55 years he had been ringing at Hose, where he was captain, and took part in the only peal to be rung on the old bells—on July 9th, 1927, conducted by his father, Mr. Willie Sharpe. The new ring of bells were cast by J. Taylor and Son in 1937. He was a member of the Framland Association, the Midland Counties and the Leicester Guild.

St. Michael's Church will miss him in other ways as he took a great interest in its activities, serving as a sidesman and a member of the P.C.C. A large congregation attended the funeral service on July 6th, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. Willcock. Ringers were represented by Messrs. E. Tinsley and J L. Day, and interment was in the churchyard.

In the evening a half-muffled quarter peal in three methods was rung on the bells by J. H Cook (cond.) 1, Mrs. D. A. Day 2, J. Butcher 3, E Tinsley 4, J. L. Day 5.

MR. A. V. J. PAPWORTH

The bells of Kelvedon, Essex, were rung half-muffled on July 13th during the funeral of Mr A. V J. Papworth, and again in the evening when a quarter peal was rung by the local band.

"Joe" Papworth died in hospital after a short illness, aged 59 years. He learnt to ring at Kelvedon about 1930, and from that time on he was one of the most regular and punctual members.

He never rang many peals, perhaps fifteen, but he rang a good many "quarters" and was usually to be found on the treble or the second.

Joe won't be remembered for what he said —he was a very quiet man; but he will be remembered for what he was, and what he did. His great hobby was bell ringing; he even had his own set of handbells so that he could ring at home too.

Joe was always at service on a Sunday evening; and when we had no ringing at Kelvedon he would make his way to Feering or Coggeshall to ring there.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Farnham District

"An enjoyable day was spent by all." This best describes the annual outing of Farnham District on July 15th. Even St. Swithun was kind as we visited the towers at Denham, Chalfont St. Peter, Luton, Dunstable Priory and Berkhampstead. Only at the close of our last tower, Farnham Royal, did that wet saint remind us that it was his day.

May be it was the heat but in general the ringing was not up to our usual standard. Poor Mick could not get Grandsire to come round to order, but at least some good touches in other methods were rung. We were still in good spirits when thirst quenching time came, at Slough. Where did that lucky couple find the fish and chips? Others tried but failed.

To Beryl who organised, incumbents who gave permission and those long suffering tower representatives who met us, we say "Thank you, all." R. B.

STOOLBALL AND RINGING

The victorious team of College Youths and Cumberlands who beat the Northern Division of the Sussex Association at stoolball on June 3rd at West Grinstead. In the centre is the captain of the premier Societies, John Howard, holding the trophy—the ashes of the treble stay from Slaugham in a suitable container.

The divisional secretary, Jean Osbon, made the very successful arrangements. Condition of play was half an hour's batting for both sides, the men using the opposite hand for batting to the one they normally use. The game was not without its amusing incidents; one well-known gentleman had the embarrassment of splitting his trousers whilst fielding and had to have running repairs. Cows had only forsaken the field half an hour before the match and there was some reluctance to handle the ball.

There was ringing both before and after the match, a service conducted by the Vicar and a picnic tea.

LADIES MANNED THE BELLS 60 YEARS AGO

Reprinted from "The Fireside", 1905

THE Church of St. Andrew, Bradfield, has been described as the Cathedral of Berkshire. Perhaps it scarcely merits all the dignity of this title, but if it does not stand first in the county upon architectural grounds it does stand first among parish churches not only in the county of Berkshire, but probably in all England, as having a ring of six bells under the control of six lady ringers.

In "old times"—a period not necessarily very far removed from the present, but only just so far removed as to evince the neglect of an old custom—in "old times" the bells of Bradfield Church were the pride of the village, it might even be said of the valley, and there was never any difficulty about finding enough men and boys to keep up the art of bellringing. On high days and holidays upon any occasion in short—the Bradfield bells would awaken the valley to take part—if only a listening or an echoing part— in local or national celebrations and rejoicings.

But the "old order" changed; one cannot account for it, and the ringing of Bradfield bells gradually fell into disuse, until at last they were never "rung" unless by a team of visitors, members of some Guild Even Christmas came and went, and year after year passed over our heads, without ever a word from those time-honoured orators of greetings, of blessings, of farewell, or of encouragement

This was a state of things that could not last Works of art, each one of them, the bells, with their legends carried this conviction with them. Though the legends are imperfectly worded upon one bell, only a date—yet when a bell still rings true that bears the date "1655" has it nothing to say to us in the 20th century?

To the parish clerk himself a ringer of those bells from his boyhood, is due the credit of having made the very necessary offer to teach any who might be willing to learn to handle the ropes; but to a woman is due the credit of kindling the first flame of enthusiasm and desire to learn. The flame, once kindled quickly spread, and more than enough pairs of hands presented themselves as pupils to make up the necessary team—enough ladies in fact, to make up a ladies' team had they wished to be exclusive.

"Bellringing cannot be learnt in a day" was the truism continually brought before the minds of the pupils by their master; but in spite of this, and though the century was already drawing to its close, it was from the first the unspoken intention in the mind of each pupil to master the art sufficiently to ring in the coming Christmas and New Year Festivals; and so seriously did each one set mind and body to this purpose that the thing was accomplished and the lost but cherished reputation of the belfry more than redeemed.

The following "legends" may be of interest, as attaching to the six bells severally:—

Treble.—"At proper times my voice I'll raise
An sound to my subscribers' praise." Robert Ford and Thomas Justice, Churchwardens. 1757."

Lester and Pack of London. Fleet.
Second.—'Samuel Knight, 1705."
Third.—"1655"
Fourth.—"Samuel Knight made me 1705."
Fifth.—"As forth I sound."
Sixth.—"As Tenar hum all round."

A LISS DISAPPOINTMENT

A peal attempt at St. Mary's Church, Liss, Hants, on July 2nd, in which six members of the Sunday service band took part, was unfortunately lost after 2½ hours' ringing.

This attempt was for Grandsire Triples and had been arranged to mark the 75th anniversary of the dedication of the church, and also the 29th anniversary of the dedication of the new ring of eight bells.

Letters to the Editor

ST. AUSTELL BELLS

Dear Sir,—I read with great interest, but also with extreme disgust, the scathing, unnecessary and completely uninformed comments of Mr. V. M. Dawson ("Ringing World," June 30th), regarding the rehanging of the above bells.

As a person born in St. Austell and with considerable knowledge of the town and people, may I put a case (albeit from South Wales) on behalf of the town, especially as as I have just returned from a week's visit there.

I say town, because the people have a high regard and pride for its church and bells. It was therefore natural that when financial help was sought a considerable offer of practical help was offered by E. C. L. P. Ltd., who besides being a large china clay concern based on St. Austell are backed by a very competent engineering division.

Through family contacts I was able to read with great interest in the E. C. L. P. quarterly magazine an account of how the bells had been renovated. The article explained how the headstocks were removed from the tower, ball bearings fitted and clappers rebushed.

Like Mr. Dawson, I initially had doubts after the article in "The Ringing World," but the very detail given satisfied me that E.C.L.P. were made very aware of the pitfalls of bellhanging, i.e. there was a description of the elaborate precautions taken to align the bearings correctly

The proof of the pudding is in the "go" of the bells, which now go excellently. Time will tell regarding the efficiency of the job (other well-known names have done bad jobs) but I consider that a lot of thought went into the present job and that £300 approx. has been well spent.

As bells and headstocks remain unaltered, I doubt that the bells will come to any harm. If they did, I can assure Mr. Dawson that Cornish people do not dig holes in churchyards with clay shovels to cast church bells.

Unless Mr. Dawson can contribute more on the subject, I feel he owes the Vicar and ringers of St. Austell, and especially E.C.L.P. Ltd. an apology, explaining what prompted his insulting letter in the first place.—Yours faithfully,

D. J. LLEWELLYN.

Rhoose, Barry, Glam.

NEEDS MEDICAL TREATMENT

Dear Sir,—We have all fallen head first into a trap. I am, of course, referring to these hoax letter and peals which have been fooling our journal this last six months.

I think they are the work of a maniac ringer who needs urgent medical treatment. The end came when I opened the July 7th issue of "The Ringing World": it was full of letters from ringers tearing each other to pieces. It is about time we all grew up and realised that we are, or most of us call ourselves, Christians, so let us all stop acting like a bunch of school kids, as we appear to be at the present time.

I think the best thing we can do is to ignore all these hoaxes, because the more we blow the situation up the more our maniac friend will like it and write more hoaxes.—Yours sincerely,

TONY LEWIS.

Chislehurst, Kent.

BELLS OSTRACISED IN PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Dear Sir,—May I comment on the note under the composition 5,400 Plain Bob Royal —"2 and 3 never above 4ths place at course end" (page 488)? For the life of me I cannot understand why these two bells are ostracised with such vengeance; they are far more musical than the discordant 4th, which everyone knows is equivalent to the 2nd in Major, where she is treated with ignominy.

In Royal the 2nd is an octave above the 9th, and the 3rd an octave above the tenor, and they would, in my opinion, be far more popular from a musical point of view even when dodging with the tenor.—Yours truly,

G. E. SYMONDS.

Ipswich.

SOME FIRST HEREFORD GUILD PEALS

Dear Sir,—The peal of Oxford T.B. Minor rung at Wellington ("Ringing World," page 500) was not the first in the method for the Hereford Guild.

The late Mr. W. Porton, of Ross, conducted the first peal of Major at Bridstow on November 19th, 1932, in three hours.

At Eardisland on April 22nd, 1957, a peal of Major was conducted by Mr. G. Davis, of Hereford Cathedral, in 2 hours and 58 minutes. This was his first peal of Treble Bob Major as conductor, also the first peal in the method on the bells. Mr. W. F Moreton "completed the circle" and it was the 350th peal for Mr. L. Evans.

A peal of Oxford T.B. Minor was rung at Whitbourne on August 23rd, 1947, in 2 hours and 49 minutes, conducted by Mr. G. E. Large, of Claines, Worcester.—Yours faithfully,

E. C. CHANDLER (Mrs.),
Peal Recorder.

Kington, Herefordshire.

QUARTER PEALS

Dear Sir,—A great deal of time and effort must have gone into Mr. Alan Buswell's analysis of quarter peals (page 473), and I am sure his records make interesting reading. I cannot see, however, what is to be gained from an analysis by county and I feel the space could be better filled with more meaningful statistics, much of which Mr. Buswell's records must show, for example:—

(a) How many quarters contained a first quarter?
(b) How many were a first as conductor?
(c) How many were rung on Sundays?
(d) Which were the leading towers—say all over 25 quarters? (Only three towers were mentioned in the analysis.)

The details of methods rung were interesting but also rather depressing, since they show how unadventurous and unimaginative quarter peal ringers are. Of the total of 3,743 quarters at least 1,260 were of Plain Bob and 1,074 of Grandsire, leaving at the most 1,409 for all the other methods together. Mr. Derek Jackson in his letter (page 474) tells us that variety is the carrot that encourages a band. No wonder the Exercise loses so many promising ringers when it sticks to such well-trodden ground for the majority of its quarters If we all had a rule that every quarter must be at least one of the ringer's first in the method we would be progressing, if only slowly.—Yours faithfully,

E. G. H. GODFREY.

Addington, Surrey.

SUNDAY SERVICE RINGING AT BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL

Dear Sir,—The recent correspondence about Birmingham Cathedral's bells provoked by the letter by Joan M Coley seems to be misleading in places. This applies especially to the last paragraph of Mr. Eisel's letter and also to Miss Reay's letter. The statement by Mr. Eisel that "the band at St. Philip's has a very good Sunday service record" is frankly a lot of nonsense. The Cathedral bells are only rung on Sunday evenings, and even then only once a fortnight. The truth is that the Cathedral has virtually no Sunday service band as such, and when there is ringing nearly all the ringers have to be brought in from outside towers. Even then it is quite common for the full 12 not to be rung.

It is not my intention to blame anyone for this situation—it is obviously extremely difficult, if not impossible, to train a band from scratch on such heavy bells. But this does not alter the fact that Mr. Eisel and Miss Reay have given a very false impression of Sunday service ringing at Birmingham Cathedral.

The lady complainant, it seems to me touched on a rather sensitive subject as far as Birmingham ringers are concerned, and I think the truth ought to be stated. It is quite probable that the bells would not have been rung on Trinity Sunday even if the bells had been ringable at the time, since they are only rung every alternate Sunday Of course, I stand to be corrected by Mr. Fearn, but his silence so far in the letters column tends to give my suspicious mind much food for thought.—Yours faithfully,

"BIRMINGHAM RINGER."

Name and address supplied.

Dear Sir,—Your correspondents J. Eisel and M. Reay ("Ringing World," July 7th) give, at least to my mind, a misleading impression of Sunday ringing at Birmingham Cathedral.

For several years now, these bells have, normally, been rung on the 2nd and 4th Sunday evenings in each month only.—Yours sincerely,

W. E. BOX.

Birmingham.

NEW NAMES TO OLD METHODS

Dear Sir,—I see that some more "new" Doubles methods have been named.

Methods with the same construction as "Barrowby" have been named at least twice before. Firstly it is one of the compositions given for Stedman Slow Course in Banister's book. Stedman Slow Course is not now usually considered to have a single, but it seems to me inconceivable that this calling has not been rung in the eighty or so years since the book was published.

Secondly, Bedfont Slow Course was named, I believe, by Mr. F. T. Blagrove in 1953. This method has the same construction (and extents) as Barrowby, but with plain lead for Bob, and vice versa. Barrowby can hardly be considered a new way of producing 120 changes, does it really justify a new name?

A different point was raised by Mr. Jackson's letter on page 474. "Sturdy Hill" was one of the methods in part "B" of the 1966 collection, the part which contained "names that it is hoped will be used." Are we to assume that these names were all thought up by the compilers, or are they names which have been used for methods, although the methods have not been rung to peals?—Yours faithfully,

JOHN DAVID.

Peterborough, Northants.

BELL ROPES
JOHN NICOLL
SEE BACK PAGE

LETTERS—Continued

THE U.L.S.C.R. PEAL AT GOSPEL OAK

Dear Sir, — In reply to Walter Knight ("Ringing World, July 7th), I find his personal history of himself, St Martin's, Gospel Oak, and every tower within a 2½-mile radius, fascinating and extremely readable; however, he has ignored what I consider to be the crucial issue, that the members of U.L.S.C.R., in attempting the peal at Gospel Oak, knew nothing of the adverse circumstances which Mr. Knight describes in great detail.

As far as we were concerned, permission was sought, and obtained, through the proper channels, and a peal was duly rung without incident and without complaint.

I can understand Mr. Knight feeling a bit cut up when an outside party came along and rang the first peal after he had put in so much work getting the bells back in order; nevertheless John Pladdys (who organised and conducted the peal), the rest of the band and myself have no regrets—we did nothing underhand and our consciences are quite clear.

Incidentally, with regard to the broken stay and slider (I was aware that it was a stay and slider and not two stays, but I am not such a lover of detail as Mr. Knight), had he taken the trouble to have a word with the Vicar he would have found out who was responsible before publicly accusing U.L.S.C.R. of damaging church property, and talking all this nonsense of sending us a bill for £2 13s. 3½d.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN C. HUTCHINSON,
King's, London.

Sevenoaks, Kent.

SILEBY PARISH CHURCH

Dear Sir,—May I, through your columns, thank Mr. George Dawson for helping to correct our records. In his letter (page 494) he pointed out that the 5th bell at Sileby (page 430) could not have been cast in 1590, as George Oldfield, the reputed founder, did not cast bells in Nottingham before 1620.

The information in my possession had been passed on to me several years ago and I had not troubled to check it. On investigation, however, I find that the bell was cast not by George but by Henry Oldfield, who was casting in Nottingham between 1589 and 1620, therefore the bell in question could have been cast in 1590 as we have always believed. I am told that the date of 1590 was given to the present Vicar by the late Mr. Ernest Morris.—Yours, faithfully,

MICHAEL E. WHITE.

Sileby, Loughborough.

CROYDON PARISH CHURCH

Dear Sir,—I much enjoyed Mr. R. C. Stevens' notes on page 491 and I would like to add a little which might be of interest. On May 20th, 1538, Sir Andrew Corvehill, a secular priest, was buried in the church, one of the first to be recorded in the registers. His two brothers lived at Much Wenlock and the burial register there proclaims Sir William Corvehill as "skilled a good bellfounder and maker of frames for bells." It is possible that Croydon owes its first ring of bells to this bellfounder. In 1836 the tenor of T. Lester's octave became cracked and was recast at Whitechapel, but while being hauled up into the tower, the tackle broke and the bell fell down, doing great damage to the tower, and smashing itself to pieces. It was taken back and again recast and safely installed, its weight being 22-3-7.—Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

Addlestone, Surrey.

THREE POINTS

Dear Sir,—I feel I must comment on three letters in the issue of June 14th

(1) "Sweep the floor first" from Mervyn Phillips. This is the most sensible and, may I hope, the last, about "Right over left." The way which comes most naturally must be best, and it is difficult to understand how any intelligent person can think otherwise.

(2) "Semi-Learners," I have every sympathy with them, and have seen the sort of thing described happen; but of course they must do their homework.

(3) "Learn your method first" from Robin Collis. While it is true that ringing is often ruined at meetings in the way he describes, this is quite often because not enough "more expert" ringers will stand in for simple methods, and so there are too many beginners in at once.

Finally, to help with ropesight. How can anyone standing behind a learner see when his or her eyes turn in the wrong direction? This can be done better by someone ringing opposite.—Yours faithfully,

L. G. HAINES.

Goring, Reading.

PINCHBECK'S 1769 BILL

Dear Sir,—On page 504 the word "leantores" is unexplained, but in my notes I have the word recorded as "lean-toos" and the amount of the debit is 1s. 0d. instead of £1, therefore the total of £6 10s. 4d. is correct.—Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

Addlestone, Surrey.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD

A quarterly meeting of the St. Martin's Guild was held at Northfield on July 8th. The bells of St. Laurence's Church are an excellent ring of eight and have the distinction of being shown at the British Empire Exhibition in 1924 before hanging in the church tower. A large number of ringers attended—many to ring these bells for the first time.

A new band has recently been formed at Northfield, and it is pleasing to record that they were all elected members of the Guild: Roy Prescott Lawrence Black, Trevor Whitehouse, Kenneth Jones, Diane Hughes, Barbara Pittaway, Ann Castle and Edwina Evans. Mrs. Ann Broadhurst (Harborne), Carole Jones and Margaret Turner (King's Norton) were also made members, and the tower elections of the following life members wre ratified: Kenneth Lawson and Mrs. Margaret Lawson, Ann and Enid Lawson (Middlesbrough), Fred Beddow and Ernest Willcox (Shrewsbury).

The next meeting of the Guild will be the occasion of the Striking Competition to be held at Yardley on October 14th

Memories of Harry and Jack Withers and Percy Laflin were brought back to some of the older ringers by a visit to the Great Stone where beer is sold by "the pound, the stone and the yard."

3,000 FREEMASONS AT WELLS CATHEDRAL

On Sunday, July 9th, a thanksgiving service was held in Wells Cathedral to mark the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons in England. The service, which was attended by approximately 3,000, was conducted by Lord Fisher of Lambeth. The bells were rung by a Masonic band, drawn from Somerset, Dorset, Gloucester and Middlesex.

OUTINGS

LUTON PARISH CHURCH

Accompanied by several old friends, and one or two new ones, the Luton Parish Church ringers held their annual outing on July 1st.

On the outward journey a welcome cup of coffee was enjoyed at Banbury, and the remainder of the day spent in leafy Warwickshire. Here, in the very heart of England, we found a superbly peaceful atmosphere, far from the hectic rush and the maddening noise of everyday life. In this beautiful and romantic Shakespeare country, it was delightful to see the cattle and sheep quietly grazing, and to feel completely relaxed and to be one with nature!

Oh, yes, we did some ringing, too, and the three excellent tens at Banbury, Warwick and Daventry were much enjoyed, but perhaps the best ringing of the day took place on the fine eight at Rugby, where Cambridge was rung quite gracefully (and what a lovely method it is!).

The imposing Church of St. Andrew, Rugby, can offer the unique attraction (I think?) of two rings of bells, and we did not neglect the fine ring of five in the east tower. There is a thick door mat at the entrance to the west tower, but no notice board reminding you to wipe your feet—nor, indeed, is any reminder necessary, as the pigeons, which seem to be particularly fond of this tower, drop frequent reminders of why the mat is placed there, indeed it is quite conceivable that more than one ringer has found it necessary to wipe his head, too! I don't know it the wide-brimmed headgear, so favoured by visitors to Ascot, originated at Rugby, but perhaps it is not such a silly fashion after all!

On the last stages of the trip we found time for a short pull on the bells of Stoney Stratford, followed by an even more pleasant "pull" in the local. Altogether, a really delightful and well-planned day's outing, with excellent meals, good bells, superb scenery and charming fellowship—this adds up to satisfaction!

Sincere thinks to clergy, local ringers, our organiser, Basil Hulatt, and all others who contributed to our enjoyment, not forgetting those taking part, whose splendid punctuality enabled the programme to be carried out so smoothly.

A. E. R.

TO GLOUCESTERSHIRE

June 17th was chosen for the date of Michael Uphill's annual outing and, after a confusing start, cars from London, Hampshire and Worcestershire arrived at Fairford. Unfortunately a funeral had to be arranged at this church, and we were indebted to Mr. Godwin for kindly arranging for us to ring at nearby Coln St. Aldwyn instead. Touches of Stedman Triples and Cambridge Major were rung.

After lunch in Cirencester, the oldest ring of twelve bells was visited at St. John's, and touches of Stedman Cinques and Cambridge Royal were included in the ringing on these Rudhall bells. Thence to Stroud, where the ground floor ten was enjoyed, and the Cambridge Royal reached quite a high standard.

Tea was taken in picturesque Bourton-on-the-Water, and unfortunately caused a late start to the ringing on the pleasant octave. Moreton-in-Marsh bells were very much enjoyed and ringing here included a touch of London Major. The last tower of the day was St. Edward's, Stow-on-the-Wold, where there was very good ringing, including a touch of Spliced Surprise Major (five methods).

We were very grateful to Mr. Dowdeswell for allowing us to carry on rather later than intended, and also for making the arrangements for the last three towers. Incumbents and ringers who met us are also thanked.

M. J. U.

CHAS. H. POTTS & Co. Ltd.
Marshall Mills, Leeds 11
for NEW TOWER CLOCKS
OVERHAULS and AUTOMATIC
WINDING Phone Leeds 24081

The Church Bells of St. Helen's, Lancashire

BY JAMES HEDGCOCK

St. Helens is a very busy industrial town, being famous for the Pilkington Glass Empire, and is mostly a product of the Victorian era. There are four churches in the town which have towers with bells hung in them.

THE JESUIT CHURCH OF ST. MARY

By far the most imposing of these churches is the Roman Catholic Jesuit Church of St. Mary's Lowe House. The term Lowe House originates from a legacy left by an extremely wealthy benefactor. In the 160ft. tower hangs a carillon of 47 bells cast by Messrs. John Taylor and Company in 1929. The bass bell has a diameter of 6ft. 4in. sounding the note A flat. The compass is four octaves chromatic, omitting the two lowest semi-tones.

The carillon, together with the church itself, was raised as a thanksgiving to commemorate the centenary of Catholic Emancipation. This instrument is played from a clavier, or keyboard. It is operated by depressing the pegs on the clavier with the clenched fist, whilst the bass bells may also be played by means of a pedal board not unlike an organ.

There are no mechanical devices, except the clock chimes. The clock face is lettered by the words "Salve Regina," whose letters are used instead of numerals, the 12th hour being designated by a crown of gold mosaic. The quarters and hours are signified by the chiming of a portion of the 12th century "Salve Regina" hymn tune, on eight of the bells. The Angelus rings automatically at 7 a.m., noon and 6 p.m.

The instrument is played regularly at 3 p.m.–4.30 p.m. on Sundays and for weddings. It is third only in size to the instruments at St. Nicholas', Aberdeen, and Bournville Schools, Birmingham, and second only in weight to St. Nicholas', Aberdeen.

THE BELLS

Bass bell: "Ave Maria" to our ever Blessed Lady and dear Mother Mary—from her devoted children of St. Mary's Lowe House, and neighbouring parishes of St. Helens, and of other towns.

"Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes." (Translation: For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.) A.D. 1929. 84 cwt. A flat.

No. 2: Dedicated to the Twelve Apostles of Our Lord. SS. Peter, Andrew, James and John, Phillip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James and Jude, Simon and Matthias—by devoted workers of Lowe House Parish.

"In omnem terram exivit sonus eorum." (Translation: Their fame has gone out all over the world.) A.D. 1929. 60 cwt.

No. 3: Laudes sono Sancti Joseph, casti sponsi Virginis Mariae "Ite ad Joseph." To Joseph Swift I owe my voice; May Joseph's gifts make him rejoice.

(Translation: I sing the praises of Saint Joseph, chaste spouse of the Virgin Mary. Go to Joseph.) 41 cwt.

No. 4: In honorem Beati Michaelis Archangelo et Beatae Martyris Margaritae Clitheroe. "Quis ut Deus."

Pray for the eternal welfare of the donor, Alice Reynolds Peyton, for James her husband and for her children, John and Dorothea.

(Translation: In honour of Blessed Michael the Archangel and of the Blessed Martyr, Margaret Clitheroe). "Who is like to God." A.D. 1929. 34 cwt.

All the bells are dedicated to the Saints and English Martyrs. The weights of the other bells are:—

No. 5 — 31 cwt.
No. 6 — 26 cwt.
No. 7 — 22 cwt.

From No. 8 to No. 26 the bells vary, from 18 cwt to 1 cwt.

From No. 27 to No. 47 the bells vary from 3 qr. 14 lb. to 14 lb.

THE PARISH CHURCH

The second largest church in the town is the Parish Church of St. Helen. This is a rather drab, unimposing (except in size) structure of the 1920's, built of rustic brick. It is said, though the statement is dubious, that this is the largst parish church built since the Reformation.

In the tower hangs a ring of ten, a product of the Whitechapel Foundry, which formerly hung in the former Parish Church of Liverpool, St. Peter's, later to become the pro-Cathedral of Liverpool. The church was demolished when the new Cathedral was consecrated. The bells were, however, in an almost unringable state in the 1910–1920 period at Liverpool and were rarely used. When St. Peter's was being demolished it was decided to hang them in another Liverpool tower. However, the architect of that church, who coincidentally was the architect of the new St. Helens Church, declared the tower unsafe. There was great outcry by the Liverpool men on losing their ten bells, which are the only ring of ten in the Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association.

Another strange factor concerns the bells whilst they were not housed in a tower. When St. Peter's was being demolished, Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough took the bells to their foundry yard for storage, where they remained for some time. However, when the new tower at St. Helens was ready, the job of rehanging them in a new framework was given to Messrs. Stainbank of Whitechapel. When the bells were put in the new tower they could not be rung because the tower had not "set" and the ringers, trained at Rainford, used to swing-chime them!

PREVIOUS RECORD

The bells were hung at Liverpool in April, 1830. From the Liverpool Parish records this extract concerns the bells: "At a specially convened vestry meeting on 29th October, 1829, it was resolved that the Church Wardens be empowered to provide by purchase, exchange or otherwise, a new peal of eight or ten bells for St. Peter's Church, if on a survey the tower should be found sufficiently firm to support a greater number."

In the Liverpool "Mercury" of October 30th, 1829, there is a statement similar to that above, but with the following small addition:

"A new peal of eight or ten bells to replace those in the steeple of St. Peters. The old bells have been evicted from their tower and given to various Liverpool Churches."

The Liverpool "Mercury" of March 12th, 1830, states: "A very handsome new peal of ten bells intended to replace the old eight, has just been completed and will immediately be suspended in the Church of St. Peter. It is expected that they will be ready for Easter. They were cast by Mr. Mears of London. Tenor 25 cwt. sounding the note 'D.' (Dove gives them as tenor 22 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb in E flat.) It is considered that this is an unusually low note for so light a bell."

THE 1830 BELLS

The bells were rung for the first time on April 11th, 1830, and at that time there were 115 rings of ten bells in England and Wales.

The Liverpool "Mercury" of April 23rd, 1830, states: "On Easter Day the new bells of St. Peters Church rang a joyous peal, and on Wednesday se'n night, ringers and many lovers of the science of bell ringing from various parts of the country assisted at what is termed the 'opening of the bells' and during the day rang several peals, much to the delight of all concerned with the subject. The Church Wardens have taken every care to render this peal as efficient as possible and they are most perfectly satisfied with Mr. Mears' conduct, throughout the fulfilment of his contract, and he has exceeded their most sanguine expectation." However, in 1839 it was found necessary to recast bells 1 and 2 because they were weak in tone. The original cost of the bells was £700.

They are inscribed thus:

1. In melody let each note reveal
   Mine being first to lead the dulcet peal.
2. The public raised us with a liberal hand
   We came in harmony to cheer the land.
3. May George long reign who now the sceptre sways
   And British Valour ever rule the seas.

Bells of St. Helen's Contd.

4. With loyal zeal we all rejoice to ring
For glorious Constitution, Church and King.
5. When vict'ry crowns the public weal
With glee we give the joyful peal.
6. When female virtue weds with manly worth
We ring with rapture, and we spread it forth.
7. Loud through the air extends each generous theme
Floating melodious down the Mersey's stream.
8. When for departed worth we toll the knell
Instruction take and spend the future well.
9. Through grandsires and trebles with pleasure men range
Till death calls the BOB and brings on the last CHANGE.
10. May all whom I summon to the grave
The blessings of a well spent life receive.

The Rev. Jonathan Brooks, A.M., The Rev. Augustus Campbell, A.M., Rectors of Liverpool.

William Peatty Bushby, Esq., Wilfred Troutbeck, Church Wardens.

Thomas Mears, Bellfounder, London. 1830.

The rhymes are the compositions of a schoolmaster named Wilding, of High Ercall, employed by Mears for this purpose. Around the shoulders in Roman capitals is:—

T. Mears of London Fecit 1830

The verses and names are on the waist.

On the shoulder of 1 and 2:

T. Mears of London Fecit 1839

On the 1830 bells are stops of a scroll pattern, there are none on 1 and 2.

The sizes of the bells are:

		c.	qr	lb.
1	Diameter 29in.	6	1	2
2	„ 31½in.	6	3	7
3	„ 32in.	6	3	18
4	„ 33½in.	7	0	17
5	„ 35in.	8	1	13
6	„ 38in.	9	1	26
7	„ 41in.	11	3	24
8	„ 43½in.	14	1	14
9	„ 47in.	17	3	24
10	„ 53in.	24	2	7

The bells are hung with 3 and 4 above the rest in an oak frame. Records of some peals which were rung in Liverpool hang in the tower.

ALE MONEY

There is a story concerning these bells at Liverpool telling how the ringers used to get ale money! The fifth was hung just inside the door to the bell chamber. When any stranger came to the tower there was always a wager that he wouldn't set the bell. Whilst the unsuspecting victim "tried his hand" one of the other ringers would slip upstairs, open the door, and every time that the victim did get it to setting point, would push it off again.

Many peals, ranging from Doubles to Royal, have been rung on these bells at St. Helens, in most methods.

PREVIOUS PEALS

On Saturday, November 9th, 1850,
5,101 Grandsire Caters.
The Liverpool College Youths.

William Evans .. .. .. Treble
Edward Heron 2
Will Howard 3
John Grindrod 4
John Heron, jun. 5
Hugh Walmsley 6
John Heron 7
Richard Cross 8
Edward Davies 9
John Buckinshaw .. .. Tenor

Conducted by John Heron.

Rung as a compliment to John Hand, Esq., who exactly 50 years ago conducted the first peal ever accomplished in this tower (St. Peter's, Liverpool).

On Monday, October 20th, 1851, in 3 hours and 21 minutes.
A Peal of 5040 Bob Royal.

Richard Williams .. .. Treble
John Heron 2
Will Howard 3
John Grindrod 4
John Heron, jun. 5
Hugh Walmsley 6
Edward Heron 7
Richard Cross 8
Edward Davies 9
John Buckinshaw .. .. Tenor

Conducted by Edward Heron.

On Monday, February 20th, 1865, in 3 hours and 18 minutes.
A Peal of 5,021 Grandsire Caters.

John Heron, jun. .. .. Treble
William Evans 2
Will Howard 3
Richard Williams 4
Henry Meadows 5
William Thistlewood 6
John Buckinshaw 7
Richard Cross 8
John Aspinall 9
George Helsby .. .. .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by John Heron, jun.

On Thursday, March 1st, 1866, in 3 hours and 4 minutes.
A Peal of 5,000 Stedman Caters.

John Heron, jun. .. .. Treble
John Heron 2
John Buckinshaw 3
Richard Williams 4
George Crute 5
William Davies 6
Isaac Meadows 7
Edwin Booth 8
John Aspinall 9
Thomas Lyon .. .. .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by John Heron, jun.
Rung as a compliment to William Hand, Church Warden, son of the late John Hand.

The Liverpool College Youths.
On Wednesday, January 3rd, 1883, in 3 hours and 32 minutes.
A Peal of Grandsire Caters.

George Helsby .. .. .. Treble
James Egerton 2
William Woodhead 3
Richard Williams 4
John Brown 5
John Moore 6
Thomas Hammond 7
Robert Williams 8
Edward Vose 9
William Brooks .. .. .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Robert Williams.
Rung half-muffled in respect of Richard Gardner, late Mayor of this City.

On Thursday, January 14th, 1886, in 3 hours and 30 minutes.
A Peal of 5,000 Kent Treble Bob Royal.

Richard Williams .. .. Treble
George Helsby 2
William Woodhead 3
Charles Williams 4
John Brown 5
John R. Pritchard 6
William Davies 7
James Egerton 8
Thomas Hammond 9
Robert Williams .. .. .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Robert Williams.
Rung as a compliment to the Church Wardens.

On Monday, February 12th, 1888, in 3 hours and 22 minutes.
A Peal of 5,040 Grandsire Caters.

William Thistlewood .. Treble
Will Howard 2
John Brooks 3
Will Worthington 4
William Thistlewood, jun. 5
Alexander Mills 6
George Wynne 7
Ralph Rushton 8
Edward Davies 9
Richard Williams .. .. Tenor

The bells were first rung at St. Helens on February 23rd, 1927. The first peal on them in their new tower is commemorated by a black and gold glass peal board in the belfry.

On Thursday, December 26th, 1929, in 3 hours and 29 minutes.
A Peal of 5,019 Stedman Caters.

Lester L. Gray .. .. .. Treble
T. Hammond 2
G. R. Newton 3
E. Jones 4
J. W. Grounds 5
T. Gilmore 6
C. I. Davies 7
H. Ludkin 8
E. Caunce 9
R. G. Edwards 10

Composed by F. Daltry.
Conducted by G. R. Newton.
First peal in the tower.

Wm. Corbett, Ed. Bickerstaffe, Church Wardens,
Canon Frank Child, M.A., Vicar.

(Te be continued)

BELFRY GOSSIP

An article entitled "An A.B.C. of Bell-ringing" by Robert B. Smith will be appearing in the August issue of "Cheshire Life."

Mr. Robert E. Hardy, of 23, Culver Road, St. Albans, is the acting District secretary of the St. Albans District following Mr. K. J. Walpole leaving the area.

Touring Ireland.—Mr. Bernard Fairhead's party from the Colchester area July 21st to 30th; Mr. B. G. Key's from Staffordshire, July 28th to August 6th, University of London August 26th to September 3rd.

From the "Irish Bell News" concerning St. Mascartin's, Enniskillen: "We suppose we would be correct in saying that the next ringing bell tower, west, would be in America."

In connection with the Canada Centennial Year, Fred and Rita Dukes were invited to attend the State Reception held in Dublin Castle on July 1st. There were 1,000 guests present.

A suggestion to Mr. W. Viggers from "Amazed"—a space in the Diary for notes on members of the opposite sex who have been "grabbed" or "dated" during the year. He writes: "It would meet the needs of many young ringers who seem to change partners (within the Exercise) almost as frequently as they grab a new tower.

Another handbell team is operating at Provincetown, Mass., U.S.A. From Bonney McDowell we have received a quarter of Minor, which she conducted. Congratulations to all concerned.

Four boys from Groton School, Mass, U.S.A., rang their first quarter peal at Radley, Berks, on July 2nd. They were A. Macdonald, J. T. Erichsen, G. M. Johnston and P. P. Bundy.

The peal of Stedman rung at Liss on Easter Monday was not the first in the method on the bells. The late Alfred H. Pulling conducted a peal of Stedman Triples there in January, 1936.

The wedding took place at Auckland, New Zealand, on July 18th, of Mr. David Tomlinson, son of Mr. Frank Tomlinson, a past tower captain at Binfield, Berks. In honour of the occasion a quarter peal was rung in the Berkshire tower.

Mr. Sam Scattergood informs us that while he was asked to resign from being in charge of Chesterfield tower, after 21 years' faithful service, he still has a connection with the church as he has to attend to the clock, which is under Mr. Ronald Dove's contract. He has good hopes of being invited to join the company at Sheffield Cathedral.

Bellfounders' Gift Page to 'The Ringing World'

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BELFRY GOSSIP

A WORKING MODEL OF A YEOVIL CHURCH

A wooden model of St. John's Church Yeovil, in which six bellringers will ring the bells after a halfpenny has been inserted in a slot, will come up for sale at Knight, Frank and Rutley's auction rooms at 20, Hanover Square, London, W.1, on Friday, August 4th.

The model, which is 2ft. 4in. long by 2ft. 4in high (when measured to the top of the tower's flagpole) is more than 100 years old It was among the large collection of "by-gones" made by the late Vicar of Shepreth Cambridgeshire (1932–1955), the Rev. C. J Sharpe.

The following rhyme is on the model:—

Steady ringers here you see
Who will now try their skill;
A halfpenny only is their fee
To ring a merry peal.

The Parish Church of St. John, Yeovil, is 14th century and Perpendicular in design. It has one of the big towers for which Somerset is famous.

UNIVERSITY OF KEELE SOCIETY

At the Society's annual meeting the following were elected to form the committee for the year 1967-68: Master, J. A. Tandy; secretary, Miss J. A. Quickfall; committee members, Miss T. F. Webber and Mrs. S. J. Gay.

This year, the Society's second, has been a fairly successful one: notable for consolidation rather than spectacular progress. With only twelve members, of whom two were beginners at the beginning of the year, assistance from visitors on practice nights, held alternately at Keele and on the eight at Silverdale, has been much appreciated. Four quarters were rung and rather more than this lost, and it is worth noting that every member of the society took part in at least one successful attempt.

The Society has also been active outside its own tower. In January we visited the Loughborough foundry, and with a party reinforced by friends, we rang at the campanile and four other towers. Although in some cases the standard of ringing was disappointing much valuable experience was gained. The same is basically true of the summer outing, which was to five towers on the Staffordshire-Derbyshire border. The dinner was held this year on a Thursday and was not preceded by ringing, an arrangement which did much to contribute to its success.

In conclusion, we feel that our Society is justifying its existence by fulfilling what would appear to be the generally accepted functions of a University Society: regular Sunday ringing, widening its repertoire and teaching beginners, and promoting marriages between members. We can look forward to next year with a fair amount of confidence.

P. W. G.

WELDING CRACKED BELLS

According to David Fishlock, scientific editor to the "Financial Times," a technique for repairing cracked church bells that restores their original tone, has been developed by the British Welding Association. The Association claims that it offers appreciable savings over the customary method of melting down and recasting the bell—which is often unacceptable when the bells are deemed to have antique value.

UP AND COMING YOUNGSTERS No. 55

PETER C. RANDALL, Coventry Diocesan Guild.

The Coventry Diocesan Guild now joins the list of Guilds and Associations who have contributed to this series, by bringing to notice the name of Peter C. Randall.

Peter was born in Warwick on November 14th, 1950, and both his father and mother are ringers. After passing his 11-plus at Coten End Junior School he went to Leamington College, and where he is in G.C.E. "O" level year.

He started his ringing lessons under the watchful eye of Mr. J. L. Garner-Hayward at St. Nicholas' Church, Warwick, and is a member of the Sunday service band, which rings for both morning and evening services. He also makes occasional visits to St. Mary's, Warwick, for ringing before Matins. Two of his brothers are ringers.

Peter rang his first peal just two weeks before his 14th birthday, when he rang the treble to a peal of two Minor methods at Harbury. This peal was conducted by I. C. Maycock. His first on an "inside" bell was Plain Bob Major at Mickleton, on his 14th birthday. Two years later he rang his first as conductor. This, a peal of Plain Bob Minor, was also rung at Harbury in January, 1966. This brilliant youngster now has some 65 peals to his credit, including Bristol, Yorkshire, Jersey, Lincolnshire, Superlative and Fordcombe Surprise Major. Minor up to 37 methods, and Doubles to 43 methods/variations. Thirty-two of his peals have been rung with his brother. A grand record like this from one so young is surely a credit to the Coventry Diocesan Guild, and it is hoped that Peter's ambition to ring a family peal when his young sister is old enough, will materialise.

NORVING.

RANG IN HIS 92nd BIRTHDAY PEAL

Mr. George E. Symonds, of 57, Mornington Avenue, Ipswich, was 92 on July 11th. In the evening he rang faultlessly in a peal of Royal at Grundisburgh. Later in the evening he entertained the patrons of the Dog Inn to a song. An account of his diamond wedding (July 17th) will appear later.

TUITION TEASERS.—No. 6

"GUARDIAN ANGELS"

Q. Five questions, please, on "Standing behind." (a) What kind of help is best given this way? (b) Should helper count places? (c) Should the **bells** be referred to by number, with risk of confusion with **places?** (d) Should bell to be followed be pointed at? (e) Is "Dodge with so-and-so," sufficient?—H. F.

A. Mixed views are held on acting as "Guardian Angel." The help offered is sometimes more of a hindrance to ultimate progress; but in a learner's home tower the Ringing Master can control the kind of help to be given, and so avoid unnecessary prompting.

Answer (a). If pupil's training has been on sound modern lines he should need no hind-help in performing the **elements** of change ringing, i.e. plain hunting, place-making and dodging. Practice in these he can have obtained through exercises, preferably initiated through handbells (single-handed) and rhythmic striking on tower bells, before practising any method. But it is in the next stage, i.e. passing to method ringing, in which the said "elements" are variously combined to produce the method's pattern, that a little hind-help can sometimes usefully be given. The crux of the matter at this stage is thorough, repeat **thorough,** learning of the method itself, through one or more of the recommended plans or ways. Then, theoretically there should be no need for hind-help. But we all, in varying degrees, make mistakes, especially in the earlier trials, and then brief correction from hind-help can sometimes ease the conductor's task. It is preferable to state the work, e.g. "Missed 4/5 dodge down," or "Full work on the front," etc.; and, if requisite, name the co-working bells. As aready said, this hind-help is given after the pupil has passed the initial stages.

Answer (b). As already explained, hind-help should not be required for this function, which should have been automatic in the stages before ringing on "open" bells.

Answer (c). In referring to specific bells other than the "Treble" and the "Tenor" it is preferable to use cardinal numbers for the bells themselves, e.g., "two, three, four, five," etc., as in "after four," etc., and to use ordinal numbers for their **positionss,** e.g. "second, third, fourth, fifth," etc., even adding the word "position" if in any doubt as to this. But if a place is being made, then add an "s" to the number, also the word "place," e.g. "fourths place."

Answer (d). This should be a sort of "last resort." But it is liable to to cause interference and even confusion. It is not to be recommended generally.

Answer (e). As already indicated, the learner should have progressed far enough to interpret this sort of instruction fully. It could otherwise be given as "Dodge under four at back" or "Dodge over six at hand," etc.

A. Y.-B.

TOWER BELL PEALS

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LOCKING, Somerset.—At the Church of St. Augustine.
On Sat., July 8, 1967, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents. Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.

Marjorie Legg	Treble	*John Coombs	4
George Prescott	2	Leonard Derrick	5
*Yvonne Criddle	3	Sidney Smith	Tenor

Conducted by Marjorie Legg

* First peal of Stedman. First of Stedman as conductor.
Rung to welcome the Rev A. R Good to the benefice of Locking.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MALPAS, Cheshire.—At the Church of St. Oswald.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED PLAIN MAJOR

In two methods, comprising 3,360 Plain Bob and 1,680 Little Bob, with 35 changes of method.

C.C.C. Peal No. 39 (a). Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

*Rachel Williams	Treble	Michael H. Hodgkinson	5
Frederick R. Evans	2	Dennis H. B. Milward	6
David N. Collins	3	John W. Griffiths	7
Peter K. Goodhew	4	Geoffrey Parting	Tenor

Conducted by John W. Griffiths.

* First peal.
Rung to inaugurate the church's sexcentenary celebrations.

BETLEY, Staffordshire.—At the Church of St. Margaret.
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

Being seven different extents. Tenor 8¾ cwt. in A.

David Allman	Treble	Geoffrey A. Edwards	4
A. Doreen Edwards	2	John R. Scott	5
Keith W. Eaton	3	Frank R. Morton	Tenor

Conducted by Frank R. Morton.

75th peal as conductor.

THE GUILD OF CLERICAL RINGERS.

WYE, Kent.—At the Church of SS. Gregory and Martin.
On Tues., July 4, 1967, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr.

Rev. Michael Hart	Treble	Rev. Peter T. Robbins	5
Rev. Stanley M. Evans	2	Rev. C. J. B. Marshall	6
Rev. John B. T. Homfray	3	Rev. R. D. St. J. Smith	7
Rev. Canon C. E. Wigg	4	Rev. Roger Keeley	Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by Rev. Roger Keeley.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

HARBURY, Warwickshire.—At the Church of All Saints.
On Wed., July 12, 1967, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 13 methods, viz.: (1) Double Oxford, Thelwall, Pinehurst, St. Clement's, Childwall and Buxton Bob, (2) Oxford Treble Bob, (3) Plain Bob, (4) Cambridge, Beverley and Surfleet Surprise, (5) Kent Treble Bob, (6) Single Oxford and Plain Bob, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 3 lb. in G.

Anthony J. Cox	Treble	Peter C. Randall	4
*E. Anthea M. Sparshott	2	*Peter H. Mackie	5
Shirley E. Jones	3	Geoffrey W. Randall	Tenor

Conducted by Geoffrey W. Randall.

* Most methods to a peal of Minor. The ringer of the fourth has now "circled the tower" to peals.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GREAT HOLLAND, Essex.—At the Church of All Saints.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12¼ cwt.

Brian J. Vaughan	Treble	Michael J. Howes	5
Adrian G. Semken	2	Frank B. Lufkin	6
Vivien A. P. Cross	3	David E. Culham	7
Lesley Ward	4	Stephen D. Humphrey	Tenor

Composed by R. T. Lambert. Conducted by Frank B. Lufkin.

First peal in the method by all except the conductor.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CROMHALL, Gloucestershire.—At the Church of St. Andrew.
On Fri., July 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of St. Clement's Bob and five extents of Plain Bob.
Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in G.

*Stanley Poole	Treble	†Derek R. Livsey	4
†‡Pamela J. E. Sturdy	2	Dennis A. Chapman	5
Henry Taysom	3	‡Edward G. Mould	Tenor

Conducted by Edward G. Mould.

* First peal of Minor. † First "inside." ‡ First in two methods.
Rung as a farewell compliment to the ringer of the second, who is about to leave for a long visit to Canada.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM, Surrey.—At the Church of St. Andrew.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES
Tenor 19½ cwt.

*Dudley P. Elsmore	Treble	*Peter J. Privett	5
*Judith M. Collins	2	*Martin J. Kirk	6
*Patricia C. Hill	3	E. John Wells	7
*John H. Payton	4	Roy Collins	Tenor

Composed by H. Hubbard. Conducted by E. John Wells.

* First of Triples in the method.
Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to John Collier.

ALDERMASTON, Berkshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.
On Sun., July 16, 1967 in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5184 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In nine methods, comprising 576 each of Ashtead, Bristol, Cambridge, Lincolnshire, London, Pudsey, Rutland, Superlative and Yorkshire, with 138 changes of method. Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. in G.

Caroline R. F. Cole	Treble	Ian L. Dear	5
Edward R. Venn	2	Jonathan S. N. Porter	6
*Beryl R. Simpson	3	Andrew J. Slade	7
*Michael J. Church	4	David E. Rothera	Tenor

Composed by N. Smith. Conducted by Jonathan S. N. Porter.

* First peal of nine-spliced.
Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the ringer of the fourth.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BODENHAM, Herefordshire.—At the Church of St. Michael.
On Sat., May 13, 1967, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Single Oxford Bob, two of Reverse Canterbury Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

Roland Billings	Treble	E. Charles Biggs	4
Leonard J. Walters	2	Thomas Bounds	5
Frederick R. Harris	3	John Clements	Tenor

Conducted by John Clements.

Rung to celebrate the birth of twin granddaughters to Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Walters.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

APSLEY END, Hertfordshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.
On Mon., July 10, 1967, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In 12 methods, being an extent each of: (1) Spliced Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Primrose, Hull and Bourne—26 changes of method, (2) Westminster, (3) Norwich, (4) Netherseale, (5) Kent T.B., (6) Single Oxford, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 14¼ cwt.

Edwin J. Upton	Treble	*Francis M. Byrne	4
Walter Ayre	2	*Keith Sheppard	5
Augustin V. Good	3	Reginald E. J. Sheppard	Tenor

Conducted by Walter Ayre.

* First peal in 12 methods.
Rung as a welcome to the Rev. and Mrs. F. Warnecke, jun., who are on an exchange visit to this parish from Richmond, Virginia, U.S.A.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GRAVESEND, Kent.—At the Church of St. George.
On Sat., July 1, 1967, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr 6 lb. in F.

Valerie J. Howard	Treble	Peter S. Muchlinski	5
Frank J. Matthews	2	John A. Howard	6
*Simon A. B. Wigg	3	Christopher T. Osenton	7
*Malcolm Barden	4	Martin L. Howe	Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by Christopher T. Osenton.

* First peal on eight bells.

ERITH, Kent.—At the Church of St. John the Baptist.
On Fri., July 14, 1967, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

Richard Hayes	Treble	Herbert E. Audsley	5
*Judith M. Corby	2	Frederick J. Culum	6
Arthur G. Mason	3	Philip A. Corby	7
Ronald H. Bullen	4	Andrew J. Corby	Tenor

Composed by Ian M. Holland. Conducted by Andrew J. Corby.

* 100th peal for the Association.

SEVENOAKS, Kent.—At the Church of St. Nicholas.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.
A PEAL OF 5056 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb. in F.

*John Palmer	Treble	Harold Evans	5
Judith M. Corby	2	John Pladdys	6
Richard Hayes	3	Ronald H. Bullen	7
Andrew J. Corby	4	Philip A. Corby	Tenor

Composed by Stephen Ivin. Conducted by Andrew J. Corby.

* First peal of Major.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PRESTON, Lancashire.—At the Church of St. John.
On Sun., April 30, 1967, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE ROYAL

In six methods, being 1,080 each of Cambridge and Yorkshire and 720 each of Haslemere, London No. 3, Rutland and Wembley, with 98 changes of method and all the work of each method for every bell. Tenor 24 cwt. 18 lb.

Edward Jenkins	Treble	Cyril Crossthwaite	6
Norman Smith	2	Jeffrey Brannan	7
Maryl R. Fielden	3	Philip J. Crossthwaite	8
Basil Jones	4	Derek Butterworth	9
Neil Bennett	5	John H. Fielden	Tenor

Composed by Norman Smith. Conducted by Neil Bennett.

The greatest number of Royal methods yet rung to an "all the work" peal.

FARNWORTH-WITH-KEARSLEY, Lancashire. At the Church of St. John the Evangelist.
On Sun., July 9, 1967, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.
A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt.

Joseph Thornley	Treble	James E. Andrews	5
Christopher A. Lomax	2	James Cunliffe	6
R. Keith Lister	3	†Geoffrey Fothergill	7
*John Illingworth	4	John Ashcroft	Tenor

Composed by S. J. Ivin. Conducted by Geoffrey Fothergill.
* First peal in the method. † 100th peal.
Rung on the occasion of the conductor's wedding anniversary.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WESTON-IN-GORDANO, Som.—At the Church of SS. Peter & Paul.
On Sat., July 1, 1967, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In seven methods, viz.: Norwich, Wells, London, York, Beverley, Surfleet and Cambridge. Tenor 8 cwt 2 qr. 19 lb. in F sharp.

R. Brian Mills	Treble	William A. Lacey	4
Howard C. Palmer	2	Roland H. Cook	5
A. Maxwell Lindsey	3	R. Kingsley Mason	Tenor

Conducted by Roland H. Cook.

ST. ENDELLION, Cornwall.—At the Church of St. Endellienta.
On Tues., July 4, 1967, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes.
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In 14 methods, comprising: (1) Cambridge, Bourne, Hull, Primrose, Norfolk, Ipswich, (2) London, (3) Hexham and Berwick, (4) Wells, (5) Beverley and Surfleet, (6) York, (7) Norwich.
Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in A.

A. Maxwell Lindsey	Treble	R. Brian Mills	4
William A. Lacey	2	Roland H. Cook	5
*Howard C. Palmer	3	R. Kingsley Mason	Tenor

Conducted by Roland H. Cook.
* 75th peal. First of Surprise on the bells.

SAPCOTE, Leicestershire.—At the Church of All Saints.
On Fri., July 7, 1967, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In seven methods, viz.: (1) Norwich, (2) Allendale, (3) Westminster, (4) York, (5) Durham, (6) Wells, (7) London.
Tenor 9 cwt 1 qr. 26 lb. in A flat.

Cynthia M. Wells	Treble	John Watkins	4
Brian L. Burrows	2	K. Paul Gilliver	5
Stephen Wells	3	Michael E. Brown	Tenor

Conducted by Michael E. Brown.
The conductor's 61st peal on these bells.

PERRAN-AR-WORTHAL, Cornwall.—At the Church of St. Piran.
On Sat., July 8, 1967 in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In 21 methods, comprising: (1) Lightfoot, Wearmouth and Netherseale, (2) Stamford, Rossendale and Annable's London, (3) London, Wells and Cunecastre, (4) Berwick, Beverley, Hexham and Surfleet, (5) Cambridge, Bourne, Hull, Primrose, Norfolk and Ipswich, (6) York, (7) Norwich. Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in G.

A. Maxwell Lindsey	Treble	R. Brian Mills	4
Howard C. Palmer	2	Roland H. Cook	5
William A. Lacey	3	R. Kingsley Mason	Tenor

Conducted by Roland H. Cook.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LONDON, S.E.—At the Church of St John, Deptford.
On Sat., July 1, 1967, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt. 18 lb. in F

John H. Lott	Treble	*John W. Bull	5
*Helen Maltman	2	Len Goodall	6
*Julie E. Spurgeon	3	John Phillips	7
Veronica E. Dupré	4	Michael R. Wycherley	Tenor

Conducted by Michael R. Wycherley.
* First peal. First peal as conductor.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FELTHAM, Middlesex.—At the Church of St. Catherine.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CATERS

C.C.C. No 32. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. in F sharp.

John Chilcott	Treble	*Stephen R. Elliott	6
William Hibbert	2	Frank C. Price	7
Michael V. Chilcott	3	William T. Cook	8
David E. Parsons	4	Frank E. Darby	9
*Alan D. Flood	5	Norman Summerhayes	Tenor

Composed by J. Chillcott. Conducted by D. E. Parsons.
* First peal on ten bells.

WILLESDEN, Middlesex.—At the Church of St. Mary.
On Thurs., June 22, 1967, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 9 cwt 3 qr. 25 lb.

Dennis Knox	Treble	Simon Humphrey	5
Joan Beresford	2	G. William Critchley	6
Claudia A. Critchley	3	Thomas J. Lock	7
Alick Cutler	4	John Hill	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Dennis Knox.

STAINES, Middlesex.—At the Church of St. Mary.
On Sat., July 8, 1967, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 17 cwt.

Frank T. Blagrove	Treble	*Robert Bunker	5
Monica Blagrove	2	Robert Wiggins	6
*Malcolm Loveday	3	Wilfrid G. Wilson	7
Alan Flood	4	†J. Keith Ward	Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by F. T. Blagrove.
* First peal of Cambridge. † 250th peal.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HUGHENDEN, Bucks.—At the Church of St. Michael & All Angels.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

Walter Avery	Treble	Sydney M. Bailey	5
Arthur Newton	2	Roland Biggs	6
Michael J. Best	3	Percy Newton	7
*Robert H. Newton	4	Dennis Knox	Tenor

Composed by A. Knights. Conducted by Dennis Knox.
* 25th peal.
Rung as a wedding compliment to David A. Cornwall and Joyce I. Barton, both ringers at this church, who were married earlier in the day.

STANTON HARCOURT, Oxon.—At the Church of St. Michael.
On Mon., July 3, 1967, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 ALNWICK SURPRISE MINOR
Being two 2,160s and one 720. Tenor 11 cwt.

Bertram J. Coggins	Treble	Brian W. Hall	4
Terence J. Hester	2	Frank Reed	5
Peter Pearce	3	D. Kay Adkins	Tenor

Conducted by D. Kay Adkins.
First in the method by all the band.

BLEWBURY, Berks.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES
Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr

*Harry E. Wells	Treble	*‡David A. Wilcox	5
†Harold W. Dunsden	2	James P. Blond	6
Frank E. Godden	3	Robert B. Blond	7
*Roy H. Jones	4	Claude Corderoy	Tenor

Composed by Henry Hubbard. Conducted by Robert B. Blond.
* First peal of Bob Triples. † First of Bob Triples away from the treble. ‡ 500th peal.
Rung as a compliment to Maurice E. Caudwell, former ringer and life member of the North Berks Branch, who was 93 the previous day.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

EDENHAM, Lincs.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.
On Thurs., July 13, 1967, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes.
A PEAL OF 5088 WATFORD SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in F sharp.

Ronald Russell	Treble	Barry E. Saunders	5
William J. Chester	2	James Linnell	6
Graham C. Paul	3	J. Martin Thorley	7
Raymond A. Vickers	4	Alan A. Paul	Tenor

Composed by Charles W Roberts. Conducted by Graham C. Paul.
First peal in the method for all the band and for the Guild.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

INGESTRE, Staffordshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In three methods, being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob.
Tenor 13 cwt. 9 lb. in F.

Frank Beech	Treble	Edward R. Fairbrother	4
Ruth Fairbrother	2	Ernest F. Wilcox	5
Neville Holland	3	Richard J. Warrilow	Tenor

Conducted by Richard J. Warrilow.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

GRUNDISBURGH, Suffolk.—At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin.
On Tues., July 11, 1967, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL
Tenor 8 cwt. 23 lb. in G.

Cecil W. Pipe	Treble	George E. Symonds	6
Leonard E. Last	2	Andrew T. Beckwith	7
Leslie G. Brett	3	Ernest G. Pearce	8
Robert E. Lester	4	Michael J. Howes	9
Clifford R. Lovett	5	George W. Pipe	Tenor

Composed by A. Knights. Conducted by Cecil W. Pipe.
Rung as a compliment to George A. Symonds, who was 92 years of age this day.

HIGHAM St. MARY, Suffolk.—At the Church of St. Mary.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in A flat.

W. Keith Whittell	Treble	Neville F. Whittell	4
Alan R. Andrews	2	Robert J Southgate	5
Jennifer M. Andrews	3	Edward E. Davey	Tenor

Conducted by Jennifer M. Andrews.

PRESTON, Suffolk.— At the Church of St. Mary.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise and Kent Treble Bob and one each of Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.
Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

Margaret E. Egglestone	Treble	Richard Chambers	4
Donald L. Mills	2	*Clifford Poulson	5
Frederick O. Hunt	3	Howard W. Egglestone	Tenor

Conducted by Howard W. Egglestone.
* First peal. The ringer of the fourth has now "circled the tower."
Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the second.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

ESHER, Surrey.—At Christ Church.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In 12 methods, comprising 960 London, 640 each of Bristol, Cambridge and Rutland, 320 each of Eastcote, Lincolnshire, Lindum, Pudsey, Watford and Wembley, and 160 each of Superlative and Yorkshire and 139 changes of method.
Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in A flat.

John R. Ketteringham	Treble	Andrew J. Slade	5
Robert E. J. Dennis	2	Ian L. Dear	6
David E. Rothera	3	Timothy G. Pett	7
Jonathan S. N. Porter	4	Alan R. Patterson	Tenor

Composed by A. J. Pitman. Conducted by Jonathan S. N. Porter.
First peal of 12-Spliced Surprise Major by all the band.

THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

(The St. Peter's Society)
BRIGHTON, Sussex.—At the Church of St. Peter.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. in D flat.

Albert W. Bond	Treble	Bernard J. Stone	5
Angela M. Wright	2	Douglass P. Snoswell	6
*Janet R. Kipling	3	James M. Hill	7
Catherine M. Powell	4	Michael J. Bew	Tenor

Composed by T B. Worsley. Conducted by Michael J. Bew.
* First peal.
Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Stella Rice.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

CATHERINGTON, Hampshire.—At the Church of All Saints.
On Sat., July 8, 1967, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In 21 methods, being two extents each of: Stedman, Plain Bob, Kennington, Litchurch, April Day, May Day, Seighford, Reverse Canterbury, Southrepps, St. David's, Clifford's, Royston, Little Aston, Antelope, St. Cross. St. Swithin, Northleigh, St. Helen, Grandsire, Longparish and Newborough. Tenor 8 cwt.

*John F. Butler	Treble	Katharine Maundrell	4
*Simon M. Jack	2	Richard L. Underwood	5
Barry R. M. Johnson	3	†Howard T. Jacobs	Tenor

Conducted by Richard Underwood.
* First peal away from cover. † First peal All except the ringer of the 4th were or are at Winchester College.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

EVESHAM, Worcestershire.—At the Bell Tower.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL
C. W. Roberts' Arrangement Tenor 35 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in C sharp.

Geoffrey J. Hemming	Treble	*Peter Robinson	6
*Rev. Albert Webb	2	*Martin C. Powell	7
Sidney T. Holt	3	Ian Lloyd	8
James Attwood, jun.	4	Peter D. Warren	9
Herbert C. Spencer	5	Arthur C. Berry	Tenor

Composed by H. J. Tucker. Conducted by Arthur C. Berry.
* First peal of Bob Royal. First of Royal as conductor. First peal of Bob Royal on the bells.

UPTON SNODSBURY, Worcs.—At the Church of St. Kenelm.
On Sat., May 20, 1967, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods: (1) Cambridge Surprise, (2) Oxford T.B., (3) Kent T.B., (4) Double Oxford, (5) St Clement's, (6) Oxford Bob, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

Frederick C. Pugh	Treble	David G. Franklin	4
*R. George Morris	2	*John Clements	5
Sidney T. Holt	3	Thomas W. Lewis	Tenor

Conducted by John Clements.
* 25th peal together. Western Branch quarterly peal.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LEEDS, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.
On Sat., July 8, 1967, in 3 Hours and 35 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 42½ cwt.

John Robinson	Treble	Charles A. S. Webb	6
Alan Sharples	2	C. Barrie Dove	7
*Geoffrey Gardner	3	F. John Nelson	8
Dennis Latham	4	Kenneth J. Hesketh	9
Richard S. Starkie	5	Denis Mottershead	Tenor

Composed by C. J. Sedgley. Conducted by Denis Mottershead.
* First peal of Royal.

DRIGHLINGTON, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Paul.
On Tues., July 11, 1967, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In four methods, containing 1,440 Yorkshire, 1,280 each of Cambridge and Lincolnshire, 1,120 of Rutland and 69 changes of method with "all the work" for every bell Tenor 14 cwt.

Arnold Cole	Treble	John Potts	5
M. Susan Jackson	2	H. David Holland	6
*J. Paul Coad	3	*C. Barry Dove	7
Kenneth B. Sissons	4	J. Henry Fielden	Tenor

Composed by P G. K. Davies. Conducted by J. H. Fielden.
* First peal of Spliced.

BIRSTALL, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.
On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes.
A PEAL OF 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 22 cwt.

John F. Bryant	Treble	Christopher C. L. Munday	5
M. Susan Jackson	2	H. David Holland	6
Ian G. Campbell	3	*C. Barrie Dove	7
John Robinson	4	J. Henry Fielden	Tenor

Composed by S. J. Ivin. Conducted by J. H. Fielden.
* First peal of London.
Rung as a wedding compliment to Ronald R. Wanford and Margaret Whitehead, who were married at Selby Abbey on the same day.

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THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WAKEFIELD, Yorkshire.—At the Cathedral Church of All Saints. On Sat., July 15, 1967, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

Mrs. D. S. Johnson	Treble	George Hancock	5
*R. Anne Johnson	2	*Rev. Nicholas Webb	6
Wilfrid F. Moreton	3	Trevor Tarbatt	7
David S. Johnson	4	Ronald Ducker	Tenor

Composed by Sir A. P. Heywood. Conducted by Wilfrid F. Moreton.

* First peal in the method.

CAMPSALL, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene. On Sat., June 24, 1967, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being one extent each of Double Oxford Bob, St. Clement's Childwall, Kent T.B., Oxford T.B., Cambridge S. and Plain Bob. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

Howard Scott	Treble	Neil Donovan	4
*Anne P. Leigh	2	Ernest J. Padgett	5
W. Eric Critchley	3	Frederick J. Jackson	Tenor

Conducted by W. Eric Critchley.

* First peal of Minor.

HANDBELL PEALS

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAWKSHEAD, Lancashire.—At Bettyfold. On Fri., July 14, 1967, in 1 Hour and 48 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Hereward Bob and Single Court Bob and two extents Spliced Single Oxford Bob and Plain and three extents Plain Bob. All extents differently called. Tenor size 14 in D.

Joseph Whalley .. .. .. 1–2 | *Mary W. Whalley 3–4
*Kevin M. Price (cond.) .. 5–6

* 25th peal together.
Rung for St. Swithin's Day (July 15th).

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STONEY STANTON, Leicestershire.—At 36, Long Street. On Tues., July 4, 1967, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor size 15 in C.

John Vernon .. .. .. 1–2 | Alfred Ballard 5–6
John J. Morris .. .. .. 3–4 | Michael Vernon 7–8

Composed by J. J. Parker. Conducted by Michael Vernon.

STONEY STANTON, Leicestershire.—At 36, Long Street, On Tues., July 11, 1967, in 1 Hour and 45 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor size 15 in C.

Alfred Ballard .. .. .. 1–2 | John J. Morris 3–4
John Vernon (cond.) 5–6

QUARTER PEALS

ABINGDON, BERKS.—On June 16th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major (on handbells): J. R. Rowson 1—2, Catherine A. Salter 3—4, C. I. Rowson (cond.) 5—6, A. K. P. Poole 7—8. By the Abingdon School S.C.R.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.—On July 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. E. Norris 1, Miss F. Dodds 2, B. C. Burrough 3, C. W. Simpson 4, J. R. Southey 5, B. E. Matthews (cond.) 6, J. E. Ewer 7, L. J. North 8. Rung to mark the 70th anniversary of the church.

ALTARNUN, CORNWALL.—On June 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Carveth (cond.) 1, A. J. Davidson 2, W. C. Boucher 3, C. F. Mutton 4, A. Lock 5, S. A. Reed 6, G. F. Dunstan 7, D. N. Penrose 8. Rung as a welcome to Rev. M. P. Simcock, the new Vicar and a bellringer.

ARLEY, WARWICKS.—On June 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Anthea Spamhott 1, H. C. Bennett 2, A. K. Griffiths 3, A. J. Cox 4, Shirley Jones 5, P. C. Randall 6. Jointly conducted by 4 and 5, their 25th together. A 21st birthday compliment to the ringer of 2nd.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.—On July 12th, 1,344 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: V. Stedman 1, Felicity Hamilton 2, Jill Oakshott 3, Sally Parrott 4, R. D. Mills 5, T. Skilton 6, J. L. Hayns 7, A. P. Cannon (cond.) 8. First quarter of D.N.C.B. 1, 2 and 6.

AXBRIDGE, SOMERSET.—On June 24th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: Marjorie Legg (cond.) 1, Yvonne Criddle 2, L. Derrick 3, G. Hebdon 4, S. Smith 5, J. Baker 6. Rung for St. John the Baptist's Day.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.—On July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. Wood 1, E. Knapp 2, Hilda E. Oatway 3, E. S. Laker 4, D. J. Laker 5, W. F. Oatway (cond.) 6, A. E. Laker 7, J. Laker 8. For Confirmation service and as a compliment to the ringer of the 7th, on his 65th birthday.

BATHEASTON, BATH.—On June 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: M. Blanchard (first of Triples) 1, Mrs. B. M. W. Dobbie 2, P. M. Giles 3, Miss J. M. Dennis (first of Triples) 4, H. O. Taylor 5, J. E. Newman (first of Triples as cond.) 6, R. M. Stubbs 7, P. R. Stubbs 8. First quarter peal on the bells. Rung for Patronal Festival.

BEVERLEY, YORKS.—At St. Mary's Church, on July 5th, 1,360 Plain and Little Bob Minor: A. T. Taylor 1, A. E. Shingles 2, Elizabeth A. Ewan (first in method "inside") 3, R. D. Gibson 4, S. K. Thompson 5, J. M. Brook (first in method as cond.) 6. First in method 1 and 2.

BLEWBURY, BERKS.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. W. Dunsden 1, Mary Wells 2, P. Corderoy 3, E. J. Grace 4, H. E. Wells 5, C. Corderoy 6, R. B. Blond (cond.) 7, M. Corderoy 8. For Parish Communion.

BRADFIELD, W. YORKS.—On June 10th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: T. Cairns (first away from cover bell) 1, Mrs. P. Bancroft (first quarter) 2, R. Plant 3, A. King 4, M. King (cond.) 5, R. Nalliah (first away from the treble) 6. Rung prior to the annual service of the Sheffield Diocesan Lay Readers' Association summer outing. Also on July 9th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: P. Wood 1, Mrs. P. Bancroft 2, R. Plant 3, M. Bancroft (first quarter) 4, M. King (cond.) 5, T. Cairns 6. Rung prior to Matins on the Sunday of the first Flower Festival held at the church.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—On July 6th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: C. Gillingham 1, Mrs. Q. Cresswell 2, C. Barker 3, Miss J. Millbank 4, A. Wiffen 5, S. Warne 6, J. A. Warner 7, R. J. Lindsell (cond.) 8. Rung in honour of A. Wiffen, upon his 70th birthday.

BRISTOL.—At St. Ambrose's Church, on July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: N. Dawson (first "inside") 1, J. Collard 2, S. Bateman (first in method) 3, C. Baker 4, T. Newlands 5, B. Martin 6, J. F. Pedler (cond.) 7, J. Williams 8.

CARBIS BAY, CORNWALL.—On July 1st, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: A. J. Davidson 1, A. Carveth (cond.) 2, F. M. Bowers (first on ten) 3, A. Locke 4, A. F. Burley 5, G. W. Taysom 6, Rev. A. S. Roberts 7, J. J. George (first on ten) 8, D. N. Penrose 9, D. Stephens 10.

CRANFORD, MIDDX.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: C. Venn (first of Minor) 1, C. Stevenson 2, Josephine Pole 3, G. Marchant 4, J. Britchford 5, P. Woodgyer (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

DEEPING ST. NICHOLAS, LINCS.—On July 9th, 1,260 Minor (Oxford, Kent, Plain) Joan Gilbert 1, Katharine M. Thorley 2, J. M. Thorley (cond.) 3, C. J. Groome 4, R. N. Scholes 5, A. G. Payne 6.

DUNSTABLE, BEDS.—On July 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: June Sinfield 1, J. G. Newman 2, Brenda Redfearn 3, A. J. Stripp 4, D. Redfearn 5, J. L. Claughton 6, J. W. Sinfield (cond.) 7, P. Aslett 8.

EASEBOURNE, SUSSEX.—On June 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Rosemarie Walton 1, Mary White 2, D. M. Hughes 3, T. S. Bowles 4, K. Sansom 5, B. S. Gambrill 6, R. J. Corke (cond.) 7, R. J. Linnott 8.

EAST CROMPTON, LANCS.—On July 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: D. Sanderson 1, H. Armstead 2, M. Platt 3, I. Pass 4, Miss L. M. Wilson 5, W. Pugh 6, G. Abbott (first quarter) 7, A. P. Ogden 8.

ELING, HANTS.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: Gladys D. Northway 1, J. Hartless 2, Ronda M. Purkess 3, T. Matcham 4, R. Savory (cond.) 5, J. Hopwood 6.

ELM, CAMBS.—On July 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: B. Crane 1, N. C. Richards 2, A. W. Smart 3, E. H. Mastin (cond.) 4, G. Knight 5, O. Agger (first quarter) 6. Birthday compliment to B. Crane and A. W. Smart.

ELVEDEN, NORFOLK.—On June 25th, 1,260 Minor (720 Cambridge, 540 Plain Bob): H. Fuller 1, Miss D. Reeve 2, Mrs. W. Ivings 3, L. Nice 4, R. Rose (cond.) 5, J. Paul 6.

EMBLETON, W.A.—On May 7th, at 9, Grant Street, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Eileen S. Palin 1—2, Heather A. Mann 3—4, Anthony R. Mann (cond.) 5—6, John A. Watson (first handbell quarter) 7—8. First handbell quarter of Major for all except the conductor. First handbell quarter of Major in the State. Rung as a wedding compliment to Margaret Johnson and Robert Cook, married at St. George's Cathedral on Saturday, April 29th. Also at 9, Grant Street, 1,260 Minor (Double Bob, St. Clement's, Plain Bob): Eileen S. Palin 1—2, Anthony R. Mann (cond.) 3—4, Heather A. Mann 5—6. First quarter in three methods "in hand" for 1—2 and 5—6. First quarter of Minor in three methods in Western Australia.

FARINGDON, BERKS.—On July 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (4, 6, 8 behind) C. I. J. Pearce 1, H. J. Rooney 2, J. Strawford 3, N. Leslie 4, C. R. Miles 5, J. Moore 6, D. Leslie (cond.) 7, C. E. Timms 8. Rung as a 70th birthday compliment to ringer of the treble, who has been foreman of this tower for many years.

FULHAM, LONDON.—At All Saints', on July 9th, 1,289 Erin Caters: Deborah Bishop 1, A. R. Millidge 2, R. L. Jones 3, K. J. Rider 4, J. R. Pratt 5, L. C. Way 6, A. S. Bishop 7, M. J. Uphill 8, C. M. Meyer (comp. and cond.) 9, J. H. Gaze 10. For Evensong on the Rededication Festival. Also a birthday compliment to the tenor ringer.

HARBORNE, BIRMINGHAM.—On July 9th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: J. N. Lindon 1, Mrs. A. Broadhurst 2, R. Aldington 3, J. A. Ainsworth 4, P. M. Evans 5, E. Spence 6, C. A. Barron 7, S. W. Barton (first as cond.) 8.

HERTFORD.—On June 30th, at the Church of St. Andrew, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Margaret Evans (first of Minor) 1, V. Tubby 2, C. Springham 3, R. Wilshire 4, B. Foley 5, P. M. F. Searles (cond.) 6. For St. Peter's Day.

HORSELL, SURREY.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): Diana Cullen 1, Patricia Hill 2, J. Payton 3, J. Collier 4, P. Privett (cond.) 5, M. Fuller 5.

HINTON WALDRIST, BERKS.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (two methods): J. Sawyer 1, N. Leslie 2, H. J. Rooney 3, C. R. Miles 4, D. Leslie (cond.) 5, C. E. Timms 6. Rung for evening service.

HOLMER, HEREFORDS.—On July 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: D. R. Randall 1, Mrs. R. H. Randall 2, R. H. Randall 3, P. C. Randall (cond.) 4, G. W. Randall 5. Rung on the occasion of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Randall, of Holmer.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Collins (first quarter) 1, H. Burton 2, E. Rapley 3, T. G. Fox (cond.) 4, J. Smith 5, R. Spencer 6, M. Reed 7, C. Verey (first quarter) 8. For Patronal Festival, and a farewell to Captain C. Cooper.

QUARTER PEALS

HYTHE, KENT.—On July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Brooks 1, Miss E Todd 2, R. J. Birch 3, B. Butcher 4, Mrs. R. Wratten 5, K. Butler (first of Triples "inside") 6 R. A. Birch (first of Triples as cond.) 7, H. Porter 8. Rung to commemorate the christening of Michele Claire Prior.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDX.—On June 11th, 1,296 Little Bob Royal: Jennifer Beck 1, C. H. Rogers 2, F. D. Bishop 3, Olive Rogers 4, T. Knights 5, M. P Thomas 6, R. Collis 7, M. Harrison 8, H. W. Rogers 9, P. Felton (cond.) 10. Also on July 2nd, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Royal: Jennifer Beck 1, P. Felton 2, R. Collis 3, Olive Rogers 4, Kathleen Parr 5, R. Bunker 6, I. Cooker 7, C. Richards 8, C. H. Rogers 9, H. W. Rogers (cond.) 10. Also on July 9th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Jennifer Felton 1, Olive Rogers 2, Carol Blagden 3, Carole Andrews 4, Kathleen Parr 5, Patricia Rogers 6, H. Blagden 7, K. Darvill 8, C. H Rogers 9, H. W. Rogers (cond.) 10. All for Evensong.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—On July 13th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Fairs 1, F. Whiterod 2, A. Hunwick 3, Miss W. Elliott 4, C. Burton (cond.) 5, A. Elliott 6. Rung in memoriam A. V. "Joe" Papworth, late member of the band, whose funeral was this day.

KENILWORTH, WARWICKS.—On May 28th, 1,264 Plain and Little Bob Minor: D. P. Crawley 1, Anthea Sparshott 2, Shirley Jones 3, A. K. Griffiths 4, A. J. Cox (cond.) 5, H. C Bennett 6. An engagement and birthday compliment to the conductor's sister.

LITTLE ASTON, STAFFS.—On July 2nd, 1,440 Surprise Minor (Durham and Surfleet): A. Carpenter (first of Treble Bob) 1, Anita E. Foden 2, P. G. Golder 3, Anthea C. Fairey 4, J. H. Allen 5, M. W. Fairey (cond.) 6. For Patronal Festival Evensong.

LOCKERLEY, HANTS.—On July 3rd, 1,360 Spliced Plain Minor (six methods): Catherine A. Roberts 1, Susan V. Banks 2, L. D. Smith 3, Elizabeth A. Banks 4, D. C. Jackson (cond.) 5, T. Matcham 6.

LONDON.—At St Clement Danes', on July 9th, 1,277 Grandsire Caters: Jennifer Felton 1, Jeannette Felton 2, K. Darvill 3, J. Marks 4, T. Aldridge 5, N. Edwards 6, R. Cademy 7, A. Fulwell 8, W. G. Wilson (cond.) 9, N. Felton 10. First in method 1, 2, 5 and 6. For Matins.

LONDON.—At St. Clement Danes', on July 16th, 1,282 Cambridge Surprise Royal: P. J. Spice 1, K. J. Rider (first of Surprise Royal) 2, J. W. Euston 3, A. G. Mason 4, J. W. Smith 5, A. R. Ling 6, Miss D. E. Colgate 7, T. Lewis (first quarter of Cambridge Royal) 8, D. P. Smith 9, I. H. Oram (cond.) 10. For Evensong

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.—On July 6th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Elisabeth Ottaway 1, Jane Darby 2, Glynis Perry 3, H. Corney 4, Christine Neville 5, K. S. Gardner 6, F. W. Tomlin 7, C. W. Ottaway (cond.) 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam W. Corney, father of H Corney.

LYMPNE, KENT.—On July 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. Taylor 1, Judith Brooks (first "inside") 2, Elizabeth Todd (cond.) 3, H. P. Yates 4, G. Neilson 5, B. Butcher 6. Rung as a compliment to Sir Francis Chichester, knighted this day. Also on July 9th, 1,300 Doubles (five methods): M. Taylor 1, Elizabeth Todd 2, R. P. Brotherston 3, H. P. Yates 4, G. Neilson (cond.) 5, B. Butcher 6. For Evensong.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.—On July 2nd, 1,360 Plain Bob Major: G. Cooper (first quarter) 1, Sheilagh Coyne 2, Anne Wilkinson 3, R. Andrew (first "inside") 4, R. B. Smith (cond.) 5, A. B. Rothwell 6, F. Osbaldiston 7, A. McFall 8. For Evensong.

NEWPORT, MON.—At the Cathedral on June 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Bennett 1 Marion Bennett 2, M. J. Pryor 3, A. McFall 4, P. Williams 5, G. Wilkinson 6, D. Phillips (first of Triples as cond.) 7, P. Mason 8. For the ordination service.

NORTH MARSTON, BUCKS.—On July 5th, 1,296 Cambridge S. Minor: P. Aslett (first of Treble Bob) 1, June Sinfield 2, Brenda Redfearn 3, J. L. Claughton 4, D. Redfearn 5, J. W. Sinfield (cond.) 6.

OSSETT, YORKS.—On July 16th, in Holy Trinity belfry, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Clifton 1—2, Patricia Lockwood 3—4, I. North (cond.) 5—6. First quarter "in hand" for all.

PROVINCETOWN, MASS, U.S.A.—On June 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor ("in hand"): Terrill Schukraft (first quarter) 1—2, D. Goldstein 3—4, Bonney McDowell (first as cond.) 5—6.

PUTNEY, LONDON.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. W. Allen 1, Alison M. Mann 2, C. Harris 3 Julie S. Armstrong 4, B. J. Bull 5, A. R. Millidge (cond.) 6, D. C. Brookes 7, C. M. Cobb 8. For Evensong.

PUTNEY, LONDON.—On July 16th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: L. Ann Mew 1, Janet M. Hudson (first of Major "inside") 2, A. R. Millidge 3, Julie S. Armstrong 4, C. R. Harris 5, B. J. Bull 6, C. F. Mew (cond.) 7, D. C. Brookes 8. For Evensong.

RADLEY, BERKS.—On July 2nd 1,280 Plain Bob Doubles: A. Macdonald 1, R. M. Johnstone 2, J. T. Ericksen 3, R. Salter 4, A. K. P. Poole 5, C. I. Rowson (cond.) 6. Also 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: Margaret Hockham 1, G. M. Johnston 2, R. M. Johnstone 3, P. P. Bundy 4, Marie R. Cross 5, Catherine A. Salter 6. First quarter A. Macdonald, J. T. Ericksen, G. M. Johnston and P. P. Bundy, members of Groton School, Mass, U.S.A.

RAYLEIGH, ESSXE.—On July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss P. Nicholls (first quarter) 1, J. Laken 2, T. Sharp 3, F. May 4, P. Chapman 5, M. Carter 6, A. House (cond.) 7, W. Ward 8. For Evensong.

REDDITCH, WORCS.—On July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Francis Wilson 1, A. C. Freeman 2, F. W. James 3, D. B. Field 4, M. V. White 5, Kathryn Bellamy 6. First quarter 1 and 4. For Sung Eucharist.

RIPON, YORKS.—On June 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Bashforth 1, W. H. Johnson 2, A. Willis 3, E. Metcalfe 4, J. A. Brown 5, A. G. Dalton 6, E. Hudson (cond.) 7, E. G. Payne 8. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to the memory of Frederick Llewelyn Hughes, dean of Ripon, who died on June 4th.

RUDDINGTON, NOTTS.—On July 9th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: I. Mayfield 1, A. Simpson 2, J. Eborall 3, N. Handley 4, D. Osbourne 5, S. Adams 6, R. Stretton (cond.) 7, D. Oliver 8. First of Major 1 and 5. First of Major on the bells and by the local band.

SEND, SURREY.—On June 16th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles. Miss D. Colcombe 1, Mrs. P. Bird 2, J. Bailey 3, J. King 4, C. Webb (cond.) 5, S. Strudwick 6. Rung on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the dedication of the bells.

STOCKBRIDGE, HANTS.—On June 26th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor: D. C. Jackson 1, J. Hartless 2, Elizabeth A. Banks 3, T. Matcham (first in method) 4, L. D. Smith 5, R. Allinson (cond.) 6.

STOKE, Coventry, WARWICKS.—On June 28th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: R. Hayne 1, Anthea Sparshott (25th quarter) 2, Shirley Jones 3, R. D. Hart 4, D. P. Ebsworth 5, H. C. Bennett 6, A. J. Cox (cond.) 7, P. S. Reading 8. First of Major 2, 6, 7 and 8.

THAME, OXON.—On June 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Arnott 1, Mrs. R. Hazell 2, B. J. Edwards 3, R. J. Snack 4, Brenda M. Arnott (first as cond.) 5, R. Hazell 6.

URCHFONT, WILTS.—On July 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Eves 1, Jennifer Alexander 2, W. Cook 3, G. Heath 4, W. Alexander (cond.) 5, H. Hale 6.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—On July 2nd, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Miss V. Jones 1, Miss J. Fransella 2, Miss B. Shaw 3, Miss M. Wilkinson 4, P. Chapman 5, E. Holman 6, K. Warner 7, C. Wright (cond.) 8. First of Major 1, 2, 3 and 4. Also on July 9th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: A. Faulkner 1, D. Hewitt (cond.) 2, D Wright 3, Mrs. M. L. Taylor 4, C. A. Hughes 5, K. Warner 6, C. T. Coles 7, E. Holman 8, J. Slater 9, C. Wright 10. Rung as an 18th birthday compliment to the tenor ringer.

WESTON-BY-WELLAND, NORTHANTS.—On July 16th, 1,260 Doubles (11 methods): Cynthia Barnett 1, J. Woolley 2, C. J. Groome (cond.) 3, R. N. Scholes 4, J. M. Thorley 5. With the compliments of the band to Robin Sparrow and Mary Reynolds, after their wedding at Gretton the previous day

WORPLESDON, SURREY.—On July 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Diana E. Cullen 1, C. Gumbrell 2, M. D. Fuller 3, J. H. Payton (cond. 540) 4, K. Underwood 5, C. Slyfield 6, J. Collier (cond. 720) 7, R. Jordan 8. For Evensong and Flower Festival.

YATTON, SOMERSET.—On July 9th, 1,287 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. C. Porter 1, W. S. Rice 2, Sue Walker 3, G. Hawkins 4, S. G. Smith 5, G. Hebden 6, P. J. England (cond.) 7, J. K. Baker 8. Rung as an engagement compliment to Miss Lynette Porter and Mr. Philip Pasker.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCE

BOBBING, KENT.—On July 9th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: Miss W. Austin 1, Miss P. Tomsett 2, J. Clark 3, R. Bushel 4, F. Dadson 5, G. Kinward (cond.) 6. First 720 Minor by 2 and 4.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Frome Branch Quarterly Meeting

July 8th, a sunny day, and the beautiful tower at Leigh-upon-Mendip all helped to increase the turn-out at this year's summer meeting. Leigh have no incumbent at present so the Master, the Rev. A. G. Durston, conducted the service and provided an address which gave much food for thought. A really appetising tea, arranged by Derek Withers and expertly dealt with by the ladies, was very much appreciated.

Guests from Bath, Chew and Taunton Branches, and John Gilbert, the general secretary, heard "The Ringing World" praised by those who took it, and John pressed home the point that "The Ringing World" benefits considerably from postal subscribers as against sales through newsagents. All members are urged to become postal subscribers. Batheaston having hit the front page, with two Somerset towers to follow, the general secretary urged that extra copies be bought to help "The Ringing World" defray the extra cost or producing such front pages. These extra copies will be on sale through Branch secretaries—an excellent way of increasing subscribers.

It was noted that Somerset was second in the county list of quarter peals totals for 1966 with 275 quarters having been rung. Somerset rang the most Doubles methods quarters of all the counties—153.

A discussion as to whether this Branch should support the "Bell for Jamaica" appeal was doomed before it began. It was obvious that members could not commit themselves to support this venture voluntarily without knowing what the ultimate costs were liekly to be, and it was pointed out that the Bath and Wells would be most unlikely to support it from funds. Finding that they could say neither "Aye" nor "Nay," the meeting left the general secretary to chase two bells not now in use—though what will happen if he catches one is anybody's guess.

The Branch adopted a resolution that the winning tower—or first and second towers—of the striking competitions held by Frome, Chew and Bath Branches in 1966 should all compete for a "play-off" at a tower to be chosen in either Axbridge or Glaston Branches. Ted Chivers is to get the views of the other Branches.

Ruth Bevan ably proposed votes of thanks to all who had contributed to the success of the meeting. Ringing afterwards produced some good touches where everybody knew the method—and some not so good when they did not.

Best remark of the day—the chairman said that his local flower show took place in August and he would have to show himself.

M. H.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—P. J. W. 3s. 6d., Clerical Guild 10s., T A. P. 3s. 6d., University of Keele 12s., "In memory of Joe Papworth" 10s.

Peals.—Manchester University Guild Peals 8s., Exhall 4s., Longton 3s. 6d., Sapcote 5s., Farnworth-with-Kearsley 4s., Blewbury 5s., Marples 5s.

Quarter Peals.—Fulham 2s. 6d., Marple 2s., Wimbledon 3s. 6d., Lympne 3s. 6d., Yatton 4s., Stoke-sub-Hamdon 2s. 6d., Balcombe 4s., Cranford 2s., Aldenham 4s., Rayleigh 4s., Lockerley 4s., Stoke (Coventry) 2s., Kenilworth 2s., Arley 2s., Harborne 4s., Eling 3s., Redditch 3s., Stockbridge 3s., Hythe 5s., Provincetown (Mass.) 6s., Newport 4s., North Marston 4s., Walthamstow (2) 7s. 6d., Batheaston 5s., Horsell 5s., Horsham 2s. 6d., Blewbury 2s. 6d., East Crompton 4s., Send 3s.

TREBLE BOB MINOR HOW TO RING & SPLICE THEM

BY THE PROFESSOR

Continued from page 524

THE "OXFORD" GROUP

These four Backworks are so called because they will fit into Oxford lead-ends in which form they are frequently first rung.

Fig 2

London Scholars	Sandal	Kingston	Capel
263514	263514	263514	263514
625341	625341	623541	623541
265314	623514	265314	265314
623541	265341	625341	26534i
26534i	623541	263541	625341
623514	265314	623514	623514
263541	263541	265341	265341
625314	625314	625314	625314

Each two middle sections contain the same rows as each of the other two pairs, though not necessarily in the same order. The "pivot" bell makes 5ths and the two pairs fall into two groups which may be conveniently classified as "slowwork" and "middlework," i.e.:

(a) Slowwork pairs
- (i) Slowwork bell moves to treble in 3–4.
- (ii) 3–4 bell finishes slowwork.

(b) Middlework pairs
- (i) First bell to lead, after middlework, passes treble in 4–5.
- (ii) Bell in 5–4, after middlework, becomes last bell bell to lead.

On examining the four methods it will be found that:

(a) London Scholars and Sandal have their slowwork and middlework places transposed

(b) Kingston has London Scholars frontwork with Double-Kent places in 3–4.

(c) Capel usually presents most difficulty to beginners, especially to those unaccustomed to "backward" hunting. It must, however, be mastered, parrotwise if necessary The middlework is as Kingston with a double-dodge substituted for two middle places. Ringers acquainted with the Stedman whole turn may prefer to remember the slowwork pair as follows.
- (i) Bell coming out: Whole turn, lay, snap and up.
- (ii) Bell coming in: Snap, lay, whole turn and finish slow.

Ringers of plain methods will notice that the slowwork pair perform the same duties as the front pair in Childwall, etc.

The advantage of methods using these backworks is that a lead of one of the group with the same lead-ends can be substituted for any of the others at will.

The "Oxford" Group may be combined with other lead-ends to form "regular" methods, as follows:

Group backworks	Oxford	Coll. Exercise
London Sch.	London Sch.	Coll. Exercise
Sandal	Sandal	Duke of Norfolk
Kingston	Kingston	Norbury
Capel	Capel	Ockley

Woodbine	Westminster Sur	London Sur.
St. Albans	Coll. Bob IV	Vale Royal
Neasden	Old Oxford	Combermere
Wragby	Willesden	St. Werburg
Charlwood	Newdigate	Crowland

Oxford and College Exercise are the 6th and 2nd place lead-end variations of the same method, as are similarly Woodbine and Westminster Surprise. London Surprise has, of course, no 6th place variation.

Here are the same backworks combined with other lead-ends to produce irregular methods:

Group backworks	New London	Tulip
London Sch.	Royston	Gladstone
Sandal	York Minster	Campanulla
Kingston	Penistone	Hemsworth
Capel	Bolton Abbey	Crofton

Berwyn	Primrose Sur.
Sth. Kirby	Queen Bess
Barnsley	York Delight
Felkirk	Hoylandswaine
Havercroft	Eyam

The lead-end New London and Tulip referred to in the table of irregular methods are identical with the lead-ends of, say, Fotheringay and Bogedone respectively. The methods are all worth ringing for themselves alone but may also be used to lead up to the "Chepstow" group. These 16 methods may, of course, be spliced in the same manner as regular methods but can also, in certain circumstances, be spliced with regular methods.

[Historical notes: College Bob IV appeared in "Campanalogia," 1677 (along with Nos. I, II, III and V, although it was the only regular one), London Scholars in "Campanalogia," 1702, by J. D. and C. M., College Exercise in "Clavis," 1788, and Duke of Norfolk appeared as "Grandsire T.B." in Annable's notebook before it was elevated to the peerage. Most of the others are of a later date and nearly all have at least two names.]

THE "CHEPSTOW" GROUP

This is a group of four backworks similar to the Oxford group, slightly more difficult but having the same qualities inasmuch as the rows in the four methods are identical although in a different order.

Fig. 3

Fotheringay	Balmoral	Chepstow	Skipton
265134	265134	265134	265134
625314	625314	625314	625314
263541	263541	623541	623541
623514	265314	265314	265314
265341	623541	263541	625341
623541	265341	625341	263541
265314	623514	623514	623514
625341	625341	265341	265341
263514	263514	263514	263514
623154	623154	623154	623154

LEARNING THE "CHEPSTOW" GROUP BACKWORKS

It may be a help in some cases to compare these methods with others with which we are more familiar. Certainly the first two, Fotheringay and Balmoral can with advantage be compared with London Scholars and Sandal. There is a 3rds place made at the cross-section, but apart from the dodge on the front necessitated by this place, the backworks are, respectively, identical. The pairing of the bells is very convenient, as the paired bells work together throughout the two sections, and indeed those on the front almost throughout the lead. The pivot, as in the previous group, is in 5ths. The two bells in 3–4 may be called "middlework" and those on the front "longwork" or "longwork on the front"

It is important to remember when doing longwork whether, at the end of it, one has to stay on the front or go out passing the treble in 2–3, as many 720's have been lost and peal attempts frustrated after a mix-up on the front through two bells either attempting to stay on the front together or leave it both together, neither of which procedures contribute to good ringing.

It may be pointed out that Fotheringay longwork is identical with Hull (or Bourne) Surprise, and Balmoral is the same as Wath (or Westminster) Surprise.

The middlework of Chepstow is identical with that of Balmoral, and the longwork the same as Coldstream Surprise or Carisbrooke/Donottar Delight

The middlework of Skipton is like the frontwork of Capel "lifted" into 3–4, and the longwork, which has no duplicate outside the group, is the same as that of Chepstow with a double-dodge in place of the two middle places. The longworks of the last two may be memorised in the following manner:

Chepstow: "Slow" bell: Whole turn wrong, lead, lay, whole turn right.
"Lead" bell: Whole turn right, lead, lay, whole turn wrong.

Skipton: "Slow" bell: Whole turn wrong, double dodge, whole turn right,
"Lead" bell: Whole turn right, double dodge, whole turn wrong.

A whole turn wrong means in this case lay, snap, lay; and a whole turn right is, of course, lead, snap, lead.

The "Chepstow" group backworks may be combined with three different lead-ends to form the following "regular" methods:

Group backworks	New London	Tulip	Leasowe
Fotheringay	Fotheringay	Bogedone	Leasowe
Balmoral	Balmoral	Wilmslow	Peveril
Chepstow	Chepstow	Rostherne	Melandra
Skipton	Skipton	Knutsford	Beeston

The number of irregular methods that may be formed from these backworks is even greater. Here they are:

Group backworks	Westminster Surprise	Cambridge Surprise
Fotheringay	Rhyl Sur.	Appleby Sur.
Balmoral	Luton Sur.	Beighton Sur.
Chepstow	Ripley Sur.	Redcar Sur.
Skipton	Thorne Sur.	Hatfield Sur.

London Sur.	Munden Sur.	Kent
Minehead S.	Grantham S.	March
Dronfield S.	Bangor S.	Boston
Retford S.	Sleaford S.	Selby
Spalding S.	Chester-le-St. S	Staveley

With the exception of Kent lead-ends the methods are all Surprise.

[Historical note: Chepstow and Balmoral have both been called "Queen Victoria" and the latter has also been called "Kettering" and Hawthorne." Skipton has been called linden," and Melandra "Waterloo." Some of the irregular ones are older. Both Luton and Rhyl Surprise appeared in Stedman's "Campanalogia" of 1677, the former as College Bob V and the latter as Redding Bob.]

(To be continued)

HILLSBOROUGH'S QUIZ

Writing to the "Irish Bell News," the correspondent of St. Malachi's, Hillsborough, asks:—

Who left a blood sample on our tenor rope one night in early April?

Is it permissible to suck Polo mints during ringing contests?

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

Minimum charge 4s for 30 words, afterwards additional charge 1½d. a word. For meetings only, each addition insertion half charge. Displayed: 7s. 6d. per single column inch; per page £10; per half-page £5 10s. Reduction for series on application.

BIRTH

KINGCOTT.—To Bill and Hilda of The Garage, Wrington, a son, Richard Julian, a brother for Anne and Teresa, born July 21st, 1967. 1972

DEATH

FINCH.—On July 23rd, 1967, Frederick A. Finch, of 46, Greenford Avenue, Southall, Middlesex, former secretary South and West District Middlesex Association. Funeral, Tuesday, August 1st, 11 a.m., Holy Trinity, Southwell. 1974

PERSONAL

BENNETT.—Would Miss B. M. Bennett, whose copy of "The Ringing World" is being sent c/o A.N.Z. Bank, 20, Grafton Street, London, W.1, please contact this office as her "Ringing World" is being returned marked "Not here."

THOMPSON.—Would Miss S. C. Thompson, of 289, Rooley Lane, Bradford 5, Yorks, please contact this office as her copy of "The Ringing World" is being returned marked "Not here."

"And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands as we commanded you."—I Thessalonians, iv, 11.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

COLLINS.—Miss S. R. Collins and Mrs. Collins now reside at 59, Woolton Road, Gaywood, King's Lynn, Norfolk. Telephone (unchanged) King's Lynn 3053. 1875

WINDSOR.—The address of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Windsor is now: 5, Park Lane, Harbury, near Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. 1976

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ELEVEN complete volumes of "The Ringing World," 1954–64 inclusive. Bound in better quality "Delight" "Ringing World" binders with year and volume number. Immaculate condition. What offers over £20?—Replies to Box 1628, "Ringing World" Office, Onslow Street, Guildford. 1628

PUBLICATIONS

"THE CHURCH BELLS OF HEREFORDSHIRE," Vol. I, 128 pages with 26 plates and 107 scale drawings of founders' marks, bound red cloth, price 16s., plus packing and postage 1s 6d. To be obtained from the author, Mr. Frederick Sharpe, Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxon. Also "The Church Bells of Cardiganshire," price 21s., plus packing and postage 1s 10d.; and also "The Church Bells of Guernsey, Alderney and Sark," price 8s. 6d., plus postage 1s 1795

FILM STRIP on "Learning and Teaching Bell Control," including Raising and Lowering, with 13-page script. 12s. post free. Four copies left.—N. Chaddock, 17, Herringthorpe Grove, Rotherham. 1963

MISCELLANEOUS

NAILSEA, SOMERSET.—Six bells open practice on July 29th from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. All welcome.—L. Derrick. 1946

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.—Please note that the secretary is now Wendy I. J. Matthews, Chantry, High Street, Billingshurst, to whom all correspondence regarding the tower should be sent. 1948

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER. — Fourth Friday practices on July 28th, August 25th and September 22nd, 7 to 8.30 p.m. 1944

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Due to summer holidays there will be no ringing at St. Peter's, Wolverhampton, from Saturday, July 29th, to Saturday, August 19th, 1967. 1954

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

REDUNDANT BELLS

I am compiling a register of redundant bells and I shall be obliged if readers will furnish me with as much information as possible when bells become casualties in this manner. The object is to avoid the destruction of bells and to make information available which may lead to their transfer to new locations.

I shall use "The Ringing World" for publicity when the appropriate occasion arises and I hope I shall be appraised of any events which will affect the contents of the register.

VERNON BOTTOMLEY,
Hon. Secretary.

45, Westercroft Lane,
Northowram,
Halifax.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

330th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Preliminary Notice

The 330th Anniversary Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 4th, 1967, at Walbrook Restaurant, Bucklersbury, in the City of London. Full details later.

J. G. A. Prior, 21a, Fieldhouse Road, London, S.W.12. 1960

CHRISTCHURCH, HAMPSHIRE

RINGING FESTIVAL AUG 26th–28th.

August Bank Holiday Ringing Tour
Coach leaves Priory 8.45 a.m.
Fare (inc. lunch) 25s.

Names, please, to Arthur V. Davis, 24, Stourcliffe Avenue, Southbourne, Bournemouth (Tel. 44101) **by Aug. 5th latest.** Towers include Wimborne Minster (10), Charminster (8), Yeovil (10), Sherborne Abbey (8), St. Martin's, Salisbury (8). 1951

SURREY ASSOCIATION

Evening Classes in Bellringing

A full year's course in bellringing has been arranged with the Surrey Education Authority at the Beverley Institute, College Gardens, Blake Lane, New Malden, Surrey. The classes will be from 7 to 9 p.m. each Thursday from September 28th, 1967. There will be three terms covering all aspects of campanology, including bellfounding and hanging, bell handling and change ringing and will include practical training and visits. Whether you want to learn or have just started, join this venture now! For further details and enrolment apply to C. F. Mew, 32, Wymond Street, Putney, S.W.15. 1973

WYMONDHAM ABBEY. — I give notice that all future correspondence relative to Wymondham bells should be addressed to me at 34, Damgate Street, Wymondham, Norfolk. —Thomas E. Spight, Sec. 1961

BACK NUMBERS

We carry a substantial quantity of back numbers from 1950. Price 9d. per copy plus postage, for recent years (1960–67). Other 1s. 6d. plus postage.

MEETINGS

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guildford District.—Quarterly meeting, **July 29th at Godalming** (please note change). Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. Names for tea to Mr. R. Hagley, Thistledown, Tuesley Lane, Godalming, by Tuesday, 25th. 1867

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Canterbury District. — Quarterly meeting, Queen Park (12), Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. No service. Tea 2s. 6d. per head. Money with names to Mrs. J. A. Russell, 19, Rutland Gardens, Birchington, not later than July 26th. 1878

LADIES' GUILD. — Central District. — Meeting at Beddington, Saturday, July 29th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. 1900

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Quarterly meeting, St. Mary & All Saints', Droxford, July 29th. Bells 3.30 till 4.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 in Village Hall. Business meeting follows. Soberton bells 7 till 9. 1925

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Combined learners' practice at West Clandon on Wednesday, August 2nd, 7.30–9 p.m.—M. M.

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Nottingham District. — Meeting at Bulwell on August 2nd at 7.30 p.m. Please look up Superlative. 1975

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Branch.—Practice meeting, St. Catherine's, Montacute (6, 23 cwt.), August 5th, 7–9 p.m.—Mrs. M. Legget, Branch hon. Sec.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Warwick Archdeaconry.—The Augusst 5th meeting will take the form of a mini-Ringing Festival, when the following towers will be open: Teddington 2–3, Honington 3–4, Sutton-under-Brailes 4–4.45, Cherington 5.15–6, Great Wolford 6–7, Brailes 7.15–8.15. Please provide own meal. All ringers most welcome.—R. W. Sherriff, Dis. Sec. 1963

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Ely District.—Evening meeting at Swaffham Prior, Saurday, August 5th. Bells (6) from 6.30 p.m. Special methods: Single Court and London Surprise. 1965

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Forest Branch.—The next meeting, Mitcheldean, on Saturday, August 5th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Meeting 5.30. Notify A. Paton, 8, Orchard Close, Mitcheldean, as soon as possible.—F. T. W., Branch Sec. 1969

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Quarterly meeting at Bagshot (8), Saturday, August 5th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to Mr. A. Clarke, 1, Ralphs Cottages, Jenkins Hill, Bagshot, Surrey. (Bagshot 2031.)—Mrs. B. R. Simpson, Dis. Sec. 1886

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. — Evening meeting at St. Ippolyts, Saturday, August 5th. Bells (6) at 6.30 p.m. Everyone, including learners, welcome.—C. M. Orme, Dis. Sec. 1945

LADIES GUILD.—Devon Branch.— Meeting, Newton St. Cyres (8), Saturday, August 5th. Bells 2.30 p.m. No service. Tea and meeting 5.15 p.m. at Crown and Sceptre Inn. Names for tea to Mrs. P. Burnham, 60, Above Town, Dartmouth. 1971

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Ribchester on Saturday, August 5th. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. until cups of tea provided at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow, then further ringing (as requested) of College and Primrose, in addition to previously-learned Single Oxford and York S.—Brian Tomlinson, Branch Sec. 1953

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.— Lancaster Branch. — Meeting at Hornby on Saturday, August 5th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Miss P. James, Greycroft, Melling Road, Hornby, Lancaster. 1958

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

90th Anniversary Celebrations

SUNDAYS, AUGUST 6th and SEPTEMBER 3rd.—Ringing for Evensong (3.30) at **Durham Cathedral.** Visitors welcome if present by 2 p.m. at tower.

Projected Tour, September 16th–23rd, cancelled.

SEPTEMBER 23rd.—DINNER at ST. AIDAN'S COLLEGE, DURHAM, at 7 p.m.

A few tickets (£1) are still available. Individuals wishing to attempt a peal should send in requests now. General ringing arrangements later.

D. A. Bayles, 12, Crichton Avenue, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham. 1959

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District.—Meeting at Aylestone, August 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to Mr. A. S. Hayden, 52, Hampshire Road, Aylestone, Leicester (Tel. Leicester 32720) by August 2nd, please. Everyone welcome.—Ron Hughes. 1920

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Bi-monthly meeting, Deeping St Nicholas, Saturday, August 5th. Bells (6) available 6–9 p.m. Special methods: Morpeth Surprise and Double Court. — K. R. Davey, Hon. Dis. Sec. 1912

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District. — Meeting at Isleworth, August 5th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. and after business. Tea and business in the Church Hall, South Street, 5 p.m. All welcome.—C. H. Rogers. 1955

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch. — Meeting at Redenhall, Saturday, August 5th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. W. J. Flatt, No 6, Martin Road, Harleston, Norfolk, by Wednesday, August 2nd. —C. F. W. P. 1928

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Devizes Branch. — Meeting at Potterne (6), Saturday, August 5th. Ringing commences 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Mr. L. Wells, 34, Court Hill Potterne, Wilts. 1770

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — Quarterly meeting, Rusper (8), August 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m. Please attend. Agendas will be sent to all Northern Division towers Names for tea to Miss R Cocks, The Mount, Capel Road, Rusper, near Horsham.—Jean Osbon, Hon. Div. Sec 1912

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—Quarterly meeting, **August 5th, 1967.** Bubwith (4) 2–3 p.m.; Eastrington (6) 3–4.30 p.m.; Goole (8) evening. Tea at Eastrington, names for which to Mrs. J. Bradshaw, High Street, Eastrington, near Goole. Methods as for Holme/Market Weighton practice, with Bob Major, D.N.C.B. Major, Oxford Major, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Bristol and London for Goole.—R. Ducker, Hon. Dis. Sec. 1950

SUFFOLK GUILD.—North West District. —Practice meeting at Great Barton (6) on **Friday, August 11th.** Bells from 6.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Please note the change of day.—A. F. Ballam, Dis. Sec. 1967

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting. Uckfield (8), Saturday, August 12th, 3 p.m.–5 p.m., and Fairwarp (8) 6.30–8.30 p.m. Please bring own tea. Names to the secretary for annual outing to be held on October 14th, please.—Mrs. M. A. Large, 25, Nursery Close, Tonbridge, Kent. 1926

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — N.W. District.—A meeting will be held at Arksden (6) on Satturday, Augusst 12th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m., followed by ringing at Newport (6) 5.30–8.30 p.m. — G. Blake, Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow. 1966

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—Meeting, Norton, Saturday, August 12th. Names for tea to Mr. H. Haynes, Whilton, near Daventry, by Monday previous. —F. W. Hancock. 1964

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Practice meeting at Clapham Common R.C. on August 12th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Evening ringing to be arranged. Names for tea to Mr. T. Farmer, St. Mary's Hall, St. Alphonsus Road, S.W.4, by previous Wednesday, please. 1962

OBITUARY

MR. A. E. MOORE

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Arthur Edward Moore, of Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, who died at his home on May 16th, aged 84 years. He was an outstanding conductor and ringer and he called his first peal at the age of 14 years.

MR. W. J. TANSER

With the passing of Mr. Walter Tanser St. Margaret's, Leicester, has lost a loyal and faithful member.

Walter, who died on July 10th, aged 79 years, was very much a behind-the-scenes worker and it is to him that we owe a great debt for his work in keeping our bells and ropes in good order. Over the years he did a great deal of repairs to worn fittings and only recently overhauled the rope pulleys, making new ones himself where necessary.

He was a regular attender for Sunday service ringing and was always available for ringing at other times, not only at St. Margaret's but at any church which required to make up a band for any occasion.

An honorary life member of the Leicester Diocesan Guild, Walter will be sadly missed for his steadfast loyalty and good humour.

The funeral service took place at St. Margaret's on Wednesday, July 12th, before cremation, and a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells was rung beneath the tower as the cortege left the church, with the 11th (Walter's favourite bell) tolling from the tower.

Our spmpathy goes to Mrs. Tanser, who we hope will derive some comfort from the knowledge that Walter's life was a life well lived.

G. A. O.

"THE RINGING WORLD" INDEX for 1966 is now available for 6d., post free Other indexes still in stock: 1965, 64, 63, 62, 60, 59, 58 and 57—all at the same price.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

St. Albans District

The hot weather and the holiday seaon inspired a large number of members and friends to support the District meeting held on July 15th at St. Albans. The afternoon tower was St. Michael's and a good start was achieved by the treble rope disappearing up to the roof during some Cambridge Major! Fortunately it was only a matter of replacing a dowel, and normal ringing was able to continue. A course of the special method, Watford Surprise Major, was managed. A short service was held at 4.30 p.m., led by the Rev. D. G. Harpur, of St. Michael's. Then followed a short journey to the Abbey Institute for tea.

At the business meeting which followed, the president of the Association, Mr. E. T. Newnham, took the chair. Mr. Robert E. Hardy, of St. Albans, was elected acting District secretary until the annual District meeting, due to Mr. Keith J. Walpole leaving the area. Miss Helen Dodds, of St. Albans, was elected a full ringing member, and Misses Ann Ponsford and Valerie Paice were elected probationary members.

A good deal of discussion followed on the subject of presidential office. Some felt it was necessary to be able to honour a member of the Association and at the same time elect another member capable of running the business meetings efficiently; the person who is honoured is not always capable of the latter and may refuse on these grounds. Others felt that changes were not a good idea at all. No final ideas were reached and the matter was left for further discussion.

The next Surprise practice is on Monday, July 31st, at North Mymms; a punctual 7.30 p.m. start was asked for. The next District practice meeting is on August 10th at South Mymms. It was stressed that this is a different date from the earlier one, so would everyone please note the change.

The next meeting was to be at Wheathampstead on August 19th, but it was pointed out that the tower captain had asked for the date to be changed. It was decided to approach Sandridge if this was the case. The secretary asked all members in case of a refusal to watch for "The Ringing World" notice announcing details of the meeting and also to keep tuned-in to the local grape-vine!

A donation of £10 was received from the Cathedral Society to the fund towards the Central Council visit, and also £1 was donated anonymously. Thanks went from the District to all concerned.

A final vote of thanks went to the Abbey girls for the tea, to the Rev. Harpur for the service, to the organist, Robert Hardy, and to the Dean for permission to ring at the Cathedral.

The meeting was closed and evening ringing followed until 8.30 p.m. at the Cathedral, methods including Stedman and Grandsire Cinques and Cambridge Surprise Maximus.

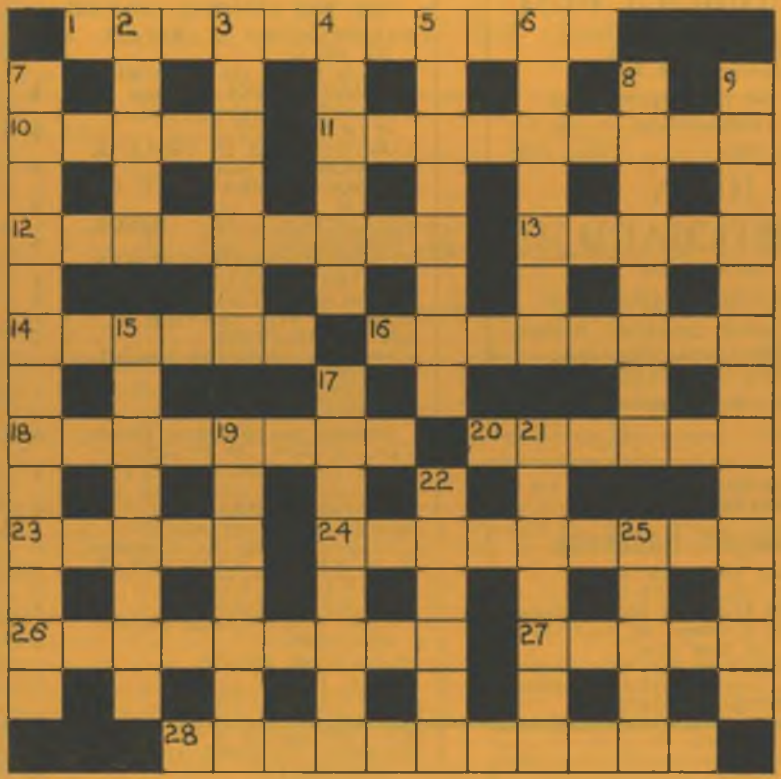
However, the evening did not finish there. A barbecue had been arranged in aid of the fund for the Central Council visit. So it was back to the paddock behind St. Michael's Vicarage, where a trench had been dug and sausages were frying over a fire. Unfortunately most of the crowd managed to drop in at one of the numerous pubs between the Abbey and St. Michael's so things were rather slow in starting. There were sausage rolls, onions if desired, and cider to drink. And most of us had just got organised when it started to rain! We bravely ignored it for quite a while and at long last adjourned to the Church Hall. The last of the food was finished and at about 10.15 everyone disappeared back in the direction they had come from.

Our thanks go to Keith, Geoff and the St. Michael's ringers for a valiant effort.

J. A. F.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—At the Church of St. Thomas, on July 16th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Rumens 1, N. O. Skelton 2, K. C. Jones 3, A. F. Haines 4, L. A. Page 5, E. C. Read 6, R. N. Marlow (cond.) 7, A. J. Lucas 8. Rung to open the Salisbury Festival of the Arts.

CROSSWORD No. 4 — First Correct Opened on August 4th



CLUES

ACROSS

1. One cannot get a better method than this (11)
10. Target for William Tell (5)
11. He should have your consideration when you are ringing (9)
12. Having a part in (9)
13. Unlike a piece of string this has a definite length (5)
14. Milkmen have these as well as ringers (6)
16. They have their part in keeping up the circulation (8)
18. After the rise these need to be worked out (3, 5)
20. This tower is famous, but it may stump you! (6)
23. It is difficult to do this with something that is 15 d. (5)
24. This is more dodgy than Plain Bob (6, 3)
26. In nature changes must be this (3, 2, 4)
27. Spruce (5)
28. Even the expert conductor couldn't do this with a square (4, 2, 5)

DOWN

2. Put a shilling to this and you'd get an evening meal (5)
3. Descriptive of the isle that gave us Erin (7)
4. This often gets in the soup (6)
5. Pressing need if you go in for firing (8)
6. Conveyance that can be managed without a solicitor (7)
7. Vernon Bottomley has followed in his footsteps (6, 7)
8. He favours queens—but only on ten bells? (8)
9. Rings in band and makes purchases to raise money (6, 3, 4)
15. See 23 across (8)
17. Nickname for an airborne soldier (3, 5)
19. Tiny province between France and Spain (7)
21. Roland gets nothing to make a name for someone else (7)
22. A sea-fish (6)
25. Conductor who can 28 across will not need this (5)

Address entry "Crossword," "The Ringing World," c/o Seven Corners Press Ltd., Onslow Street, Guildford.

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CAMPANOLOGICAL HEARSAYS

BONUS . . .

Harvest-time at Wellingborough aroused mixed feelings among members of the agricultural fraternity. No clocking-in here! The method employed to get labourers at work in time was that of ringing one of the bells at the Parish Church at 4 a.m. Reapers and others endeavoured to arrive at the scene of their labours before the bell ceased its clamour. Their reward? A pint of beer before the back-breaking work began. Those who beat not the bell . . . no beer!

* * * * *

PETERBOROUGH'S "BANDED" BELL

In 1537 the tenor bell at St. John's Church, Peterborough, cracked, and in order to prevent it from worsening, holes were bored and an iron band passed round the bell. Understandably, the churchwardens were far from satisfied with the bell's resultant note. Who would be? They contracted with Robert Newcombe, Leicester bell-founder, exchanging the cracked bell for the great bell of Leicester Abbey, which Newcombe had apparently acquired during the early stages of the Dissolution.

* * * * *

BELLS SOLD TO REPAIR HIGHWAYS

At Colleyweston (Northants) in 1548, two bells were sold in order to repair a bridge and the church, and scouring of a well, to make up the highways, for the relief of poor people and setting forth of good work in the church. The economic situation at Collyweston must have been somewhat precarious in those days! One wonders how often this sort of thing was repeated at other parishes in the country.

* * * * *

MEMORIES OF A BROKEN BELL

Chancel of Wisbech St. Mary Church, Cambs, houses the remains of an ancient bell comprising headstock, clapper and three pieces of bell metal, inscribed "Nicholai Anno 1618." The bell was used by German troops during the first world war, and was taken by the 32nd Royal Fusiliers at Ploegstreet Wood, Belgium, who used it as a gas alarm.

AN EXCELLENT TONIC

Incidentally, the following was written by the late George Gregory, M.D., on the "Sanitary Influence of Bell Ringing and its Melodies in "Church Bells," November 1st, 1897: "I doubt if there be any physical exercise equal to bellringing for keeping the body in health; if there be, there are certainly not many. In bellringing the important muscles of the chest, the spinal column and the arms are brought into powerful, steady and regular motion—usually at regular intervals. The length of time which bell-ringers keep their muscles in exercise is generally sufficient to produce a wholesome effect; seldom, I presume, so long as to cause a feeling of exhaustion. . . . The mental effort to ring in order and the harmony of the bell sounds produce a beneficial effect both on the mind and body . . . To those who have an 'ear for music' the sound of bells has a cheerfully soothing effect, sometimes diverting thoughts from needless cares and anxieties, to calm and tender moods and pleasant remembrances; memories and scenes are brought back fresh and new almost as in days gone by."

* * * * *

THE FIRST RINGING M.P.?

Matthew Wyldbore, who died on March 15th, 1781, was possibly this country's first ringing Member of Parliament. His health was so much improved by the exercise that he made a bequest that "five pounds be disposed of on the day of my death to the ringers of St. John the Baptist's Church in Peterborough, part in money and part in entertainment . . . on condition that the said ringers ring one peal or more on the said bells on the same day."

NOT WASTED

At Stretham, Cambs, the old treble bell, cast by Thomas Draper in 1591, cracked, and part of the bell fell away. Eventually the bell was recast but the broken piece was used for many years in a farmhouse for flattening the breasts of chickens.

Walpole St. Peter's magnificent church is without rival in Norfolk Marshland. At the east end of the nave a cote shelters a little bell, happily rescued from a most undignified task. It had been used as a lime pot.

* * * * *

COW BELL WITH A DIFFERENCE

One is familiar with the Continental practice of attaching bells to necks of cows in order that the sound will be heard should the animals wander away. At Stanion, Northants a substantial rib of a dreadful dun cow was displayed in the Parish Church. The animal was said to ravage Rockingham Forest, and was frightening to behold. Next to the rib stood a large square rivetted bell, which, according to tradition, had been fastened to the creature's neck, that it may warn people of the beast's "terrible approach."

* * * * *

BITS AND PIECES

In 1700 Warkton, Northants, had four bells. Between that year and the late 1800s the third bell either fell to the floor or was deliberately broken. The pieces were laid out beneath the tower, but thieves carried these away unti nothing remained.

* * * * *

"QUAINT OLD FULLER"

Thomas Fuller, a notable 17th century author, was born at Aldwinkle St. Peter, a Northants village which he greatly loved. He admired church bells, the epithet "the ringing isle" being attributed to him. Thomas Fuller was undoubtedly inspired by numerous rings of bells in the valley of the Nene, and he surely had bells in mind when he wrote "Musick is the sweetest neare or over Rivers, when the echo thereof is best rebounded by the water." "Quaint Old Fuller," as he was known, created rare and beautiful thoughts. He died on August 15th, 1661.

COMPOSITIONS

5,375 DOUBLE NORWICH C.B. MAJOR
By B. J. WOODRUFFE

23456	1	3	4	6	
43625	S		2		
56324	3		S	S	
573246		S		6	(– – s – – s)
42365		—	S	3	
35264			S	2	
52364			3	—	
63254	—			—	
32456			2	3	(s – –)

Repeated.

Contains all the 7685s, 2468s, 3468s, 6578s, 6478s, 5867s and 5678s.

First rung Ebbw Vale, Mon, May 27th, 1967.

5,120 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
By MAURICE C. INGRAM

	M	B	W	H	23456
A	2			2	32654
			2	1	62534
			1	2	65324
			2	2	23564
		A			23645
	2			2	32546
			2	2	45236
	2		2	2	34562
	2	1	2		65243
	2	1	2		42356
		1	1	2	24653
		1	1	1	23456

5,056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
By MAURICE G. INGRAM

23456	W	5/4	B	M	H	
235764			In		—	
235746			S		3	
725346	—				3	
36254	—		In2			
53264	—				3	
42365	—	x			3	
62345	S				3	
53246	—	x			3	
32456		x		—	3	(S – –)

Repeat.

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