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St. Mary-the-Virgin's Church, Newington-next-Sittingbourne, Kent

The County of Kent rightly rejoices in the title of the "Garden of Eden" and in the spring thousands of motorists tour the county to admire the luxuriant picture of the orchards in full bloom. The late 13th and early 14th century Church of Newington-next-Sittingbourne peeping through the cherry blossom makes a wonderful setting. The visitors will find here much of interest including mural paintings of the 14th century, which are to be renovated this year.

OUR COVER CHURCH

Newington-next-Sittingbourne, Kent

By LAURENCE MITCHELL

THE parish church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Newington-next-Sittingbourne, is situated in North Kent approximately eight miles east of the Medway towns of Chatham, Rochester and Gillingham. It is familiar to the millions who have travelled by rail between London and the Kent coast and has been the subject of many press photographs in the spring owing to its situation amidst the blossom of the cherry orchards.

Although it is not mentioned in the Domesday Book, the church is listed in a nearly contemporary ecclesiastical document known as "Doomsday Monachorum" and was therefore in existence in the 11th century and possibly earlier. It consists of a western tower, nave and aisles with a lean-to south porch, chancel and south chancel. The original tower was, however, at the north-eastern corner adjacent to the chancel, which is 13th century. The nave and aisles are fine examples of the late 13th or early 14th centuries and maintain the ancient roofs of the later date, which have been plastered over until recently restored in the late 1950's.

One remarkable feature of the church is an arcaded tomb, with a marble top, situated in the south chancel and known as the "shrine of Sir Robert of Newington." The identity of Sir Robert is uncertain, but he was probably a murdered pilgrim. Newington was a regular stopping place for pilgrims, and St. Thomas-a-Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, on his last journey from London to Canterbury in 1170, rested here and administered the rite of Confirmation to a number of villagers of Newington.

The wall paintings in the north aisle, executed c. 1340, are remarkable survivals of the work of this period, though in their present condition it is somewhat difficult to decipher them in detail. However, renovation is to take place during the spring of this year and visitors to the church this summer should see a vast improvement in these unique works. They are of an exceptionally fine type, and it is rare to have such a complete combination of fine architecture and the paintings with which it was completed.

The original organ was built in 1864 at a cost of £105 and enlarged in 1906 at a cost of £150. In 1961 the organ was rebuilt at a cost of £3,400. At this time more stops were added and the console was moved to the nave.

The church has a fine ring of six bells. Details as follows:

Treble: 4 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. cast in 1774.
2nd: 5 cwt. 0 qr. 22 lb. Cast in 1622.
3rd: 6 cwt. 4 qr. Casting date unknown.
4th: 8 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. Cast in 1662, recast in 1902.

5th: 10 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. Cast in 1622.
Tenor: 12 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lb. Cast in 1662, recast in 1902.

Inscription on recast tenor: Sursum Corda.
Inscription on 4th: Sancta Sanctis.

Inscription on both: A. St. Qn. Sproule Vicar.

W. G. Osborne

A. H. S. Webb Churchwardens.
Tenor, 4th and treble cast at Whitechapel;
5th, 3rd and 2nd cast by John Wilnar.
The bells were rehung in new fittings and framework in 1903.

LEGENDS

Interesting legends exist concerning the bells and a prehistoric stone which is now situated some 75 yards from the church near the gateway. One version says that the devil was upset by the bells so one night he decided to take them away. He collected them into a huge sack, threw them on to his shoulder and leapt from the tower. He landed on the stone, overbalanced, and the bells rolled into a nearby stream. Many unsuccessful efforts were made to recover them.

Another version puts part of the blame on the churchwardens! It is said that the bells sadly needed repair and for want of funds the churchwardens agreed to sell the largest bell to enable them to repair the remainder. Thinking the local inhabitants would not approve arrangements were made for the removal of the bell at night. Just as work was about to start the devil appeared and, seizing the bell, leapt over the tower battlements and landed heavily on the stone. The imprint of his foot can still be clearly seen. He then threw the bell into a nearby spring. The churchwardens tried to recover the bell with ropes and grappling irons but without success. A witch told them that they could only raise the bell by drawing it up with four pure white oxen. These being secured, a final and desperate attempt was made. Slowly, but surely, the bell was raised to the surface, at which point a local lad remarked that one of the oxen had a black spot behind its ear. The rope instantly snapped and the bell was lost for ever.

The bells are, once again, sadly in need of repair, but any attempts to raise the necessary funds in a like manner are not likely to succeed if the local ringers have anything to do with it. Since June, 1966, the ringers have been working hard to raise the funds to have the bells rehung on ball-bearings and other work carried out, and have now raised over £430. Much is still needed however and anyone who would care to help should send donations to Mrs. H. V. Mitchell, 26, Gayhurst Drive, Sittingbourne Kent, and they will be most gratefully received and acknowledged.

The bells are still rung albeit with much effort and sweat and practice nights see visitors from local towers joining in methods up to London Surprise. Three quarter-peals were rung in 1968, but the "go" of the bells is now such that one could not ring for much longer than this anyway.

22 PEALS

During their life 22 peals have been rung, all of Minor, the first being in 7 methods on March 20th, 1909, in 2 hrs. 40 mins. Methods rung were Superlative, Double Oxford, Oxford T.B., College Single, Kent T.B., Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Ringers were William G. Kitchingham (until recently captain of the ringers at the neighbouring village of Hartlip), Joseph E. Grensted, William T. Hyland, Frederick A. Holden, William J. Walker and William H. B. Wilkins, who was the conductor. Only one peal has ever been rung by an entirely local band, this being on November 20th, 1922, in 2 hrs. 53 mins., the methods being College Single, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. The ringers were Edward A. Gilbert (first peal),

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Sidney Millard, Edwin Gilbert, sen., Thomas Jull, Frederick W. White and Charles Millard, who was the conductor. The first mentioned, Edwin A. Gilbert, is tower captain at the present time and it is his ambition that his second peal should be on these bells with an all local band once again—this time on an "inside" bell. It is hoped that this ambition will be achieved—the present band is capable of ringing a peal but the state of the bells will not permit it yet.

A summary of peals rung is as follows: 7 methods (15), 6 methods (1), 4 methods (3), 3 methods (1), Cambridge Surprise (1), Plain Bob (1).

The fastest peal was the most recent on August 18th, 1962, in 2 hrs. 37 mins.

PEALS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS

Prices. — Peals: Set of 12 for 16s.; 18 for 22s.; 24 for 26s. Quarter Peals: 12 for 15s. and 3d for each additional card. — "The Ringing World," Onslow Street, Guildford.

THE SEVEN DAY LIBEL ACTION OVER BIG BEN

STAINBANK v. BECKETT

By "CHESHIRE DELIGHT"

(Continued from Page 159)

THIRD DAY

Mr. John Imray, consulting engineer and founder, was the first witness called, and was examined as to the composition of the bell metal, and as to the porosity and want of homogeneity described by Dr. Percy in his report. He said the proportion of 22 of copper to 7 of tin would make a hard brittle bell-metal, and in the course of "setting" the tin, being the lighter metal, would be found in greater quantity upon the upper surfaces, especially upon the upper surface of the sound bow. He examined the bell in 1859, and again in April, 1881. As far as he could see the cracks were unchanged since 1859. He considered the casting an excellent one.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jeune: It was physically impossible that the metal in this case should have been otherwise than porous, unless the metal cracked.

Mr. Jabez James stated that he was a civil and mechanical engineer, and was the contractor for raising Big Ben to the tower where it now hung. He saw the bell when it was cast, and considered it an excellent casting, considering its size; but, at the time, he considered the proportions of copper and tin were dangerous, and told the defendant so.

Henry Hart, foreman to Mr. James, considered the casting a good one. He was told to bronze the bell with nitric acid.

Several witnesses were then called, who testified to the excellence of bells cast to their orders at the plaintiff's foundry, among them the Rev. E. F. Robinson (a skilled ringer), Rev. Prebendary Stephenson, Canon Hawkins and the Rev. Knatchbull-Hugesson.

Mr. Matthew A. Wood, examined by Mr. Russell, said that he had rung at St. Paul's, Bow, St. Michael's and All Hallows', London, and also at Yarmouth, St. Gabriel's, Pimlico, St. Peter's Norwich, and St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, and had assisted at the opening of many rings of bells, many of them coming from the Whitechapel Foundry. He had also rung on Warner's bells, Taylor's bells, etc., and decidedly gave Mears' the preference, big or little. In cross-examination the witness said he thought the words "oldest and worst" were intended to apply to the Whitechapel Foundry. He had no doubt that Mears' was the best foundry, and not the worst. He thought that many of the others were "not in it" at all. They might make one good bell, but casting a ring was another matter. It was very difficult for some of them to cast one.

Mr. Jeune: They are much the best?—Yes.

Of Warner's and Taylor's which is the better of the two?—Warner's.

Messrs. Taylor's are the worst?—I did not say that. You asked me with respect to the better of the two.

Mr. James Dwight, also a member of the College Youths, gave similar evidence.

Mr. Wm. Reed, solicitor, of North Shields, and president of the Durham Association of Change Ringers, examined by Mr. Russell, said he had examined a great many rings of bells throughout the country. Several in the North were supplied or augmented from the Whitechapel Foundry, and they had given the greatest satisfaction. In his opinion the bells coming from that firm had a distinctness of tone which no other bells possessed.

FOURTH DAY

Mr. Goslin was the first witness examined. He was manager to Messrs. Warner, the founders of the first Big Ben. He described the process of casting in some detail. During the setting the rising of the tin can be prevented by measures, but the witness would rather not say what those measures were. He thought that the present Big Ben had not been properly cooled. He would have taken away the sand from the "cope" of the mould at an earlier stage.

Mr. Stainbank, the plaintiff, on being called said he joined the firm in 1861, but his name did not appear in the style of the firm till 1865. He had in his possession a continuous history of his firm since 1570. He frequently got letters addressed to him as "Mears & Co." or "Messrs. C. & G. Mears," and was often personally addressed as Mr. Mears. The proportion of tin to copper in Big Ben was higher than he would have wished, but it was fixed by the contract. Cross-examined by Sir J. Holker: He was especially aggrieved at these libels, because they were reiterations of statements made twenty years ago, and they were injurious to himself and the foundry of which he was the owner.

FIFTH DAY

On the assembling of the Court, Sir J. Holker addressed the jury on behalf of the defendant, and briefly sketched the history of Warner's bell and the arrangements made for the founding of the present bell. The old action of libel, "Mears v. Beckett," was then referred to. It was not the case that his client had waited till Mr. Mears was no more before renewing the attack. He would ask them to find that there was no proof of damage to the plaintiff.

Dr. Percy said he had, at the request of the Government, made several reports upon Big Ben. He had no practical experience, but expected that there was great difficulty in obtaining homogeneity, especially in a large casting, where some of the metal cooled before the rest. Cross-examined: It was a common thing to fill up small holes on the surface of castings—that might be seen in the paws of the lions of the Nelson column.

Mr. Taylor, a bell founder of Loughborough, stated that he had cast bells of 6½ tons without difficulty, and was now preparing to cast one of 14 tons for St. Paul's. It was quite possible to cast a homogeneous bell. Porosity was very prejudicial to tone. Cross-examined: He knew that the Manchester bell of 6½ tons was cracked. That was due to the weight of the hammer, which was 4 cwt. There was no fault in the casting. It was possible to conceal holes, unless they were suspected and scratched for.

Sir Edmund Beckett, the defendant, was then examined by Mr. Jeune. He said that he had great experience in bells, and was consulted about the first Big Ben, and, with Mr. Taylor, was appointed to approve the present Big Ben when cast. Without their approval there was, according to the contract, to be no payment to the founder. Many experiments had been made by him and at the School of Mines to discover the best proportion of tin to copper. Portions of Tom of Lincoln and other old bells were analysed, and, finally, the proportion of 7 to 22 was fixed upon as likely to give sufficient softness to prevent cracking and sufficient

SIXTH DAY

Examination of the defendant continued. When he saw the bell in November, 1859, the holes were visible. There were about 40 of them, and the largest had been filled with zinc. He should have rejected the bell if he had seen the holes. He examined the bell at the foundry and at Westminster, and was satisfied with it, and especially with its tone. If he had known what was disclosed in Dr. Percy's report he would not have withdrawn his pleas of justification in the former action. He did so under advice, not understanding the dodges of common law pleadings.

Mr. Ford, the defendant's solicitor, deposed that on Sir Edmund's behalf he had to publish in any way the plaintiff might desire his disavowal of any intentional reference to these letters to the plaintiff; but in cross-examination the witness said he had offered only a disavowal, not an apology.

Mr. Jeune, in the absence of Sir John Holker, summed up the defendant's case. After going over the evidence the learned gentleman said that the libels were reduced to two, viz., "that Big Ben was a disgrace to its founders," and the expression "the oldest and worst of the foundries in England." And in concluding he said there was no reason why the plaintiff had by this action sought to vindicate a character which Sir Edmund Beckett had never assailed.

Mr. Russell then replied on behalf of the plaintiff.

SEVENTH DAY

Mr. Russell having concluded his address, Mr. Baron Huddleston summed up with great care. The jury found that one letter was libellous, and applied to the plaintiff; but that the other two letters, although libellous, did not apply to the plaintiff, and that the plaintiff was entitled to £200 damages. Judgement was entered for the plaintiff accordingly.

The Manchester bell referred was the Great Hour Bell of the Manchester Town Hall. It was cast by Messrs. John Taylor & Co. on October 18th, 1876, and developed a crack of 22 inches on May 30th, 1880. This came in handy for the plaintiff's lawyers.

Although I have read "The Times" account of the trial as well as that in "Bell News," I have been unable to discover the happy exchanges between Counsel and the College Youth referred to by Mr. W. T. Cook and Mr. E. A. Barnett. It is possible that neither bears much relationship to the original. There is quite a simple explanation. During a long trial the atmosphere gets pretty tense, and this can be broken up by laughter at a remark which would not normally strike the participants as at all witty. After the trial, when the tumult and the shouting has died, someone remembers that something very funny happened with one of the witness, realises that it was by no means the gem of humour it seemed to be at the time, and polishes it up before passing it on as authentic. Two people will improve the joke in different directions until it is sometimes a little difficult to recognise it as the same.

"The Times" report ignored the College Youths altogether, concentrating rather on porosity and homogeneity than on campanology. It did however produce one remark which they suggest produced "laughter in court," but it is difficult to see why it did.

More Feelers about a London Ringing Council

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION DINNER AND A.G.M.

While it was the desire of the Master, Mr. H. W. Rogers, that the dinner of the London County Association, held at the George, Strand, London, on February 26th, should be as informal as possible, opportunity was taken to ventilate the subject of one ringing Society for London.

MR. W. G. Wilson, who proposed "The Guests", said there was a letter on this hardy annual of one Association for London in "The Ringing World" recently. He thought the writer was mainly concerned at having to join six Societies because of his peal activities. About a week after the letter appeared he rang up the speaker and asked him what he thought.

Mr. Wilson said he replied that their Master had previously pleaded for more and more co-operation among London Societies: the Master held this view very sincerely. He also reminded their young friend that 30 years ago, before he was born, there was a leading article in "The Ringing World" asking for a Federation of London Societies that would enable them to preserve their own identity. As the writer of that article, Mr. Wilson added: "I still think that will come one day: I am beginning to think that I shall see it."

Two or three years ago a famous hotel firm wanted to put on a ringing festival in London and offered special facilities as regarded accommodation. He had to tell them that this was only possible if they could secure the towers and had the co-operation of all London Societies. He knew they tried and one Society refused to co-operate. That Association had since by another plan brought 200,000 visitors to London.

LOGICALLY SENSIBLE

Mr. E. A. Barnett, who replied for "The Visitors", took up the same theme. He said he thought from the point of view of practical logic it was difficult to deny that this would be a sensible idea. There were, however, difficulties. If one took the view that ringing Associations should be based on dioceses rather than geographical areas, even that ran into difficulties with the scheme outlined a year or two ago, the creation of a multiplicity of dioceses. Another proposal might be London north and south of the river. Those in the south knew that the north of the river was peopled by savages!

More seriously, Mr. Barnett said ringing organisations had never been based on logic. He felt that the writer of that letter was not a native of these parts. He did not know if he realised that the people living in the outskirts of the Greater London area did not like to be regarded as people of London but felt they belonged to the county whose area had been given up. He thought the whole idea was a non-starter.

The Master said he must agree with Mr. Barnett that a Federation would not come off, but he felt it was possible to have a Council of ringing Societies in London. There was no positive rejection, or did it mean that everybody was satisfied with present arrangements or too browned-off and was adopting a de Gaulism of "Non, non, non"?

The Master was accompanied by Mrs. Rogers, and the principal guests were Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Barnett. Sitting at the top table were Mr. W. G. Wilson, treasurer and librarian of the Association, and his daughter, Mrs. David Tate, wife of the auditor to "The Ringing World". Proceedings started with the presentation of bouquets to Mrs. Barnett and Mrs. Rogers. Mr. Frank Udall was the M.C. and an excellent dinner was served.

The Editor, who was present, publicly thanked Miss Dupré for her splendid co-operation with "The Ringing World" during the five years she was general secretary of the Association.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Association held another successful annual general meeting in central London on its usual second Saturday in February. Ringing took place at St. Lawrence Jewry, St. Giles', Cripplegate, and St. Clement Danes', prior to an inspiring service at the last-named church. This was conducted by R.A.F. Staff Chaplain, Rev. A. F. Vickers, who had obviously taken enormous trouble in his pre-sermon researches. A well-struck course of Triples was rung during the service. Some 60 members and friends were present at the tea and meeting, held in the George Hotel.

The Master, Mr. Harold Rogers, in his report to the members, summed up the past year as having been very brisk and busy with no time wasted at the business meetings. This theme will be followed in the 1969 programme which, wherever possible, will have three towers in its Saturday meeting fixtures to be held on the second Saturday in each month, with the exception of April, August and December. Commenting on the 1968 meetings, the Master said that with the nine meetings which had been held the London area had been well catered for in the East, the North, the West and the South; together with monthly practices at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, on the first Thursday in each month.

FIFTY RINGERS IN QUARTER PEALS

Mr. Meyer's work in arranging Sunday ringing at otherwise silent towers has continued the London County's tradition in this respect, and ringing has continued regularly throughout the year. Notable among the quarter peals which have been successful have been: Triples, Caters and Cinques in all three odd bell methods; Grandsire, Stedman and Erin. Additionally, quarter peals of Little Bob Maximus and Cambridge Surprise Maximus have been rung at Southwark Cathedral. 50 different ringers took part in these successful quarter peals. Mr. Meyer and all the officers extend very grateful thanks to all members who have supported this worthwhile Sunday evening activity.

Twenty-nine new members had been elected and among the peals rung had been one of Cinques, five Surprise Royal, two Treble Bob Royal, three Caters and one Stedman Triples by eight of the Association officers.

There were also favourable and appreciative comments from the Master to a group of young members who had put in hard work on

mechanical and rope repairs at towers which would otherwise still have remained silent. He reminded these and other members that in the case of real need the Association might be able to provide the occasional new or second-hand rope to help approved cases.

NEW TEAM OF OFFICERS

At the earlier nomination meeting, Miss Dupré had indicated her desire to retire from the post of hon. general secretary, which she had held with distinction for the past five years. Mr. Michael Wycherley was nominated and accepted by the meeting for this most important position. Mr. Harold Rogers was again elected as Master for his last year, being ineligible for election next year. The supporting officer team is as follows: Deputy Master, Mr. J. Phillips; Treasurer and Librarian, Mr. W. G. Wilson; Assistant Secretaries, Mr. J. Lott and Mr. D. Hewitt; Stewards, Mr. S. Darvill and Miss Rosemary Cotton, who it was felt would have an attraction for sixpences (the L.C.A. steeples). The new Central Council representatives for the next three years are Mrs. O. L. Rogers, Mr. H. W. Rogers, Mr. W. G. Wilson and Mr. W. Shanks.

A reminder was given to towers in the area that the tower- and handbell competition under the auspices of the Richmond Music Festival would be held at St. Mary's, Twickenham, on March 29th, and entries were still required. (Contact Dr. D. J. Neal-Smith, 93 Cole Park Road, Twickenham.)

During the social evening which followed, the Dawe handbell cup was competed for by teams from St. Luke's, Chelsea, and Isleworth, with the cup being awarded to Isleworth with a relatively fast well-struck course of Triples.

The grand illuminated peal books of the Association from 1827 onwards were available and received considerable appreciative inspection.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

The A.G.M. of the Watford District was held at Watford on February 1st, when the ten bells were put to good use, under the guidance of Tom Norris, the District Ringing Master. A service was conducted by the lecturer, Rev. David Mowbray, followed by tea in the Old Free School.

The president, Dr. David Gullick, was in the chair at the business meeting. Mr. Geoffrey Seaman was re-elected District secretary and Mr. Tom Norris District Ringing Master, and thanks were accorded these gentlemen for their invaluable services. The committee, Messrs. R. Baldwin, R. G. Bell, H. Bradbury, K. R. Dunstan, R. G. Smith and J. Southey, with the secretary and Ringing Master as ex-officio members, were re-elected en bloc. Mr. R. G. Bell was appointed "Ringing World" correspondent. Mr. C. W. Woolley informed the meeting that it was hoped that Bushey bells would be rehung during the coming year, and an effort was being made to raise the sum of £3,000. A Ringers' Sunday would be held on May 11th. The secretary reminded the meeting of the Central Council's visit to St. Albans at Whitsun.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded and the proposer also expressed on behalf of all present appreciation of the presence of Mr. A. R. Agg, the Association's general secretary.

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A TIE IN 1968 INDIVIDUAL PEAL ANALYSIS

Compiled by GEORGE E. THODAY

No. 1 LADY

AFTER months of speculation, the final analysis reveals a tie between two ringers, namely Messrs. D. E. Rothera and C. B. Dove. To compare their respective achievements would, to say the least, be difficult. Nevertheless one can summarise by saying that whilst David collected the majority of his peals roaming the countryside, Barrie on the other hand scored most of his in his native county of Yorkshire. David's total of 111 peals includes 102 peals of Surprise, of which 25 spliced all-the-work and Double Glasgow call for special mention. Barrie's main concern was on conducting 80 out of his 111 peals. The only other ringer to reach 100 was Frank R. Morton of Cheshire, his combined total of tower- and handbell peals amounting to 101. Leading the ladies for 1968 was Miss Julia A. Fellows of St. Albans. She scored 68 of which she conducted 2. Julia made great strides during 1968, taking part in several long lengths on handbells, including 17,824 Kent T.B. Major. We look forward to hearing more about her activities in the future.

A SLIGHT INCREASE

The number of people who rang a peal during 1968 was 3,777 (3,026 men and 715 women). This is a slight increase over 1967 (3,768). Out of this total some 260 completed 25 or more (238 men and 22 women). Conducting was shared by 637 ringers (621 men and only 16 women). The one peal a year contingent accounts for 1,410 of the grand total, whilst the number who rang two was 561. The above figures for 1968 show virtually the same pattern as in previous years, but compared with 1967 the number of women increased by 60 whilst the men took a backward step (a decrease of 49). 1,283 people who rang a peal in 1967 did not in 1968: conversely of those who did in 1968 1,209 did not ring one in 1967. This figure of 1,209 is broken down into 560 first pealers (376 men and 184 women). 324 who have not rung a peal since the present system started and 325 who have.

50 PER CENT RESPONSE

The greatest problem with the records is the ever-increasing volume of cards, between 7,000 and 8,000 now exist. To facilitate speeding up the analysis the current cards were extracted during the year, from the main pack, making it less arduous each week. Replies to the request for information regarding the leading peal ringers produced an almost 50 per cent response. Several points of interest arose from letters and a list of these follows:

- (i) The Rev. R. D. St. John Smith reports that in 40 years of ringing this is the first time he has reached 25 in a year.
- (ii) Anthony Davidson believes he is the first resident Cornishman to make the list.
- (iii) Mr. A. P. Cannon's 54 peals were rung in 54 different towers.
- (iv) Tom Goodyer is, I think, the first person from Australasia to be included in the list. (He certainly did not waste much time on his visit to the U.K.)
- (v) Lastly, a hard luck story from Suffolk, where Katherine Thorley scored 21, having lost 4 attempts and had 2 cancelled in the month of December.

I must stress that to be 100 per cent accurate on a job of this nature is virtually impossible, so I do apologise for any inaccuracies which may have been made. The analysis for 1969 is in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. David House of Norwich.

The list of leading ringers and other details will appear next week.

THE LEADERS

MEN

C. Barrie Dove	111 (c.80)
David E. Rothera	111 (7)
Frank R. Morton	101 (69)
Geoffrey A. Edwards	95 (—)

LADIES

Julia A. Fellows	68 (2)
Susan Smith	58 (—)
Judith M. Corby	53 (2)
Josephine Quilter	53 (2)

TOWER BELLS

C. Barrie Dove	111 (80)
David E. Rothera	111 (7)
George E. Thoday	93 (34)
Kenneth J. Hesketh	86 (15)

HANDBELLS

Frank R. Morton	49 (34)
Geoffrey A. Edwards	47 (—)
John R. Scott	47 (11)
Robert B. Smith	42 (20)

LEADING CONDUCTORS

C. Barrie Dove	80
Frank R. Morton	69
Michael J. Fellows	45
Geoffrey K. Dodd	41

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

MANSFIELD DISTRICT

The annual meeting of the Mansfield District was held at Mansfield on January 25th. A good company of over 60 was present, including visitors from East Yorks, Dewsbury, Sutton-on-Trent, Nottingham and Kirkham; all towers of the District were represented.

The Vicar (Rev. R. T. Warburton) conducted the service and also sat down to tea, as did Mr. Leaning, the District chaplain. At the business meeting the customary votes of thanks were accorded the ladies for providing the excellent tea, and the Vicar. The chairman (Mr. S. W. Fossey) was re-elected for the 12th year but the secretary (Mr. D. J. Beach) resigned after six years in office. He was thanked on behalf of the District by Mr. F. Adcock.

Mr. F. Cooke is the new secretary. Other elections: Ringing Master, H. T. Rooke; assistant Ringing Master, F. Adcock; committee, L. Smith and H. T. Rooke.

Ringing continued until 9 p.m. in various methods from Cambridge and Stedman to rounds.

BINGHAM DISTRICT

A membership of over 100 was reported at the annual meeting of the Bingham District held on January 11th at Bingham. Eight new members were elected and the secretary (Miss Ruth Blackshaw) said that the band at Woodborough (four bells) would soon be the holders of the strongest membership. Progress and enthusiasm were still well to the fore and the bell repair fund showed an increase.

Mr. J. D. Clarke was re-elected chairman and Miss Blackshaw secretary. Messrs. Hanson, Stainsby and G. G. Marsh are joint Ringing Masters and Mr. Harrison committee member.

The meeting was well attended and Evensong was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Stephani.



MISS JULIA A. FELLOWS

Heading the 22 ladies who rang 25 or more peals during 1968 is Miss Julia A. Fellows, with 68 to her credit (41 tower, 27 handbell).

Julia learned to ring at St. Albans Abbey and rang her first tower bell peal at first attempt in 1963. About this time, and thanks to Geoff and Joyce Dodds in particular, she took up handbell ringing. She confesses that the numerous attempts to get her first handbell peal nearly succeeded in putting her off handbells for good! Fortunately it didn't turn out like that.

At the end of 1968 her peal total was 176—118 tower bell peals and 58 "in hand". Her preference is for handbell ringing and in that respect her ambition is to ring Stedman "in hand". Last year's peals were very much in the quality street. Tower bells included Surprise Major, Royal and Maximus, Stedman Cinques and Triples, Plain Bob from Major to Maximus. Handbell peals were: Plain Bob Major and Royal (including first "in hand" as conductor), Kent Major (including 17,824) and Maximus, Oxford Major (including 10,784) and Maximus, Little Bob Maximus and various spliced and single Plain Major methods.

For the past four years Julia has been working as a research assistant at the Vickers Ltd. Ship-model Experimental Tank at St. Albans. So far this year work has had priority over ringing, as 1968 would be a hard year to follow ringing-wise! She expresses her thanks to all who had invited her for peals and to tours, as without them 1968 would not have been the successful year it was.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—"Plain Bob" 10s., Portsmouth Cathedral £4.

Peals.—Burton-in-Kendal 3s., Patrington 5s., Coity 3s., Bromborough 5s., Willenhall 5s., Salford 4s., Tring 4s., Holme Pierrepont (2) 10s., Shrewsbury 10s., Aspley 7s. 6d.

Quarter Peals.—West Bridgford 3s., Lympe 2s. 6d., St. Clement Danes' 5s., St. Martin's, Epsom (4) 17s., Little Horsted 3s., South Cadbury 3s., Swindon Village 2s., Ringwood 3s. 6d., Waltham Abbey 5s., Woodborough 2s., King's Langley 3s., Nailsea 3s., Thorpe Bay 5s., Pankridge 5s., Fulham 3s., Luton 5s., Hawkhurst 4s., Sutterton 5s., Merriott 3s., Clifford 3s., Lewisham 5s., East Tytherley 4s., Wamford 3s.

Letters to the Editor

LONDON'S "GENUINE NEW LOOK"

Dear Sir,—Now that Mr. Harold Rogers has entered the last year of his term of office as Master of the London County Association, would it now be in order to make the following enquiries through the columns of the "Ringing World"? Most of these points were to have been raised at the Association's A.G.M. on February 8th, but Mr. Rogers seemed most anxious to close the meeting, and, indeed, the handbell competition was in progress before anybody realised "Any other business" was over!

Readers will remember, no doubt, Mr. Rogers' excellent article on page 165 (March 10th, 1967) reporting on the meeting at which he was elected Master, and referring to the "genuine new look" which he intended to bring to London ringing and the "1967 interpretation of the stated objects of the Association."

And then, from the issue of April 14th, 1967: "the need for the influence of the Association to extend to all quarters of its territory and to do all possible, in harmony with the overlapping Associations, to strengthen the weaker towers."

Would Mr. Rogers care to tell us how far, and how well, the Association's influence has extended, and how the "weaker towers" are now progressing?

We now move to 1968, when, on February 10th, Mr. Rogers was elected Master for the second year. He informed us in his first report as Master than 1967 had been "extremely brisk and busy" (members attending this year's A.G.M. no doubt remember that he described 1968 in exactly the same terms!). Then at the annual dinner, on February 24th, 1968, Mr. Rogers again expounded on his plans for "London Societies to organise and co-ordinate themselves as a composite whole by a Joint Council." Is it too much to expect of Mr. Rogers that he might launch this scheme during 1969?

I am prepared to doubt that Mr. Rogers would be able to answer these questions very convincingly. After two years of his Master-ship the "weaker towers" still remain "weaker" (apart from two or three where progress cannot be attributed to the London County in any way). Ringing in London is as disorganised as ever, and the general standards of the London County are sinking lower.

One would dearly like to believe, as Mr. Rogers evidently does, that "the bright future of the Association lay in the hands of these two groups (young people and pre-war stalwarts): the first to provide enthusiasm and new ideas, and the second to provide the mature and tolerant influences so necessary to the products of youthful enthusiasm." But, before there can be any improvement Mr. Rogers will have to allow his younger members to have their say, especially those new to the committee, and he must not allow any new ideas they might engender to be stifled by the "mature and tolerant influences" of the "stalwarts" as in the past. For so long as Mr. Rogers and a few of his "stalwarts" continue to be of the opinion that their standards are above reproach, the London County Association will continue on the course of self-destruction that has been so synonymous over the past few years.—Yours faithfully,

"ANOTHER LONDONER"
(Name and address supplied).

DUDLEY CHURCH BELLS

Dear Sir,—On re-reading the article behind the cover picture of Dudley's noble, early Gothic Revival church (January 10th issue), I believe I had reason to think that I was not the only one who was not altogether happy with the sound of the bells. Let me quote: "As the tenor bell is light for its weight (sic) it would be a splendid opportunity to have all the bells recast." Also, even the minimum scheme involves recasting four bells.

However, I apologise to Mr. Montgomery for making what seemed to me a statement of the obvious but what must have seemed to him a rather unkind remark. I wish that I could retract it, but in honesty I cannot, and instead I will try to explain it as requested. Dudley bells belong to an era when a great number of new rings and individual bells were being cast but when, to my way of thinking at any rate, the tone and tuning of English bells was at about its worst. I should add that when I listened to Dudley bells, which I did as usual from several different points outside (they were scarcely audible inside), I was not aware of the date or the founder so I cannot be accused of bias on this count. I must admit, though, that I have no soft spot for T. Mears II: out of hundreds of rings which he cast the only ones I have heard which have given me any pleasure have been at East Grinstead and Edlesborough. Furthermore, he swallowed up four other foundries (Dobson of Downham Market, Briant of Hertford, Rudhall of Gloucester and Wells of Aldbourne), most of whose bells (especially Dobson's) I have good reason to prefer.

To return to Dudley, other factors which must have an adverse effect on the sound of the bells are (as so often) the acoustical properties of the materials of which the tower is built (especially the floors and ceilings between the bells and ringing room) and the atmospheric conditions in this industrial area. I cannot vouch for this, but I would expect the bells to have been affected by soot and corrosion, as has the stonework of the church. Yet these same conditions must obtain at Brierley Hill, just up the road from Dudley, where the bells still sound beautiful after 70 years!

Looking back on the hundred-odd tens which I have listened to, the majority of the best have been accurately tuned bells (like Brierley Hill's), and the majority of the worst have dated from the first half of the 19th century. This is why I am convinced that a complete recasting would be immensely worthwhile now, while there is the opportunity. Mr. Montgomery asks me to suggest "where to get the extra £1,700." Now I know full well what an enormous task it is to raise thousands of pounds for church restoration, but if £4,000 for the bells is a possibility then surely £5,700 is not out of the question for an infinitely superior job, providing that benefactors are made to realise how much more they would be getting. I cannot add to this, except to say that if I were faced with a similar problem, I would write round and glean what ideas I could from the experiences of other parishes.

Mr. Hayward evidently did not read my letter properly and his ridiculous insinuations in the February 21st issue seem to me to be hardly worth replying to. Anyway, who are these people he mentions with "very delicate and shallow pockets"? Is this not a wretched thing to say when every ring of bells, and

indeed almost every church, in the country is the result of people's generosity, often extreme generosity?—Yours faithfully,

CHRISTOPHER DALTON.

Reigate, Surrey.

NOTE.—It must be remembered that bells are not the main objective of Church finances. Calls of the diocese and the Church overseas and keeping the fabric of the building dry and warm have prior consideration. Mr. Montgomery in his article appealed to the charity of ringers to help raise the £4,000 for a church where the finances have been very severely taxed. Get that first before dangling a second appeal for an extra £1,700.

We also acknowledge a letter from Mr. Richard Jones, London, S.W., making points similar to those of Mr. Dalton.—Ed.

Dear Sir,—Go ahead with your programme, Dudley. I have heard some good "spliced" rings, and you may be able to get the other recasting done later. On the other hand, I have heard poor brand new tens, and good splicing spoiled by recasting the older bells.—Yours faithfully,

JAMES HEDGCOCK.

Christ Church College, Canterbury.

"SILVER SPOON RINGERS"

Dear Sir,—I have just read the letter headed "Our 'Silver Spoon' Ringers" which appeared on January 31st and I feel that this was extremely ill conceived.

The writer has considered bell-ringing to be a completely isolated art, bearing absolutely no relation whatsoever to any other tradition that this country possesses. If this is done then his arguments are valid, but I'm afraid that things don't work out that way.

If someone approached the incumbent of a church to play the organ and then admitted that he could not play the instrument I imagine that he would very quickly be turned out of the house of God. Similarly the choir.

As for praising people who have outstanding records, of course this must continue, and I fail to see the argument which the writer put forward. Can the writer give me an example of the outstanding person not receiving praise and someone less equipped being praised? I doubt it. If this is done then the standards are lowered since a chain is only as strong as its weakest link, and if there is one thing that is not wanted in ringing it is lowering the standard.

I see no reason for divorcing bellringing from all other aspects of society and therefore the writer has argued from completely false premises, and unless he can substantiate it further the letter must be treated with the contempt it deserves.—I remain, sir, yours faithfully,

DEREK J. CARR.

Eliot College, University of Canterbury.

A STUNT PICTURE

Dear Sir,—Like Mr. Penney, I was handed a copy of "Reveille" showing Clair Jolliffe's agile display and, oddly enough, I was able to make use of the picture. I was giving a talk on ringing to a local Women's Institute and used the picture to illustrate how **not** to handle a bell rope!—Yours faithfully,

W. B. KYNASTON.

Rodbourn Cheney, Wilts.

BELL ROPES
JOHN NICOLL
SEE BACK PAGE

CHESTER CATHEDRAL BELLS LEAVE FOR MELTING POT

The bells of Chester Cathedral, silent for five years, have begun the first part of their journey away from the city and Cathedral of Chester. And the first stage was the spectacular and tricky operation of lowering them 130 feet from the great central tower. When they return it will be to the new free-standing bell-tower, the building of which is part of the Cathedral's £300,000 restoration appeal.

Biggest and heaviest of the bells to be removed was the tenor weighing some 32 cwt. In all nine bells were taken out of the tower and on February 21st they left for Loughborough where they will be recast. The journey was by road, unlike a previous occasion when bells from the Cathedral travelled down the River Dee and then by sea to London in the eighteen hundreds.

Up inside the bell chamber a gantry of wooden planks 20 feet high had been built to assist the removal of the bells, while down below the operation was made tricky by the presence of the 90-foot scaffolding erected as part of the restoration work programme.

GIFTS OF BELLS

It has been revealed that the cost of recasting four of the bells has already been met. Chester M.P. Mr. J. M. Temple, of Picton Gorse, whose wife is chairman of the Friends of Chester Cathedral, is one of the donors.

LETTERS—Continued

SURPRISE MINOR

Dear Sir,—Can anyone supply the names of these single change Surprise Minor methods?

This is the last of the unnamed Treble Bob Hunt methods in my collection.

—34—14—12—1236—12—16	l.e. 14	162534
—34—14—12—1236—14—36	l.e. 16	165243
—34—14—12—1236—14—56	l.e. 14	164235
—34—14—12—1236—34—16	l.e. 16	134625
—36—14—12—1236—12—36	l.e. 14	146325
—36—14—12—1236—12—56	l.e. 14	136524
—36—14—12—1236—14—16	l.e. 12	136245*
—36—14—12—1236—14—56	l.e. 16	134625
—36—14—12—1236—34—16	l.e. 14	154263
—36—14—12—1236—34—56	l.e. 14	136524
34—36.14—12—1236—12—36	l.e. 16	134625
34—36.14—12—1236—14—16	l.e. 12	165324
34—36.14—12—1236—14—36	l.e. 16	146532
34—36.14—12—1236—34—16	l.e. 12	154632
34—36.14—12—1236—34—16	l.e. 16	165243
36—36.14—12—1236—12—16	l.e. 14	152643
36—36.14—12—1236—12—36	l.e. 14	135642
36—36.14—12—1236—14—36	l.e. 14	154263
36—36.14—12—1236—34—16	l.e. 14	146325
36—36.14—12—1236—34—36	l.e. 14	145362

* Has this method been named as Fawley Surprise Minor? Will someone please confirm this point.—Yours faithfully,

A. BISHOP.

London, S.W.

ISLIP EDMONDS—BELLFOUNDER

Dear Sir,—I am trying to find out how many bells still exist which this little-known bell-founder cast, other than the one bearing his name which he gave to his native village of Melchbourne, North Bedfordshire, in 1764.

Islip Edmonds was apprenticed to Joseph Fayre of St. Neots, who described him as a good workman. He moved to London in 1764 to set up his own business, which seemingly lasted for only 18 months. His strange name



THE 130 FEET LOWER

having given moneys for the recasting of the number six bell. The number five bell has been paid for in memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. Tom Temple, Mr. Temple's parents. An anonymous donor in Cheadle has paid for the recasting of the number seven and the number eight bell has been paid for by the widow and family of the late Mr. John Worth, a former master of the Chester Diocesan Guild and one of the best known bellringers in the whole country. He was a ringer at Christ Church, Macclesfield, and died in 1967.

A provisional earmarking of funds has been made for another small bell and also for the tenor bell.

The cost of recasting the Cathedral bells ranges from about £250 for the smallest to £885 for the largest, the tenor bell. Two bells will remain in the bellchamber, one of them the bell on which the Chester curfew is rung.

Now the ringing chamber of Chester Cathedral is minus its bellropes and even peal boards recording first peals and record peals have been taken down. Among these souvenirs is a memento of wartime days, an aircraft recognition poster depicting Italian warplanes—a reminder of those other days when the Cathedral bells were silent.

has led to speculation at times as to whether he was a Mr. Edmonds of Islip, Northants, based on the coincidence that there was in recent times a family of bell-ringers there, but their name was Edmunds.—Yours sincerely,

P. AMOS.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

The A.G.M. of the Llandaff Branch was held at St. Mary's, Aberavon, on February 8th. Attendance was adversely affected by a fall of snow and a warning against travelling issued by the B.B.C., but some 35 members turned up to enjoy ringing on this fine, good-going eight and to take part in the rest of the proceedings. Ringing ranged from rounds to Surprise Major.

The service was taken by the Vicar, Rev. H. G. B. Hopkins, M.A., and tea, kindly provided by the ladies of the congregation, was enjoyed at the Church Hall.

The Rev. G. J. B. Stickland, one of the Branch's most active ringing members, presided at the business meeting. Reporting on the year's activities, the hon. secretary commented on the continued low attendance figures at meetings, and it was to be hoped that better attendance figures might be achieved in future than the present average of 35 to 40.

21 NEW MEMBERS

21 new members had been elected, and there was a total of 155 fully paid-up members, 111 being full subscribers, 43 junior, or over-65, subscribers, one an hon. member and one non-resident life member. This represented a fall of some 20 as compared with the previous year, but it was hoped that this did not mean an actual lapse of membership in all cases.

54 peals had been rung for the Association in the Branch area. Worthy of special comment were peals by the Sunday service bands at both Aberdare and at Llandaff Cathedral: a peal of Minor in 17 methods (most of Minor for the Association) at Peterston-super-Ely; and the 100th peal on the bells of Cadoxton, Neath. In the last-named, Mr. David Lewis, now aged 88, took part, along with his son, Mr. G. I. Lewis, and his grandson, Mr. A. R. Lewis. Mr. David Lewis stood in the first peal on the same bells, in 1914, and the contribution to the Exercise made over the years by this fine ringing family is a source of pride to the whole Association.

ARCHBISHOP'S SON LEADING PEAL RINGER

N. W. H. Simon (son of the Most Rev. Dr. Glyn Simon, Archbishop of Wales, joint President of the Association) was the Branch's leading peal ringer for the year, with 25 peals, and leading conductor with 17. Twelve members had rung their first peal, and three their first as conductor. Leading "peal milestones" for the Association were: 175, Mr. G. I. Lewis; 150, Mr. T. M. Roderick.

The Branch officers were all re-elected for a further term, as follows: Branch Master, Mr. W. T. Petty, of Bridgend (also to be nominated at the Association A.G.M. for election as Master); Branch Hon. Secretary, Mr. Iolo Davies, of Llanblethian; Hon. Auditor, Mr. T. M. Roderick, of Newton Nottage.

It was decided to seek to hold Branch meetings for the coming year at Llantrisant, Cadoxton, Pendoylan and Penarth.

The gratitude of the meeting was expressed to the Rev. H. G. B. Hopkins; to the ladies who provided tea; to the tower secretary, Mr. W. John Thomas; and the chairman, Rev. G. J. B. Stickland. I. D.

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QUARTER PEALS

APPLETON, BERKS.—On Jan. 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss S. White (first quarter) 1, A. Dyer 2, V. J. White 3, B. R. White 4, N. H. Leslie 5, D. A. Leslie (cond.) 6, F. A. White 7, H. White 8. For Confirmation service.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss B. C. Haselgrove 1, Miss J. Frith 2, G. Lee 3, Miss J. Daughtry 4, Mrs. A. Daughtry (cond.) 5, J. Seller 6, Rung half-muffled in memory of Richard G. Blackman.

ASTON, HERTS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (two methods): L. A. Izzard 1, R. T. Falder 2, A. A. F. Peters 3, P. C. Worthington 4, M. R. Worthington (cond.) 5, A. Gray 6. For morning service.

BARTON ST. DAVID, SOM.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Miss S. A. Mayell 1, Mrs. D. G. Mayell 2, J. Kingsnorth 3, D. G. Mayell 4, A. J. Callow 5, F. J. White (cond.) 6. First in method 3 and 5, Rung for Septuagesima.

BASLOW, DERBYS.—On Feb. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: T. Wylie 1, G. A. Newman 2, G. W. Hawksworth 3, M. E. Hearnshaw 4, L. Udall 5, J. D. Arkwell (first as cond.) 6. A birthday compliment to Mr. P. Attwood.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,263 Stedman Caters: S. F. Kimber 1, D. Spittle 2, Kathleen Chilcott 3, A. G. Clark 4, P. D. Dawson-Taylor (first Stedman Caters) 5, Juliet Stoy 6, L. Bance 7, N. Thomson 8, R. J. Cook (cond.) 9, F. D. Jennings 10. For Evensong.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.—On Jan. 5th, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: E. Clifton 1, Sylvia Knight 2, A. Bourner 3, H. Deacon 4, J. Hemsley 5, O. Webster 6, B. Johnson (cond.) 7, L. Payne 8.

BINSTED, HANTS.—On Feb. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Jacqueline Read (first quarter) 1, R. Tipper 2, K. Sansom 3, D. Hatherly (75th quarter) 4, D. Hughes (cond.) 5, K. Tipper 6. Birthday compliments to Maureen Tipper and D. Hatherly.

BLITHFIELD, STAFFS.—On Feb. 4th, 1,260 St. Clement's and Pl. Bob Minor: Caroline Riggall (first quarter) 1, C. Collins 2, Penny Sedgwick 3, L. Monk 4, J. Webb 5, J. Allen (cond.) 6.

BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS.—At St. Peter's Church, on Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: R. Peckham 1, Kathleen Fletcher 2, Jean Dale 3, E. Booth 4, R. Pike 5, R. Philpott 6, C. Conway (cond.) 7, D. Grimwood 8. For Candlemas Evensong.

BRIDGNORTH, SALOP.—On Jan. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Jones 1, Gillian Bosworth-Smith 2, D. J. G. Bates 3, Elizabeth Timmins 4, S. G. Pick 5, P. R. Johnson 6, R. C. Stevens (cond.) 7, R. Winwood 8.

CANTERBURY, KENT.—On Jan. 26th, at the Cathedral, 1,299 Stedman Caters: D. J. Carr 1, Pamela E. Powell 2, D. C. Chatfield 3, N. Small 4, K. I. Davis 5, R. J. Elliott 6, D. H. Niblett (cond.) 7, T. H. Holmes 8, N. J. Davies 9, J. B. Keeler 10. For Evensong.

CARBIS BAY, CORNWALL.—On Feb. 1st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Miles 1, Marion L. Lidgley 2, A. J. Davidson 3, F. M. Bowers 4, G. H. Baldam (first Stedman Triples) 5, Canon A. S. Roberts 6, C. G. Bryant (cond.) 7, T. J. Bell 8. Also on Feb. 8th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Miles 1, Jane M. Dennis (first Stedman) 2, J. J. George 3, Surg.-Lt. H. J. Verity 4, Canon A. S. Roberts 5, W. R. Cutris 6, Marion Lidgley (cond.) 7, D. Stephens 8. A farewell to the ringers of 2 and 4 on their departure from R.N.A.S. Culdrose.

CHEW MAGNA, SOM.—On Jan. 31st, 1,280 Bristol Surprise Major: T. Chapman (cond.) 1, Brenda Boyce 2, J. C. Sheppard 3, R. W. Rice 4, G. Hedden 5, W. S. Rice 6, E. T. Skipsey 7, P. J. England 8.

CHILHAM, KENT.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,280 Spliced Surprise Major (eight methods): Margaret Jonea 1, F. G. Hucklepp 2, N. J. Davies 3, R. J. Elliott 4, D. C. Manger 5, P. S. Muchlinski 6, D. H. Niblett (cond.) 7, T. Cullingworth 8.

CHORHAM, SURREY.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire, Pl. Bob): R. Collins 1, C. Hill 2, Miss P. Hill 3, J. Priest 4, J. Collier (cond.) 5, R. Collins 6. A compliment to Mrs. C. Davis on her retirement as vergier after 31 years.

CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.—On Feb. 9th, 1,260 Pl. Bob Minor: J. N. Dunn 1, N. F. E. Reeve 2, G. N. Sloan 3, P. J. Perry 4, J. H. G. Gardner 5, R. J. Johnston (cond.) 6. Rung to welcome the Bishop of Aotearoa (Rt. Rev. Manu Bennett, D.D.) on his first official visit to the Cathedral, and as a farewell compliment to ringer of 1 on his departure for Perth, Western Australia.

CODSALL, STAFFS.—On Feb. 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: S. W. Illidge 1, Gillian Bosworth-Smith 2, A. D. Collins 3, D. Head 4, A. G. Richards 5, P. R. Johnson (cond.) 6. A compliment to ringer of 1 on his birthday.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.—At St. Peter's Church, on Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. J. Millatt 1, Heather Alford 2, Wendy Ferguson 3, Catherine Bew 4, I. L. C. Campbell 5, P. Abbott 6, M. J. Bew (cond.) 7, J. R. Norris 8. First Stedman 2, 3, 5.

COULSDON, SURREY.—On Sept. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Long (first quarter) 1, Geraldine Flook (first "inside") 2, D. Little 3, E. Ershaw 4, A. Smith (first as cond.) 5. For Evensong.

CRANFIELD, BEDS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Bob Doubles: P. Wilton 1, R. King 2, Sandra Trimmings 3, D. W. Manton (cond.) 4, R. R. Churchill 5. For evensong on ringer of 1's 11th birthday.

CROYDON, SURREY.—On Feb. 2nd, at St. John's Church, 1,299 Stedman Caters: R. Davies 1, E. Razzell 2, I. M. Parry 3, C. M. Foster 4, F. E. Mitchell 5, N. Brown 6, A. Brown 7, N. Steere 8, K. Taber (cond.) 9, K. Game 10. For Evensong.

DUNKERTON, SOM.—On Jan. 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: R. Perry 1, A. J. Coombs 2, H. J. Coombs 3, P. J. W. Hardwick 4, P. J. Devrell 5, A. F. Butt 6. Conducted jointly by each ringer.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—On Feb. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. H. Webb 1, H. L. Bishop 2, Mrs. G. Churchman 3, G. W. Bishop 4, C. J. Garlick 5, M. Bishop (cond.) 6, J. H. Napper 7, L. F. Cox 8. Rung in memory of Elsie Nora Bishop, mother of the ringers of 3 and 6, who was laid to rest earlier this day.

EPSOM, SURREY.—At St. Martin's Church, on Jan. 4th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: J. Aranson 1, C. Chapman 2, Felicity Hamilton (first Grandsire Caters) 3, Jill Oakshott 4, M. Morris 5, J. Helder 6, S. Mortimore 7, D. J. F. Oakshott 8, J. C. Davidge (cond.) 9, S. Warren 10. A wedding compliment to Jean Croxford and John Wright. Also on Jan. 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. J. Munday 1, Jill Oakshott 2, Rosemary Astridge (first in method) 3, S. Mortimore (first in method) 4, W. Parrott 5, J. Munton 6, J. C. Davidge (first Stedman as cond.) 7, J. Aranson 8. Also on Jan. 24th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: P. J. Munday (cond.) 1, Jill Oakshott 2, M. Elliot (first Major "inside") 3, Rosemary Astridge 4, C. Chapman 5, S. Mortimore 6, M. Harbott 7, J. C. Davidge 8.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,312 Spliced Surprise Major (eight methods): D. N. Jennings 1, Beryl R. Simpson 2, A. D. Elsmore 3, R. S. Bradley 4, S. G. Ponting 5, W. J. Couperthwaite 6, M. J. Church (cond.) 7, T. Page 8. For Evensong.

FYFIELD, ESSEX.—On Jan. 25th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: D. Sloman 1, P. M. Fleckney (cond.) 2, N. Avis 3, D. Stott 4, D. Belcham 5.

GRANTHAM, Lincs.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Miss M. Cheeswright 1, D. A. Frith 2, V. Evans 3, L. Squires 4, D. Leaf 5, first Caters 5, B. Ward (first Caters "inside") 6, J. Holmes 7, K. Ketteringham 8, B. Buttery (first Caters as cond.) 9, P. A. Slight 10. For Evensong.

HEMINGTON, SOM.—1,440 Brentford Bob Minor: P. Gould 1, D. A. Burt 2, P. J. W. Hardwick 3, R. L. Coles 4, P. J. Devrell 5, A. F. Lee (cond.) 6. First in method by all, and on the bells. Rung in memoriam Frances M. Carter.

HESSLE, E. YORKS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Gail P. Horton 1, Elizabeth Moss 2, G. F. Gardiner 3, K. Gauman 4, R. H. Sharp 5, R. R. Horton (cond.) 6. Rung to compliment the Vicar on being appointed a Canon.

HOYLANDSWAINE, YORKS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,320 Oxford T.B. Minor: P. Carbutt 1, Frances Garfield (first "inside") 2, E. Stainrod 3, A. Dunn-Birch (cond.) 4, P. Charlesworth 5, H. Mann 6. Rung as a welcome to Arthur David, second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Padgin, born January 14th, 1969 (grandson of the conductor).

HURSTPIERPOINT, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: D. Kirkcaldy 1, Maureen E. Kirkcaldy 2, P. D. Hepburn 3, J. Kirkcaldy 4, S. W. Brown (cond.) 5, J. A. Warren (first quarter) 6. For Evensong.

HUTTON, ESSEX.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): Miss A. Brumwell 1, C. E. Hill 2, P. Mags 3, W. T. Hill 4, R. G. Jones (cond.) 5. To celebrate the rector's warden becoming a grandfather.

KEA, CORNWALL.—On Jan. 26th, 1,320 St. Columb Doubles: Barbara J. Duck 1, R. P. Pearce 2, A. J. Davidson 3, T. J. Bell (cond.) 4, A. Locke 5, D. Curry 6. First in the variation by all the band.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: C. P. Turner 1, W. F. Judge (cond.) 2, M. R. Turner 3, N. Leslie 4, D. Leslie 5, F. A. White 6, M. Journeaux 7, P. J. Heritage 8. First of Major 1, 3, 4 and 5.

KINGSTHORPE, NORTHAMPTON.—On Feb. 9th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: H. F. Shepherd (first quarter) 1, J. W. Felce 2, G. Allard 3, E. J. Winkworth 4, J. Payne 5, S. Earl (cond.) 6.

KINGSTON, DORSET.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss C. E. N. Brown 1, Miss F. J. N. Brown 2, Miss M. E. Elmes 3, M. J. Young 4, G. W. Elmes 5, T. F. Collins (cond.) 6. Rung on the back six for Matins.

KINGSTON UPON THAMES, SURREY.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Ann V. Salvage 1, Lesley A. Hawes 2, Bryony P. H. Moorby 3, J. P. Hull 4, M. J. Green 5, Anthea S. Bruce (first Triples as cond.) 6, B. J. Stone 7, P. T. Selwood 8. For Candlemas.

KIRK ELLA, YORKS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,320 Oxford T.B. Minor: Barbara Taylor 1, Elizabeth Johnson (first quarter as cond.) 2, G. K. Smith 3, K. Kirk 4, D. S. Johnson 5, A. B. Cooper 6.

LANGDON HILLS, ESSEX.—On Jan. 31st, 1,260 Carter Doubles: D. Scott 1, Mrs. D. Belcham 2, D. Belcham 3, G. Lucas 4, P. M. Fleckney (cond.) 5, K. Lucas (aged 9) 6. First in the principle by all.

LEIGH COURT, WORCS.—On Jan. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss B. Douglass 1, Miss J. Hills (first "inside") 2, F. Stallard (first quarter) 3, R. Rowe 4, T. W. Lewis (cond.) 5, R. Grosvenor 6.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Margaret Durrington 1, H. B. Whitney 2, J. Dass 3, E. Conquest 4, A. J. Frost (cond.) 5, C. Radcliffe 6, K. Jackson 7, R. Gaylor 8. First of Cambridge S. Major 3, 4, 6.

LICHFIELD, STAFFS.—On Feb. 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, 1,264 Pl. Bob Major: Margaret Boam 1, Lucy Smith 2, F. Boam 3, P. Sheldon (first Major) 4, J. Dolman 5, L. Monk 6, C. Collins (cond.) 7, J. Webb 8. For Evensong.

LITTLE HORSTED, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 28th, 1,260 Doubles (Grandsire, Plain Bob): J. E. Baker 1, Mrs. G. S. M. Macadam 2, E. L. Macadam 3, A. Turner (cond.) 4, D. H. Thorpe 5, S. J. Osborne 6.

LLANDAFF, GLAM.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Lynne Parker (first Major) 1, D. G. Clift (cond.) 2, Anne Cooke (first "inside") 3, F. W. Corney 4, P. S. Reading 5, N. A. James 6, M. Pilgrim 7, J. W. Bull 8. For Candlemas.

LONDON, W.C.—At St. Clement Danes' Church, on Jan. 26th, 1,282 Yorkshire S. Royal: D. Wright 1, Valerie Jones 2, A. M. Faulkner 3, D. Brown 4, J. S. N. Porter (cond.) 5, Caroline Cole 6, D. Ellisdon 7, K. Warner 8, C. Rogers 9, K. Scott 10. First Yorkshire Royal 2 and 3. For Evensong.

LONDON, E.C.—At St. Vedast's Church, on Jan. 26th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: J. Dunning 1, M. Carruthers 2, T. Pett 3, J. Pladdys (cond.) 4, P. Holden 5. By U.L.S.C.R. for morning service.

LONDON, W.C.—At St. Giles-in-the-Fields Church, on Jan. 26th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Merrillyn Chambers 1, Pam Gough 2, Anne Horsford 3, L. L. Sillwell 4, G. A. Parsons 5, W. G. Knight 6, R. K. Russ 7, T. J. Lock (cond.) 8. For Evensong, to mark the completion of 20 years' ministry by the Rector, Rev. G. C. Taylor, at this church, and for Australia Day.

LUTTON, Lincs.—On Jan. 31st, 1,440 Plain Bob Doubles: R. M. Ragsdell (first from cover) 1, Mrs. G. R. G. Butler 2, G. H. Campling (first "inside") 3, G. R. G. Butler (cond.) 4, P. G. Butler 5, A. W. Townsend 6.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. G. Keeley 1, Angela Quick 2, C. W. Powell (cond.) 3, Mrs. C. W. Powell 4, Melvyn Hillier 5, F. G. Knight 6, R. Williamson 7, M. Symonds 8. A farewell to the ringer of 7 on leaving for Bristol.

MARCH, CAMBS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Minor (St. Clement's and Plain Bob): A. Palmer 1, P. H. Langton 2, M. Goakes 3, W. Moore 4, D. Feek 5, T. A. Bevis (cond.) 6. For family service and in memoriam Mrs. C. Houlgrave.

MARKSBURY, SOM.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Perry 1, A. J. Coombs 2, P. Blacker 3, A. Swaton 4, P. J. W. Hardwick 5, P. J. Devrell (cond.) 6. First Minor 2, 3. A birthday compliment to H. J. Coombs, tower master.

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Preliminary Notice

The first session of the 27th Council (72nd Annual Meeting) will be held on Tuesday, May 27th, 1969, at the City Hall, St. Albans.

Election of Officers (Rule 10). Nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President, Honorary Librarian and Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, signed by two members of the Council, must be made to me by March 27th.

Committee Reports (Rule 12(i)). Conveners are reminded that reports must be made, in writing, to me by March 31st.

Notices of Motion (Rule 14). Notices, signed by two members of the Council, must be sent to me by April 15th.

The names and addresses of representative members should be sent to me by the secretaries of affiliated Societies by April 29th. It will be helpful if this could be done as soon as the information is available.

In order to shorten the process of electing the Standing Committee and to reduce the work of the tellers a voting paper will be prepared and issued with the agenda. Members of the Council should send nominations, signed by two members, by April 29th. Provision will be made for nominations at the Council meeting, but the business of the Council will be expedited if members will use the postal procedure.

VERNON BOTTOMLEY,
Hon. Secretary.

45, Westercroft Lane,
Northowram,
Halifax, Yorkshire.

FIRST LADY PEAL RINGER

Mr. William Shepherd has heard from Mrs. Sullivan (née Alice White), who is living at Garth, Ontario. She comments: "Everyone I have shown the cutting from 'The Ringing World' thinks ringing is hard work and are surprised when I tell them climbing stairs is harder."

A THOUGHT ON THE "ART AND SCIENCE"

The Art makes listening ears rejoice;
The Science causes this to be.
The Art's the Science, given voice—
Or so it seems to me.

E. M. B.

THE OPEN LETTER TO MR. SPEED

Dear Sir,—In his opening paragraph Mr. Jackson writes: "... it is inevitable that a large number of readers will assume that a coup d'état has occurred and that they are reading the future gospel. Or, to use a countryside homily, 'There's no smoke without fire'." Page 481 of the "R.W." of June 21st, 1968, will perhaps shed a little light on the matter. In proposing Mr. Speed on to the "R.W." Committee Mr. Bayles stated, and I quote: "... Therefore the committee should be enlarged by one member of my nomination, who will be there primarily to bring about an improvement in the way the committee is run and to ensure that decisions are properly acted on and proper agendas are prepared ...". Evidently that was the writing on the wall!—Yours, etc..

F. I. HAIRS.

Groombridge.

**1968 INDEX NOW
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OBITUARY

LT.-COL. C. F. JERRAM

We regret to learn of the death on January 12th of Lt.-Col. Charles Frederick Jerram, C.M.G., D.S.O., of Pengwedhen, Helford, Helston, Cornwall. The Colonel settled in Cornwall after a distinguished career in the Royal Marines.

A former Master of the Truro Diocesan Guild, he did much to stimulate interest in change-ringing and was a frequent contributor to our columns. The Colonel had made a detailed study of Doubles and named these after Cornish parishes.

A memorial peal was rung on February 15th by members of the Guild at Manaccan, the Colonel's church, at which Cornish methods/variations were rung. After the peal the band were entertained to tea at the Vicarage.

MR. MARK L. LOCKWOOD

A faithful and regular member of Ossett (Yorks) Parish Church band for 47 years, Mr. Mark Logan Lockwood died on February 11th, aged 63 years. He was a member of the Yorkshire Association, the Barnsley and District and the Leeds and District Associations. A loyal churchman, he was a sidesman of many years standing and held in great respect by all who knew him.

Mark had his share of hard labour on Ossett's old ring of eight, cast in 1865, but when the time came for the new ring of ten he was present at the casting of the tenor at Loughborough, which he later rang at his own tower at the dedication of the bells on December 22nd, 1934. From then onwards he loved to handle the heavier bells and always insisted on perfect rhythm.

The funeral service was held at Ossett Parish Church on February 14th prior to cremation. Practically all the neighbouring towers were represented, among the many ringers attending. The bells were fully muffled and were rung before and after the service. The deep respect from the ringers and friends present is an assurance that his example will live on, and at least this gives some consolation to Mrs. Lockwood and family in their bereavement.

F. B.

MR. R. E. MARSH

The death occurred on January 27th at Dawlish, Devon, of Mr. Ryland Eric Marsh, a well-known ringer and chorister in Northamptonshire and Leicestershire. He was in his 65th year and retired to Devon about two years ago, having previously lived at Kettering, where he had been a member of St. Botolph's, Barton Seagrave, choir and a bellringer for 15 years. Previously he rang at SS. Peter and Paul's, Kettering, and before that at Market Harborough.

He was a most likeable man, for whom church life meant such a lot. For over 40 years he was a chorister, and it was at Kenton, Devon, his last choir, that the funeral service was held.

It is hoped to ring a commemoration peal at Barton Seagrave by the local band when the belfry restoration scheme has been completed.

M. D.

MR. A. G. STRIPP

The sudden death of Mr. Albert George Stripp on January 30th, at the age of 52, was a great loss to St. Giles', Totternhoe, Beds, where he had been an active ringer for over nine years. "Bert", as he was known to his friends, loved ringing, especially new and difficult peals. He took part in most of the striking contests and played an important part in the success of the Totternhoe team.

In a tribute at Evensong on February 2nd the Vicar (Rev. H. Handley) said: "He was kind, understanding and friendly, and we shall miss him. We give thanks to God for endowing him with these qualities, and for his faithful and dedicated service, which was a worthy contribution to our worship. We sympathise with his wife and son, Kenneth, in their great loss, and we pray that they may know the consolation of God's love and that he may rest in peace."

As a last token of respect a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The peal of Stedman Cinques at Croydon Parish Church on February 1st was intended to be Maximus. As the band met short, Mr. Andrew Brown stood in with very little notice.

Canon C. R. Pouncey, Vicar of Tewkesbury Abbey, has three ringers in his family, all of whom are away at universities. For the 21st birthday of Elizabeth, a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung on the Abbey bells on February 2nd. It was the first quarter for Frank Matty, who rang extremely well.

Miss Susan D. Cowan is the first lady to ring a peal on the bells of Liverpool Cathedral. The peal was Stedman Cinques rung on February 22nd in 4 hours and 17 minutes for Liverpool University Society. Susan, who was on the second, had already rung for 3½ hours on the same bell in a previous attempt with a

A peal of 32 Spliced Surprise Major methods, the greatest number yet rung on handbells, was accomplished on February 24th at 170, Headstone Lane, Harrow. Mr. John R. Mayne, the conductor, informs us that this will be as far as the band will go at present. A great achievement!

Prior to the first peal of Worthington Surprise Major at All Saints', Leicester, on February 21st, beer was presented to Mr. John R. Ketteringham. This was later sent with a report of the peal on the back of the present to Cambridge University Guild, who rang a false peal of Worthington.

CORRECTION

The peal of Minor at North Muskham (page 147) was not Mr. H. Denman's 375th peal. He rang his 300th peal at Babworth on January 11th.

Bellfounders' Gift Page to 'The Ringing World'

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BELFRY GOSSIP

**DONATED BY
JOHN TAYLOR & CO.,
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LEICESTERSHIRE**

CENTRAL COUNCIL LIBRARY CATALOGUED

We are pleased to learn that Mr. Frederick Sharpe continues to make progress towards a complete restoration of health. During his convalescence he has succeeded in making a catalogue of the Central Council library, a task that has baffled four previous librarians. Each volume now has its catalogue number and an index of titles and another of subjects have been prepared.

Mr. Sharpe writes that he now rings regularly on light bells and has completed about 10 tower inspections this year but tries to restrict his longer journeys to one a week.

"A REMARKABLE ISSUE"

Michael King, of Wentworth Vicarage, regards our issue of February 21st as a remarkable number, with such a cross-section of "ringable" reading matter. He awards the highlight to Susan E. Cane's article. To Messrs. Bottomley and Southwood he comments: "Thank goodness they are at towers where they can ignore, or so it seems, the learner who doesn't 'catch-on' straight away. We enjoyed the articles by Mesdames Blades and Noon as seeing ringing from a feminine, down-to-earth point of view. Commonsense views came from Mrs. Rogerson (New English Bible), Derek Jackson (peal format—an old bogey) and Peter Hayward (Dudley's bells). Good, interesting stuff!"

"Tune ringers received their merited praise, complete with photo. This is an art more popular with the public than ringing three-hour peals.

"And then there was a marvellous cover of Solihull. Well done, 'Ringing World', for providing us with such an interesting 'read-in'"

MR. A. D. BARKER NOT RE-ELECTED

The oldest representative member of the Central Council, Mr. Arthur D. Barker, was not re-elected a member at the annual meeting of the London County Association. He was first elected to the Council in 1924, and represented the London County Association until 1935. The following year he was elected as representative of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, of which he is the hon. treasurer, and continued to represent them until three years ago. In 1967 he was on the Council as representative of the London County Association. Arthur is not, however, the oldest in age member of the Council. He was not born until 1890, whereas Mr. J. Frank Smallwood first saw the light of day in 1884.

CROSSWORD No. 12

This crossword baffled the majority of competitors. The stumbling blocks were 1 down, "Smart blows" (skelps) and 21 across, "Better not eat this although it's edible" (seed-corn). The winner was Mrs. Elizabeth Struckett, 17a, Longdene Road, Haslemere, Surrey, to whom a prize of 10/- has been awarded. Solution:—
Across—1 Siphoned, 5 Accent, 10 Exeter Cathedral, 11 Prevail, 12 Starts, 14 Arpeggio, 16 Romeo, 19 Under, 21 Seed-corn, 24 Purist, 26 Coterie, 28 Ringing machines, 29 Sister, 30 Grandson.

Down—1 Skelps, 2 Preferred, 3 Operate, 4 Excel, 6 Chester, 7 Error, 8 Talk shoo, 9 Sty, 13 Dove, 15 Gist, 17 More rings, 18 Supports, 20 Respite, 22 Catch on, 23 Season, 25 Rungs, 26 Chair, 27 Agg.

BELL RESTORATIONS AND THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

To mention to the average parochial church councillor the subject of repairs or renovations to the bells of the parish church almost invariably produces a look of disdain upon his face which is usually followed by a reply guaranteed to dash the hopes of all but the most enthusiastic of ringers.

Why do the bells so often have to be last in the queue whenever repairs to the fabric of the church are contemplated? If the organ needs rebuilding or the interior of the church redecorating, does not the Parochial Church Council ensure that these items are dealt with as quickly as funds will allow? Dilapidations such as these are to be seen by the congregation and surely questions are going to be asked if there is no organ to accompany the service or if the walls of the church are dirty.

Some people will argue that a ring of bells is an expensive luxury. Yes, bells are expensive as is underlined by the lack of towers and rings of bells in the designs of modern churches, but they are certainly not a luxury. Bells provide the media for pricking the numbed consciences of the twentieth century, as well as still serving the original purpose for which they were installed: the calling to worship of the people.

Perhaps the ever-empty coffers of the Missions are a reason for delaying or even abandoning necessary work on the tower and bells. Let all parochial church councillors be well assured that charity begins at home, and that bellfounders' charges are for ever rising in common with most other things in life.

Those having the control of towers and bells must not sit back in the armchair of complacency. Don't take "no" for an answer. Employ forthright views and arguments to get what you want for your tower.

Let all Parochial Church Councils know that by law they are bound to keep the fabric and ornaments of the parish church in good order and condition.

NORWOS.

RINGING IN EXETER DISTRICT

New officers were elected at an extraordinary annual general meeting of the Exeter Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, held at Exeter Cathedral on February 15th. The Rev. J. G. M. Scott is chairman, Mr. F. Wreford vice-chairman and Mr. J. N. Longridge secretary, treasurer and Ringing Master. The secretary's address is The Royal West of England School for the Deaf, Topsham Road, Exeter.

PEAL WEEK-END IN LEICESTER AND DERBY

On behalf of the Derby Diocesan Association, five peals were rung during the week-end starting February 21st by a party organised by John R. Ketteringham. The peals were: All Saints', Leicester: Worthington S.M. (conductor, T. G. Pett); Shephed, Leics: Superlative S.M. (Robert E. Hardy); Loughborough: Bob Royal (A. W. R. Wilby); St. Andrew's, Derby: Cambridge Surprise Royal (T. G. Pett); handbell, Derby: Plain Bob Major (T. G. Pett).

AN EXTENT THAT DIDN'T

The handbells are grand,
And hopeful the band
Intending Bob Doubles to ring.
If we all count like mad
It may not be too bad—
It might even go with a swing.
5-6 and 1-2
To their tasks are both new:
Conducting is "expert" 3-4;
A touch of Bob Doubles
Does not lack its troubles.
Not even a simple six-score!

The lucky 1-2
Has little to do,
But must keep that treble in place.
The luckless 3-4
Has quite a bit more—
And an agonised frown on her face.
5-6 will have fun.
As he only has one
Of his bells through the method to guide;
But he really must mind
That his tenor's behind—
We'd rather not have it inside.

We start off with rounds—
How pleasant it sounds!
Now each for the changes is ready.
The pace—fairly slow—
(It's safer, we know)—
Is remaining remarkably steady.
The very first lead.
With astonishing speed.
Brings Fourth-Observation behind.
So "Bob" yells 3-4.
Eleven leads more!
If only the fates might be kind. . . .

The conductor soon sees
That increasing unease
Is pervading Plain Lead Number Three;
At the next call appears
A loud clash of ideas
As to where certain bells ought to be.
By much calculation
(From Fourth-Observation—
And Treble-positions) is found
A place to restart—
The band takes fresh heart:
Perhaps we may yet bring it round!

True changes proceed
Until the last lead,
Where, for some reason hidden from view,
There's some tripping about,
After which it turns out
That Five has changed places with Two.
But regardless 3-4
Is perfectly sure
There's one more lead still left to come—
Through failing to hear
(Since Two's in the rear)
That both of her own bells are home!

The impression grows strong
That something's gone wrong:
The striking goes sadly awry;
And we grind to a halt.
Each demanding, "Whose fault?
What, me out of place? No, not I!"
5-6 and 1-2
(To their tasks being new)
Are far less to blame than 3-4;
No, a touch of Bob Doubles
Is not without troubles.
Not even a simple six-score!

E. M. B.

1968 PEALS

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
CURRY MALLET, Somerset.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Tues., Dec. 31, 1968, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 46 meth./var./spliced in 42 extents: 12 methods: Stedman, St. Simon, St. Martin, St. Nicholas, Winchendon, Rev. St. Bartholomew, All Saints, Rev. Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Grandsire, Minster Bob and Rev. St. Sebastian; 24 variations; 10 spliced compositions.

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb. in F.

Brenda M. Bindon Treble	Mervyn A. Arscott 4
Adrian F. Arscott 2	*Keith E. Beale 5
John Cornelius 3	Mervyn R. Arscott Tenor

Conducted by John Cornelius.

* 50th peal, and 50th for Association.

In memoriam 1968.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REDBOURNE, Hertfordshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Nov. 9, 1968, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In seven methods, being extents of Lightfoot, Wearmouth, London, Wells, Cambridge, Ipswich and Norwich. Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.

George A. Reading Treble	Brian M. Barker 4
C. Valerie Mills 2	Francis M. Byrne 5
Walter Ayre 3	Reg. E. J. Sheppard Tenor

Conducted by Reg. E. J. Sheppard.

First peal of seven Surprise as conductor.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HOYLANDSWAINE, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist.

On Fri., Dec. 27, 1968, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

In seven methods: Woodbine, London Scholars', Kingstone, Sandal, Kent, Oxford Delight and Oxford T.B.

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. in B flat.

Hedley Burton Treble	Philip Charlsworth 4
Glyn Scourfield 2	Trevor Tarbatt 5
Peter Carbutt 3	Harry Mann Tenor

Conducted by Trevor Tarbatt.

Rung "Cartwheel".

1969 PEALS

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—At the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 3 Hours and 37 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 41 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. in C.

William A. Theobald .. Treble	Alan F. Scholfield 7
Brian D. Threlfall 2	Christopher H. Rogers .. 8
Robert E. J. Dennis 3	David P. Hilling 9
David E. Rothera 4	John H. Fielden 10
Richard H. Youdale 5	Philip J. Rothera 11
Kenneth J. Hesketh 6	*Richard A. G. Inglis .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. Parker.

Conducted by Brian D. Threlfall.

* 50th peal on 12 bells.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BLAGDON, Somerset.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

Richard W. Sweet Treble	*Trevor Newlands 5
*Stephen J. Bateman 2	Edgar T. Skipsey 6
*Bruce Martin 3	D. John Hunt 7
*Nigel A. B. Dawson 4	A. Patrick Cannon Tenor

Composed by Sir A. P. Heywood. Conducted by A. Patrick Cannon.

* First peal of Double Norwich.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

LONGSTANTON, Cambridgeshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5120 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Sixth place bobs. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in A flat.

V. Nutton (Selwyn) .. Treble	A. T. Winter (Christ's) .. 5
*Jenny Field (Newnham) .. 2	†R. H. Youdale (Emman.) .. 6
R. A. G. Inglis (Selwyn) .. 3	D. Barton (Selwyn) 7
M. J. Pickup (Churchill) .. 4	R. L. Underwood (P'hse) Tenor

Composed by Roger Baldwin. Conducted by Richard L. Underwood.

* First peal of Surprise. † 50th with the Guild.

Rung as a farewell to Rev. and Mrs. D. A. Youngman, leaving for Rampton.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CONGLETON, Cheshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5152 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb.

Roy Worrall Treble	*Gerald Parsons 5
Norman Sherratt 2	*Paul J. Atkins 6
T. Felicity Ashford 3	*Richard C. L. Brown .. 7
*Christopher Morey 4	Ivor R. Nichols Tenor

Composed by C. H. Kippin.

Conducted by Ivor R. Nichols.

* First peal in the method.

MARPLE, Cheshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb.

*Brian S. B. Kear Treble	William H. Dowse 5
Arthur G. Mason 2	Robert B. Smith 6
†Alan F. Scholfield 3	Basil Jones 7
Derek F. Yates 4	Bernard F. L. Groves .. Tenor

Composed by Ian M. Holland. Conducted by Bernard F. L. Groves.

* First peal of Surprise. † First in the method.

WRENBURY, Cheshire.—At the Church of St. Margaret.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being extents of Single Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford T.B., Kent T.B. and Plain Bob.

Tenor 14 cwt.

Victor Neal Treble	John R. Scott 4
David A. Godfrey 2	Geoffrey A. Edwards .. 5
Frank R. Morton 3	Harry W. Howard Tenor

Conducted by Harry W. Howard.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

PACKWOOD, Warwickshire.—At the Church of St. Giles.

On Wed., Jan. 29, 1969, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Geoffrey Randal Treble	Derek Walters 5
Ian C. Maycock 2	Frederick Shallcross .. 6
Hazel Mackenzie 3	Maurice C. Hughes 7
*David Baker 4	Peter Randal Tenor

Composed by Roger Baldwin. Conducted by Frederick Shallcross.

* First peal of Yorkshire. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb. in B flat.

Rung to celebrate the birth of Nichola Jane Tallis.

SHILTON, Warwickshire.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 16 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, viz.: (1 and 2) Cambridge, (3) Oxford T.B., (4) Kent T.B., (5) St. Clement's, (6 and 7) Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

Gareth Higgs Treble	Raymond D. Hart 4
Richard T. Liggins 2	R. Joy Pluckrose 5
George P. Hammond 3	George Pluckrose Tenor

Conducted by George Pluckrose.

THE DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—At the Cathedral Church of All Saints.

On Thurs., Jan. 23, 1969, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Denis R. Carlisle Treble	John T. Parsons 6
Brian A. Tomlinson 2	Gordon A. Halls 7
Brian L. Burrows 3	Geoffrey Bridges 8
*Timothy Wylie 4	Rev. Fred Ross 9
David W. Friend 5	Michael J. Fellows Tenor

Composition: Traditional. Conducted by David W. Friend.

* 100th peal. Tenor 19 cwt. 2 lb. in D flat.

DUFFIELD, Derbyshire.—At the Church of St. Alkmund.

On Fri., Jan. 31, 1969, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb. in E.

Brian Burrows Treble	David W. Parkin 6
Geoffrey Bridges 2	Gordon A. Halls 7
Rev. R. D. St. John Smith .. 3	Rev. Fred Ross 8
Timothy Wylie 4	A. Colin Banton 9
Clive Thrower 5	Michael Fellows Tenor

Composed by E. Critchley. Conducted by Gordon A. Halls.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRADWELL-JUXTA-MARE, Essex.—At the Church of St. Thomas-the-Apostle.

On Wed., Jan. 22, 1969, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (12 callings). Tenor 6½ cwt.	
*Alfred J. House Treble	David E. Belcham 4
David Sloman 2	Peter M. Fleckney 5
Bernard Saddler 3	†William White Tenor

Conducted by Peter M. Fleckney.

* First peal of Doubles, and has completed Stedman from Doubles to Cinques. † First peal. First of Stedman Doubles by all the band, and on the bells.

THE EXETER COLLEGES GUILD.

BUCKLAND-IN-THE-MOOR, Devon.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Mon., Jan. 27, 1969, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 17 lb. in A sharp.

John N. Longridge Treble	Kevin A. Hughes 5
Angela C. Hughes 2	Peter Bill 6
George Mudge 3	Frank D. Mack 7
John L. Anderson 4	D. Roy Bould Tenor

Composed and Conducted by John N. Longridge.

Rung for the 95th birthday of Charlie Glass.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LONGNEY, Gloucestershire.—At the Church of St. Lawrence.

On Sun., Jan. 26, 1969, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In 12 methods, comprising 640 each of Elford, London, Rutland and Wembley, 480 each of Belfast and Superlative, 320 each of Bristol, Cambridge, Lindum and Yorkshire, and 160 each of Lincolnshire and Pudsey with 149 changes of method.

Tenor 11 cwt.

Anita D. O'Brien Treble	Maurice A. New 5
Jeremy R. Pratt 2	†Anthony R. Peake 6
Brian Bladon 3	Peter H. Mackie 7
*Lewis F. Cobb 4	Stephen F. Royal Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Anthony R. Peake.

* First peal of spliced away from treble. † 125th of Surprise Major. First of 12-spliced by all the band except the ringers of 3 and 6.

STRATTON ST. MARGARET, Wiltshire.—At the Church of St.

Margaret of Antioch.

On Fri., Jan. 31, 1969, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 COVINGHAM SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. in F sharp.

Raymond J. C. Hulme .. Treble	Peter J. Heritage 5
Anita D. O'Brien 2	Brian Bladon 6
Maurice A. New 3	Lewis F. Cobb 7
*W. Bertram Kynaston .. 4	*Anthony R. Peake Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Anthony R. Peake.

* 50th peal together. First in the method.

COVINGHAM SURPRISE MAJOR

—38—14—56—36—34—3458—14—5 f.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAWLEY, Hampshire.—At the Church of the Holy Trinity.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5120 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

*Alan D. Elsmore Treble	Stanley G. Ponting 5
†Donald N. Jennings .. 2	W. John Couperthwaite .. 6
Beryl R. Simpson 3	Michael J. Church 7
Rowan S. Bradley 4	Tom Page Tenor

Composed by Noel J. Diserens. Conducted by Michael J. Church.

* 50th peal. † First of Surprise Major "inside". First in method as conductor. Tenor 16 cwt. 7 lb. in E.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET, Hertfordshire.—At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb. in D.

Martyn L. J. Jordan Treble	Robert E. Hardy 5
Katherine S. Hardy 2	Roger Baldwin 6
S. Kathleen M. Baldwin .. 3	Gerald Penney 7
Andrew W. R. Wilby 4	*John R. Mayne Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Roger Baldwin.

* 1,000th peal.

KNEBWORTH, Hertfordshire.—At the Church of SS. Mary and

Thomas-a-Becket.

On Mon., Jan. 27, 1969, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. in F sharp.

*Jill A. Laud Treble	Steven Laud 5
Philip M. Cuckson 2	†Michael J. Eastman .. 6
Stephen J. Crawley 3	John R. Whitham 7
*Graham J. Parsons 4	Barry R. M. Johnson .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. Pritchard. Conducted by Barry R. M. Johnson.

* First peal. † First of Major. First of Major as conductor.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEPTFORD, London, S.E.—At the Church of St. John.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 18 lb. in F.

John R. Ketteringham .. Treble	Geoffrey Bridges 5
Maureen J. Carruthers .. 2	G. William Shanks 6
Barbara Baggerley 3	†Geoffrey D. Armitage .. 7
*Jonathan P. Hill 4	John Pladdys Tenor

Composed and Conducted by John Pladdys.

* First peal on eight bells. † First of Major.

Rung as a wedding anniversary compliment to the parents of the ringer of the seventh.

HEADCORN, Kent.—At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt.

Olive D. Tester Treble	David Parks 5
Peter F. T. Smith 2	Simon A. B. Wigg 6
Martin L. Howe 3	Alastair D. Macfadyen .. 7
Patrick K. King 4	Peter S. Muchlinski Tenor

Composed by C. Charge (C.C.C. 99). Conducted by A. D. Macfadyen.

PRESTON-BY-WINGHAM, Kent.—At the Church of St. Mildred.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 42 extents in the following seven methods: Grandsire, St. Simon, St. Martin, Plain Bob, St. Nicholas, Winchendon Place and Reverse Canterbury Pleasure.

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. in G.

Crawford T. Hillis Treble	Philip R. Staples 3
*Keith D. Butler 2	John B. Keeler 4

†David L. Cawley Tenor

Conducted by Crawford T. Hillis.

* First peal of Doubles † 25th peal for the Association.

Rung on the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul to mark the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the second anniversary of the rededication of the bells.

HEVER, Kent.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Thurs., Jan. 30, 1969, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr.

Judith M. Corby Treble	Richard Hayes 4
Maurice Thompson 2	John A. Howard 5
*Pauline Sutton 3	Harold Evans Tenor

Conducted by Richard Hayes.

* First peal.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OLDHAM, Lancashire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sun., Jan. 26, 1969, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5042 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 35 cwt. 4 lb. in D flat.

Jeffrey Brannan Treble	Arthur G. Mason 7
Geoffrey R. Parker 2	Richard S. Starkie 8
*Jack L. Millhouse 3	Alan F. Scholfield 9
Michael Fishwick 4	Bernard F. L. Groves .. 10
Basil Jones 5	Brian Harris 11
Edward Jenkins 6	†Robert B. Smith Tenor

Composed by Roderick W. Pipe. Conducted by Basil Jones.

* 100th peal of Maximus. † 100th peal for the Association, and 50th of Cambridge Maximus.

HAWKSHEAD, Lancashire.—At the Church of St. Michael and

All Angels.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb. in G sharp.

*Joseph Whalley Treble	John Bagnall 5
*Alan Capstick 2	*Stanley Walmsley 6
Nicholas M. Newby 3	Thomas F. Metcalfe 7
Ernest Bennett 4	*Kevin M. Price Tenor

Composed by Stephen H. Wood. Conducted by Kevin M. Price.

* First peal in the method.

Rung to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and in memory of John Usher, churchwarden, who died recently.

(Preston Branch.)

PENWORTHAM, Lancashire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sun., Jan. 26, 1969, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 Kent Treble Bob and 4,320 Plain Bob.

Tenor 8 cwt.

Neil McCormick Treble	Peter Gardner 4
Dennis H. McCormick .. 2	John Ascroft 5
Phillis Turner 3	Roger Barns Tenor

Conducted by Dennis H. McCormick.

Rung by the regular Sunday service band.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire.—At the Bell Foundry Campanile.

On Tues., Jan. 28, 1969, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.

Richard Clifton Treble	Ronald D. Hughes 5
Roland Beniston 2	Frank Chambers 6
*Kenneth Burdett 3	G. Ronald Edwards 7
Alec Jones 4	Arthur E. Rowley Tenor

Composed by N. J. Pitstow. Conducted by Roland Beniston.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire.—At the Bell Foundry Campanile.

On Wed., Jan. 29, 1969, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5120 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.

David F. Moore Treble	David G Massey 5
Roland H. Cook 2	Martin Green 6
*Christine L. J. Mills 3	R. Brian Mills 7
W. Ernest Rawson 4	R. Kingsley Mason Tenor

Composed by Stephen J. Ivins. Conducted by R. Kingsley Mason.
 * First peal of London Surprise Major "inside"

CLAYBROOKE, Leicestershire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5024 GLASGOW SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. in E flat.

*Eileen J. Goodall Treble	Barry E. Saunders 5
*Beryl E. Cawser 2	*E. Alan Jacques 6
*Alfred Ballard 3	Graham C. Paul 7
*J. Edward Cawser 4	Alan A. Paul Tenor

Composed by W. Eric Critchley. Conducted by J. Edward Cawser.
 * First peal in the method. Rung with fourths place bobs.

PRESTWOLD, Leicestershire.—At the Church of St. Andrew.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5120 BERKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Martin Green Treble	Howard C. Palmer 5
R. Brian Mills 2	David F. Moore 6
Roland H. Cook 3	David G. Massey 7
W. Ernest Rawson 4	R. Kingsley Mason Tenor

Composed by Charles J. Sedgley. Conducted by R. Kingsley Mason.
 First peal of Berkshire Surprise Major by all the band, on the bells, and for the Guild. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in G.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

LONDON, E.—At the Church of St. Leonard, Shoreditch.

On Fri., Jan. 31, 1969, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5009 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 28 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in C.

Joan Beresford Treble	Norman Summerhayes 6
Edgar C. Shepherd 2	John S. Barnes 7
Michael H. O'Callaghan 3	Derek E. Sibson 8
John R. Pratchett 4	Dennis Beresford 9
Edwin A. Barnett 5	Peter Beresford Tenor

Composed by Stephen H. Wood. Conducted by Dennis Beresford.

PINNER, Middlesex.—At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5088 OSBOURNBY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in E flat.

Maureen J. Carruthers Treble	Frank Reed 5
Ronald K. Russ 2	*Peter G. Holden 6
Geoffrey Bridges 3	Timothy G. Pett 7
John R. Ketteringham 4	John Pladdys Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by Timothy G. Pett.

* 75th peal. 50th on the bells. First in the method.

OSBOURNBY SURPRISE MAJOR

—36—1456—58—16—12—58—16—58 l.h. 12 B f.e.h. b, e.

WILLESDEN, Middlesex.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Thurs., Jan. 30, 1969, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5184 BENSON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in G.

Thomas J. Lock Treble	Frank Reed 5
Ruth M. Foreman 2	G. William Critchley 6
Claudia A. Critchley 3	John Hill 7
Alick Cutler 4	Dennis Knox Tenor

Composed by W. Eric Critchley. Conducted by John Hill.
 First peal in the method by all the band, and for the Association.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

COLE-ORTON, Leics.—At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin.

On Fri., Jan. 31, 1969, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

E. Morris's transposition of Parker's Twelve-Part (2nd observation).
 Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

William T. Goadry Treble	Norman W. Attaway 5
Roland Beniston 2	Joseph W. Cotton 6
Sheila Parsons 3	Arthur E. Rowley 7
C. Wilfred Lord 4	Percival W. Grice Tenor

Conducted by Roland Beniston.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BUNWELL, Norfolk.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

On Thurs., Jan. 30, 1969, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being extents of Norwich Surprise, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Oxford T.B., Kent T.B. and Plain Bob.
 Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

Frank C. J. Arnold Treble	David Cubitt 4
Janet House 2	Geoffrey H. Pullin 5
Carole A. H. Patey 3	David E. House Tenor

Conducted by David E. House.

Rung in memoriam King Charles I.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

APPLETON, Berkshire.—At the Church of St. Laurence.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb. in E.

Andrew J. Dyer Treble	Frank White 6
Brian R. White 2	Dennis A. Leslie 7
J. Roger Mitty 3	Frederick C. White 8
John W. T. Hibbert 4	Francis A. White 9
Norman H. Leslie 5	Vivian J. White Tenor

Composed by Albert M. Tyler. Conducted by Brian R. White.

Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to Henry C. White.

BLEWBURY, Berks.—At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr.

Harold W. Dunsden Treble	Harry E. Wells 5
Reginald W. Rex 2	Robert B. Blond 6
John H. Napper 3	Reginald F. Crook 7
Roy H. Jones 4	Geoffrey K. Dodd Tenor

Composed by J. W. Washbrook. Conducted by Geoffrey K. Dodd.

First peal of Double Norwich on the bells.

DEDDINGTON, Oxon.—At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5088 APPLEDRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17 cwt. 10 lb. in E.

Jean Marlow Treble	Christopher C. Clarke 5
Alan R. Pink 2	D. Kay Adkins 6
Peter J. Heritage 3	Wilfrid G. Wilson 7
*Barry J. Davies 4	George W. Holland Tenor

Composed by Dennis Knox (Wratten, No. 25).

Conducted by Alan R. Pink.

* 100th peal. First in the method (rung "spliced" at Stratton St. Margaret on December 17th, 1966).

Rung on the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.

ADDERBURY, Oxon.—At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 FESTINIOW SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. 10 lb. in D.

Robert A. Reeves Treble	Barry J. Davies 5
Alan R. Pink 2	D. Kay Adkins 6
Christopher C. Clarke 3	Wilfrid G. Wilson 7
Michael Hatchett 4	George W. Holland Tenor

Composed by E. W. Tipler (Wratten No. 32).

Conducted by Alan R. Pink.

First peal in the method (Tipler's B 69/1).

Rung for the Feast of the Purification.

FESTINIOW SURPRISE MAJOR

—58—16—12—38—12—1458—14, 36, 78

l.h. (2nds) 5738264. f.c.h. b, e.

NORTHMOOR, Oxfordshire.—At the Church of St. Denys.

On Mon., Jan. 27, 1969, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 NEWCASTLE SURPRISE MINOR

Being two 2,160s and one extent. Tenor 11 cwt.

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

Conducted by D. Kay Adkins.

First peal in the method by all the band.

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THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

DAVENTRY, Northamptonshire.—At the Church of the Holy Cross.

On Sun., Jan. 26, 1969, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. in E flat.

Richard F. B. Speed .. Treble	†Barry R. Care 6
Linda M. Foot 2	John K. Foot 7
Patrick I. Chapman .. 3	Rev. Malcolm C. C. Melville .. 8
*Stanley M. Ruddledsen .. 4	*Barrie Hendry 9
Malcolm J. V. Chown .. 5	Barry E. Saunders Tenor

Composed by W. Eric Critchley.

Conducted by Barrie Hendry.

* 50th peal together. † First on ten bells. The tenor ring has now "circled the tower" to peals.

THE NATIONAL POLICE GUILD.

HARDINGTON-MANDEVILLE, Som.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

S.C. Derek W. Irwin .. Treble

S.C. Sgt. Gilbert W. Rendell .. 2

Ex-S.C. Trevor E. Marks .. 3

Ex-S.C. Sidney W. White .. 4

Chief Insp. Frederick G. Sandy .. 5

S.C. Harold G. Greenham .. Tenor

Conducted by Gilbert W. Rendell.

Rung as a farewell tribute to the Rector, Rev. W. A. Martin, who is shortly leaving the village on his retirement.

Tenor 8 cwt.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM.—At the Cathedral Church of St. Philip.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 3 Hours and 42 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5042 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

John N. Lindon .. Treble	James Insley 7
Muriel Reay 2	Terry R. Hampton 8
Susan E. Smith 3	J. Alan Ainsworth 9
Roderick W. Pipe 4	Norman J. Goodman .. 10
Maurice F. Edwards .. 5	James W. Belshaw 11
John R. Insley 6	George E. Fearn Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Roderick W. Pipe.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

LITTON CHENEY, Dorset.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in F.

David W. Grimwood .. Treble	Robert C. A. Philpott .. 5
Claire E. N. Brown .. 2	Derek S. Beaufoy 6
Mary E. Elmes 3	Graham W. Elmes 7
Ross G. W. Robertson .. 4	Timothy F. Collins Tenor

Composed by W. Garrard.

Conducted by Timothy F. Collins.

KINGSTON, Dorset.—At the Church of St. James.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 3 Hours and 29 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 26 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in D.

*Katharine J. Maundrell .. Treble	David Wilson 5
†Timothy F. Collins 2	†Ross G. W. Robertson .. 6
†Mary E. Elmes 3	*William T. Perrins 7
Graham W. Elmes 4	Frederick E. Collins .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. Worsley.

Conducted by Timothy F. Collins.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob. † First of Kent Treble Bob Major.

BRATTON, Wiltshire.—At the Church of St. James-the-Great.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents, differently called. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb. in G.

*Frederick W. Box .. Treble	Robert J. Purnell 4
Edgar C. Shepherd 2	*Philip S. Gaisford 5
Norman G. N. Knee .. 3	Charles F. Andrews .. Tenor

Conducted by Charles F. Andrews.

* First peal of Surprise.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

BABWORTH, Nottinghamshire.—At the Church of All Saints.

On Wed., Jan. 29, 1969, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. in A.

Harold Archer .. Treble	Bryan Birkett 4
*Stephen Knights 2	Paul N. Mounsey 5
Philip Rogers 3	Harold Denman Tenor

Conducted by Harold Denman.

* First peal "inside"

GAMSTON, Nottinghamshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In four methods, being two extents of Cambridge Surprise, 2,160 Oxford T.B. and an extnt each of Kent T.B. and Plain Bob.

Stephen Knights .. Treble	Harold Denman 4
Philip Rogers 2	Christine M. Wright .. 5
Paul N. Mounsey .. 3	Harry Poyner Tenor

Conducted by Paul N. Mounsey.

LOWDHAM, Nottinghamshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In 11 meth./var., being four extents each of Marchington, Rushall, All Saints, Rev. St. Bartholomew, Northrepps, Rev. Canterbury, Little Aston, Clifford's Pleasure, Southrepps and three each of Plain Bob and Old.

Tenor 9 cwt. 14 lb. in G.	
Ruth Blackshaw .. Treble	H. Geoffrey Wells 3
Pamela J. Clifton .. 2	W. Gordon Marson .. 4

Maurice W. Harrison .. Tenor

Conducted by H. Geoffrey Wells.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam Rev. F. G. H. Love, Vicar of this church, died January, 1969.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, Staffordshire.—At the Church of St. Paul.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 28 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb. in D.

Margaret Woolley .. Treble	Cyril T. Haynes 6
Verona Naylor 2	*Anthony Marson 7
William J. Leach 3	Barnabas G. Key 8
Gerald Bowen 4	John K. Smith 9
Cyril Griffiths 5	Charles F. W. Eyre .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. Roberts.

Conducted by Barnabas G. Key.

* First peal.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

ROLLESTON-ON-DOVE, Staffordshire.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Being 2,208 Lincolnshire and 2,880 Yorkshire; with 56 changes of method, and all the work of both methods for every bell (Pittow's).

Cyril T. Collins .. Treble	*Derek K. Knowles .. 5
*Lucy Smith 2	Edmund Malin 6
Eric E. Speake 3	Harry Griffiths 7
J. Dennis Holden .. 4	Philip G. K. Davies .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Philip G. K. Davies.

* First peal of spliced.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

WILBY, Suffolk.—At the Church of St. Mary.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 8 lb. in F.

Ernest G. Pearce .. Treble	Walter W. Miller 5
Gilbert R. Goodship .. 2	Alan R. Feaver 6
Muriel R. Page 3	Charles Stannard 7
Dorothy M. Durrant .. 4	Leslie G. Brett Tenor

Composed by C. Middleton.

Conducted by Leslie G. Brett.

WENHASTON, Suffolk.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In four methods, being one extent of St. Clement's and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

Katharine M. Thorley .. Treble	Ernest G. Pearce 4
Vernon B. Bedford .. 2	J. Martin Thorley 5
C. Jack Gibson 3	Stephen J. Bedford .. Tenor

Conducted by J. Martin Thorley.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON, Surrey.—At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 36 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in C sharp.

*Robert B. Smith .. Treble	Arthur G. Mason 7
Richard S. Starkie .. 2	Bernard F. L. Groves .. 8
Christine Andrew .. 3	D. Paul Smith 9
Robert W. Hinde .. 4	Trevor A. Cross 10
Christopher M. Movley .. 5	Andrew J. C. Brown .. 11
Peter S. Muchlinski .. 6	Martin L. Howe Tenor

Composed by Frederick H. Dexter. Conducted by Robert B. Smith.

* 900th peal.

ESHER, Surrey.—At Christ Church.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 JURA SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in A flat.

Peter G. Holden .. Treble	Laurence C. Way 5
Ronald K. Russ 2	Frank B. Lufkin 6
Maureen J. Carruthers .. 3	John Pladdys 7
John R. Ketteringham .. 4	Timothy G. Pett Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by Timothy G. Pett.

First peal in the method.

JURA SURPRISE MAJOR

—38—1456—56—36—14—58—12—18 c, b,

PUTNEY, London.—At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's One-Part.

Caroline F. Madge Treble	Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. in F.
*L. Ann Mew 2	Rev. Michael Hart 5
Elizabeth Bangham 3	Alan E. Bagworth 6
†Ruby M. Myllys 4	Christopher F. Mew 7
	Julie S. Armstrong Tenor

Conducted by Christopher F. Mew.

* First peal on eight "inside". † First of Grandsire Triples.

Rung as a compliment to Alan Bagworth and Caroline Madge on their engagement.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HENFIELD, Sussex.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in E.

Timothy Banner Treble	Geoffrey C. Rix 5
Edgar R. Rapley 2	Ian Wickens 6
*Harold Wood 3	David D. Smith 7
†F. Richard Verrall 4	W. Leslie Weller Tenor

Composed by Stephen J. Ivin. Conducted by W. Leslie Weller.

* First peal in the method "inside". † First in the method.

Rung in memoriam Mr. R. G. Blackman, one-time treasurer and Central Council representative of the Association.

ARUNDEL, Sussex.—At the Church of St. Nicholas.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb. in E.

Patrick M. Wills Treble	Timothy Banner 5
Anne M. Stevens 2	Geoffrey C. Rix 6
*Susan M. Wills 3	†E. Winifred Keys 7
Harold F. Wood 4	Philip Stevens Tenor

Composed by J. R. Pritchard. Conducted by E. Winifred Keys.

* First peal on eight bells. † 325th peal.

Rung in memoriam Richard G. Blackman, former Central Council representative and past treasurer of the Association and who learnt to ring at this tower.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

LELANT, Cornwall.—At the Church of St. Uny.

On Sat., Feb. 1, 1969, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (15 callings). Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. in G sharp.	
F. Malcolm Bowers .. Treble	Marion L. Lidgley 4
*Timothy J. Bell 2	†Anthony J. Davidson 5
Harry Miles 3	Denis Stephens Tenor

Conducted by F. Malcolm Bowers.

* First peal of Stedman "inside". † First of Stedman Doubles.

Rung for the Feast of St. Uny.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKBRIDGE, Hampshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sat., Jan. 18, 1969, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7½ cwt.	
Terry R. Tarrant Treble	Robert G. Crocker 4
*David F. King 2	Geoffrey K. Dodd 5
Peter Furness 3	Jack C. Wimlett Tenor

Conducted by Geoffrey K. Dodd.

* First peal of Minor "inside".

Rung to welcome the Rev. Robert Kirkpatrick as Rector of Stockbridge (induction, January 9th).

ST. MARY BOURNE, Hampshire.—At the Church of St. Peter.

On Sun., Jan. 19, 1969, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 21 extents each of Grandsire and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.	
*Ann M. Randall Treble	Brian H. Oakes 4
A. H. Green 2	Robert J. Crocker 5
Mrs. M. Green 3	Christopher Pack Tenor

Conducted by Robert J. Crocker.

* First peal.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. B. Hodgson, married January 11th, 1969.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER, Worcestershire.—At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 24 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. in D.

Michael J. Fellows Treble	*Martin W. Powell 6
*M. Irene Brown 2	Raymond Smith 7
Clifford Skidmore 3	*Robert Edwards 8
*A. Bryan Ellsmore 4	Martin D. Fellows 9
Gerald C. Hemming 5	*Peter J. Brown Tenor

Composed by M. A. Coleman. Conducted by Michael J. Fellows.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WAKEFIELD, Yorkshire.—At the Cathedral Church of All Saints.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL

No. 3. Tenor 35½ cwt. in D flat.	
David Nichols Treble	Wilfrid F. Moreton 6
Iris M. E. Lemare 2	Ron Ducker 7
*Maris C. Stephenson 3	John N. D. Chaddock 8
Ian G. Campbell 4	Stuart Armeson 9
Neil Donovan 5	Richard E. Price Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by Stuart Armeson.

* First peal of London.

GUISELEY, Yorkshire.—At the Church of St. Oswald.

On Sat., Jan. 25, 1969, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr. in F.

*Ronald Crabtree Treble	Stephen R. Munday 5
Jane Thurmott 2	Maurice J. Thurmott 6
Maurice Hillary 3	John Potts 7
William Dixon 4	Allan Wear Tenor

Composed by F. Bennett. Conducted by Maurice J. Thurmott.

* First peal.

HANDBELL PEALS

THE BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

EDGBASTON, Birmingham.—In Room 111, High Hall.

On Mon., Jan. 27, 1969, in 1 Hour and 42 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN MINOR

Being seven different extents in four methods: (1) St. Clement's and Double Oxford, (2) St. Clement's and Rosehill, (3) St. Clement's and Plain Bob, (4 to 7) Plain Bob. Tenor size 11 in G.
John S. Hopwood 1-2 | Christopher I. Rowson (cond.) 3-4
Robert M. Chambers 5-6

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHELTENHAM, Gloucestershire.—At 48, Willersey Road.

On Tues., Jan. 21, 1969, in 2 Hours and 11 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 GAINSBOROUGH LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 12 in F.

Frances Fairbank 1-2 | Hugh N. Evans 5-6
Valerie Willard 3-4 | Cyril A. Wratten 7-8
Composed by John Reeves. Conducted by Cyril A. Wratten.
First peal in the method by all except the conductor, and for the Association "in hand".

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS, Hertfordshire.—At 114, Park Street Lane.

On Tues., Jan. 14, 1969, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In eight methods, comprising 736 of Superlative, 704 each of London and Rutland, 608 each of Cambridge, Lincolnshire and Pudsey, 576 of Bristol and 544 of Yorkshire; with 120 changes of method. All the bells do all the work of each method. Tenor size 15 in C.
S. Kathleen M. Baldwin .. 1-2 | John R. Mayne 5-6
Christopher W. Woolley .. 3-4 | Roger Baldwin 7-8
Composed by Noel J. Diserens. Conducted by John R. Mayne.
First peal of all the work spliced in eight methods to be rung on handbells.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MAIDSTONE, Kent.—In the Belfry at the Church of All Saints.

On Mon., Jan. 27, 1969, in 1 Hour and 57 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 12.
Peter S. Muchlinski 1-2 | Thomas Cullingworth 3-4
Alastair D. Macfadyen (cond.) 5-6
A 19th birthday compliment to Peter S. Muchlinski.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAWKSHEAD, Lancashire.—At Bettyfold.

On Fri., Jan. 24, 1969, in 1 Hour and 41 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Single Oxford and St. Clement's College and three of Plain Bob. Tenor size 14 in D.
Joseph Whalley 1-2 | Mary W. Whalley 3-4
Kevin M. Price (cond.) 5-6

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

HARROW, Middlesex.—At 170, Headstone Lane.

On Tues., Jan. 21, 1969, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes.

A PEAL OF 5280 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In six methods, comprising 960 of London, 928 of Watford, 896 of Bristol and 832 each of Cambridge, Pudsey and Superlative; with 127 changes of method. All the bells do all the work of each method. Tenor size 15 in C.

S. Kathleen M. Baldwin .. 1-2 | Roger Baldwin 5-6
Christopher W. Woolley .. 3-4 | John R. Mayne 7-8
Composed by Albert J. Pitman. Conducted by John R. Mayne.

NOTICES

NEW SCALE OF CHARGES

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BIRTH

LARTER.—Joan and Gilbert have pleasure in announcing the birth of their son, Duncan William, on February 10th, 1969. 6726

ENGAGEMENTS

GRYLLS—HANCOCK.—Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Hancock, 124, Coronation Road, Bristol, 3, have pleasure in announcing the engagement of their eldest daughter, Marian Dorothy, to the Rev. Michael John, only son of Rear-Admiral and Mrs. H. T. B. Grylls, of Wellington, Somerset. 6717

TAYLOR—RICHARDSON.—The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Taylor, of The Laurels, Stone, Berkeley, Glos. and Gillian, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Richardson, of The Vales, Haresfield, Stonehouse, Glos. 6707

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

DAVEY.—Rose and Albert have now moved to 69, Woodhurst Road, Stanground, Peterborough. All friends welcome. 6694

PERSONAL

"He that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."—II Cor ix. 6.

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JUBILEE ISSUES NOW AVAILABLE

Another package of Jubilee Issues of "The Ringing World" (March 24th, 1961) has been found. This number, which gives an historical survey of the journal, is obtainable, price 1s. 6d., from "The Ringing World" Office, c/o Seven Corners Press, Onslow Street, Guildford.

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Morris's "HISTORY AND ART OF CHANGE RINGING"

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Somerset 6631

MISCELLANEOUS

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the following amendments of rules will be before the annual general meeting on Easter Monday

Rule 5.—Each Resident Ringing Member shall contribute the sum of Five Shillings annually.

That Resident members who have paid residents' subscriptions for a continuous period of five years or more should automatically become Non-Resident Life Members on leaving the diocese without further payment.

H. S. PEACOCK, General Secretary.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

Preliminary Notice
COUNTRY MEETING
OXFORD

Saturday, April 19th

Lunch and tea will be arranged.

Further details later.

SOCIETY OF RAMBLING RINGERS 1969 TOUR

will take place in Cornwall from July 26th to August 10th. Tour list now available from R. B. Mills, 19, Magdalen Drive, East Bridgford, Notts.

Large s.a.e., please.

Subscriptions (5/-) now due.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Ringing Course at North Cadbury Village Hall, March 22nd, 2.30. Subjects: Maintenance; New Doubles methods; Tower management. Fee 6/-. Names for tea to Gen. Sec. by 18th 6714

DUPLICATING and ELECTRONIC PRECUT STENCILS—Letterheads, Diagrams, Typewritten matter, etc.: 24-hour service.—**THE ALDERSHOT STORES** (Duplicating and Scanner Department), 37, Grosvenor Road, Aldershot, Hants. Telephone: 20876. 6703

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting and Ringing Festival

It has been found necessary to change the date to **SATURDAY, MAY 31st, 1969**. Full details will be published nearer the date 6679

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

1969 Annual Dinner

A Guild Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 22nd, 1969, at the Royal Hotel, Southampton. All members and friends are welcome. Southampton towers will be open during the day. Tickets, at 27s. 6d. each, may be obtained from Mr. D. C. Jackson, 13, Testbourne Road, Totton, Southampton. Please enclose s.a.e.—D. J. Forder, Hon. Gen. Sec. 6638

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern District.—Supper and social in Little Baddow Memorial Hall, March 15th, 7.15 p.m. Tickets, 7/6 (schoolchildren 6/-), from R. J. Harrison, 32, Gilmore Way, Great Baddow 6550

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ST. DUNSTAN AND ALL SAINTS', STEPNEY.—Regret no ringing practices during Lent.—L J. Fox, Tower Captain. 6698

TENTERDEN, KENT.—Please note the two peals allowed each year at St. Mildred's Church are now booked for 1969.—R. C. O. 6711

UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENT

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD

The Annual Dinner will be held in the Mersey Hotel, West Didsbury, on March 8th. Towers: The Cathedral (10), 1.30-2.30; the Town Hall (12), 2.30-4; St. James', Birch (8), 4-5; Christ Church, W. Didsbury, 5.30-6.30.

MEETINGS

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The March meeting will be held on the second Saturday (March 8th). Ringing arrangements: Thornhill (6), 3-4.15 p.m.; Dewsbury (8) 6-9. Tea at Dewsbury 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. V. Bottomley, 45, Westcroft Lane, Northowram, Halifax. No names no tea. Will all Society members who are also Yorkshire Association members please attend, to hear the directory of the officers.—T. Tarbatt. 6693

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—Meeting, Blaydon, March 8th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. R. W. Leighton, 15, Burnley Street, Blaydon. 6721

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, March 8th, at Coleman's Hatch (8). Ringing 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 and evening ringing. Ringing also at Lingfield 2.30-3.30, Danehill 3-4, Hartfield 7.30-9. Names for tea to J. Ryman, Vicarage Cottage, Coleman's Hatch, near Hartfield, Sussex, by March 7th. 6690

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting, March 8th: Barton (5), 3-4 p.m.; Toft (3), 4-4.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea. Evening ringing, Orwell (5), from 6.30.—Miss J. Sanderson, Dis. Sec. 6628

DERBY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—Monthly meeting at Old Whittington, Saturday, March 8th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. G. J. Newman, 54, Brearley Avenue, New Whittington, Chesterfield. Tel.: Chesterfield 5416.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting, Guildford, Saturday, March 8th. Bells available: Stoke (6), 2.30-3.30 p.m.; Cathedral (10), 3-4.30 p.m.; St. Nicolas' (10) and Shalford (8) after meeting. Service conducted by the Very Rev. A. C. Bridge, Dean of Guildford, in the Lady Chapel at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Refectory for those who notify Mrs. C. W. Munday, 37, Bradford Drive, Ewell, Epsom (Tel.: 01-393 4986). 6584

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Meeting, March 8th, Hertingfordbury (6), 3 to 4.30. Tea, own arrangements. Bengoe (8), 6 to 8.30. Business meeting in belfry 7.30.—P. M. S. Searles, Dis. Sec. 6686

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—March 8th, Great Gaddesden (6). Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to R. Goldsney, 4, Water End, Hemel Hempstead. 6686

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Bye-meeting, Halling, Saturday, March 8th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, please, to Miss M. Chidwick, 10, Barn Meadow, Upper Halling, Rochester.—T. Barton. 6637

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meeting, March 8th: St. George's-in-the-East, 3-4 p.m.; St. Botolph's, Aldgate, 5-6; St. Olave's Hart Street, 6.30-8 p.m. No business. Own tea.—M. R. Wycherley, Sec. 6669

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—Meeting on March 8th at Orillingbury (5), 3-5 p.m. All welcome. 6696

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Calne Branch.—Meeting, Saturday, March 8th, at Compton Bassett (5). Bells 2.45. Names for tea to F. Rumming, 12, Briar Leaze, Compton Bassett, Calne, Wilts. 6716

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bingham District.—Meeting, Shelford, March 8th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to W. L. Exton, St. Owen's, Whetton. 6696

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Notts meeting at Rampton, March 8th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea to H. Poyner, The Old Vicarage, Sturton-le-Steeple, Retford, Notts. 6688

SUFFOLK GUILD.—South East District.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, March 8th, at Bramford (6), 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. R. Southgate, Fairlight, Ship Lane, Bramford, Ipswich. Ringing in evening at Sproughton (6).—W. L., Sec. 6681

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Practice meeting at Angmering, Saturday, March 8th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. and in the evening. Service 4.30 p.m. Please make own arrangements for tea.—R. Wake, Hon. Div. Sec. 6710

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—Practice meeting, Binsted, Saturday, March 8th. Bells 6.30-8.30 p.m. 6685

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Norton, Worcs, Saturday, March 8th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business. Names for tea to A. C. Berry, 25, Priest Lane, Pershore. Further ringing after meeting. 6692

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Shelsley Beauchamp, March 8th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m., followed by business meeting in Village Hall, Clifton-on-Teme. Bells (6) available from 7 p.m. Names for tea to J. J. Stanier, 14, Canterbury Road, Worcester. 6673

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Practice meeting, Elland (8), Saturday, March 8th. 6-9 p.m. Methods: Rounds, call-changes and Plain Bob. All welcome, especially learners.—Maurice Thurmott, Ringing Master. 6691

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.W. District.—Practice meeting, Hornchurch (8), on Tuesday, March 11th, at 7.15 p.m. 6697

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Pitminster, March 15th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Angersleigh (5), 2.30; Trull (6), 7.30 p.m. Names for tea, please.—A. H. Reed, 41, George Street, Taunton. 6704

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37, HIGHFIELD GARDENS, ALDERSHOT. 6719

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Nailsea (6), March 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business. Names for tea, please, to Mr. L. Derrick, Peacehaven, Old Church Road, Nailsea, by March 13th.—D. G. Yeo, Branch Sec. 6557

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—Meeting at Sandy (6) and Great Barford (5), Saturday, March 15th. Ringing at Sandy from 3 p.m., then tea and business, followed by further ringing at Great Barford from 6.15 p.m. 6689

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Evening meeting, Shenfield, Saturday, March 15th. Bells (6) 5-8 p.m. Named methods, London and Stedman Doubles. 6699

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch.—Meeting, Chedworth (6), March 15th, 3 p.m. Service 6. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to J. Pearse, Cotswold Cottage, Silver Street, South Cerney, by March 12th.—J. Pearse, Branch Sec. 6702

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Stroud Branch.—Meeting, Painswick (12), Saturday, March 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to P. Screen, 22, Springfield, Hardwicke, Gloucester, GL2 6PX, by Tuesday, 11th, please. 6709

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting, March 15th, at Hatfield (10). 3.15 p.m., with service and tea. Special methods: Little Bob and London Royal. Names for tea to Mr. R. Cochrane, 2, The Park, Hatfield.—R. E. Hardy, Dis. Sec. 6665

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting, Folkestone, Saturday, Mar. 15th. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea for those who notify F. J. Whittaker, 76, Surrenden Road, Folkestone.—A. P. S. B. 6656

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting, Farnworth-with-Kearsley, near Bolton, March 15th. Bells (8) 2.45 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by Evensong. Names for tea, please, to Mr. J. Thornley, 50, Carlton Street, Farnworth, Bolton, by previous Wednesday.—R. K. Lister, Branch Sec. 6723

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Saturday, March 15th, at Ashby (8), 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea arrangements to be announced at meeting (names not required).—Hilary Watson-Walker, Dis. Sec. 6712

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Berks Branch.—Please note rearranged date of monthly practice is now at Aston Tirrold on Saturday, March 15th, 6.30 p.m.—C. Cordeiro. 6706

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—Quarterly meeting, March 15th, at Edith Weston (6). Bells 3 p.m. and after tea. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea to A. Scholes, Harringworth, Corby, by Tuesday, 11th. 6708

STAFFORD ARCHDEACONRY SOCIETY.—Meeting, Shenstone, near Lichfield, Saturday, March 15th. Committee meeting in nave 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. and during evening. Names for tea, please, to Miss V. Blackaby, 24, Charnwood Close, Lichfield, Staffs (Tel.: Lich. 52185), by March 13th latest.—C. M. S., Hon. Sec. 6492

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Central District.—Practice meeting, Helmingham (8), Saturday, March 15th, 6.30-9 p.m. 6718

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Aldington (6), Saturday, March 15th. Bells 4 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Ringing after tea. Names for tea, please, to Miss Ann Evans (Div. Sec.), 17, Hollingbury Place, Brighton, Sussex, BN1 7GE, by previous Thursday. 6695

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting, Skipton (8), March 15th. Bells from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Dr. M. F. D. Burton, Overdale Croft, The Bailey, Skipton, by previous Thursday.—A. B. Sullivan, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting, Gosfield (6), March 22nd. Bells from 2.30. Service 4. Names for tea to Miss H. G. Snowden, Cherry Cottage, Gosfield, Halstead. 6705

LADIES' GUILD.—South Wales District.—Meeting, Ebbw Vale, March 22nd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. Audrey Bruton, 8, Belle Vue, Ebbw Vale, Mon. Gentlemen welcome. 6683

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Sevenoaks on Easter Monday, April 7th. Service 12.30 p.m., followed by luncheon and meeting. Please do not apply for luncheon tickets until detailed notice appears on March 21st.—P. A. Corby, Hon. Gen. Sec. 6661

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A.G.M. in Leicester on April 12th. Annual dinner on September 20th, not 27th as in Ringers' Diary.—A. J. Poynor. 6701

LATE NOTICES

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Bye-meeting, Faversham (8), Saturday, March 8th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. D. Nicholson, 58, The Mall, Faversham, Kent.—J. B. K. 6725

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.E. District.—District practice, Great Totham, Thursday, March 13th, 7.30-9 p.m. All welcome.—R. J. Harrison, Dis. Sec. 6728

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Holmes Chapel, March 15th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by March 12th.—W. Kerr, 107, Moreton Road, Crewe. 6729

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Bishop's Stortford District.—Meeting, March 15th, Brent Pelham (6). Service 4.45 p.m. Tea 5.15 and business meeting at The Bury, followed by ringing until 9 p.m. Afternoon ringing at Great Hormead (6), 3-4.15 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. L. Goodman, The Bury, Brent Pelham, Herts.—K. Westwood, Dis. Sec. 6724

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.E. District.—Meeting, March 15th, Great Tey (8). Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea. Names for tea, please, to Mr. J. Dyer, 2, Guildhall Cottages, Great Tey, Colchester. 6727

Ringing and Conducting Standard Methods

By ROBERT B. SMITH

PART I KENT TREBLE BOB

(Continued from page 161)

(b) Conducting, Touches and Peal Compositions

CONDUCTING

One of the best pieces of advice I was ever given when I enquired about conducting a certain method was "Learn the method". This sounds very simple but, as I have already mentioned, superficial learning of a method is not very useful, particularly if one wishes to conduct.

Conducting falls into three parts, which for want of better expressions we will call

- (i) Bob calling.
- (ii) Checking.
- (iii) "Sorting out!"

A competent conductor must be able to do all these things, at the same time if necessary. Quite obviously one does not become proficient in all three at the same time: generally one progresses through the three stages in the order I have written them.

(i) **Bob calling.** One usually begins to call bobs for short touches before attempting to call quarter peals or peals. It is most important that bobs be called at exactly the right place, not early or late as this can upset the members of a band without it showing immediately in the ringing. (They subconsciously start to wonder how long it will be before the touch, quarter peal or peal will be miscalled.) For this reason it is better to call simple touches or peals until one becomes completely conversant with the method.

(ii) **Checking.** Having learned to call the bobs in the correct position, it is necessary to check that they have been made! There is no point in continuing to ring a touch or a peal in which some of the bobs have not been made: the ringing may never come round!

It has been stressed already that the bobs should be called in the right place, and checking in the early stages of one's conducting career may have to be limited to checking "part ends" where it is known that the bells should fall in a certain order. When a conductor is at this stage of learning, the standard of ringing, particularly in peals, is often better than when he becomes more competent at correcting mistakes. (A band tends to rely on a good conductor being able to correct mistakes which may occur: when mistakes occur because there is a good conductor in the band this annoys me intensely!)

The most popular and successful method of checking that bells are working in the correct order is the use of coursing orders. All methods have a particular coursing order; in some methods it may be rather obscure, e.g., methods without Plain Bob lead ends.

Sorting out! The question of "sorting out" the bells which have gone wrong during ringing a touch or a peal is very much a question for individual consciences. Some conductors will grind on quite happily provided that they know where all the bells are and that they are approximately in the right order. The same conductors might, however, stop what has been perfectly good ringing if a trip occurs and they are not quite sure what has happened. It is not my intention to lecture on my beliefs at this point, but I mention the above facts so that the following points may be considered.

1. When to call the bells round or say "Stand":
 - (a) If the standard of striking is not as good as can be expected of the band on the bells concerned.
 - (b) When bells have crossed over.
 - (c) When a trip occurs.

2. When to continue ringing:

- (a) If the band are ringing as well as they are capable of doing on the bells concerned.
- (b) If the band have travelled a long way to take part in the ringing.
- (c) If the ringing is for a special occasion. Each conductor must "work out his own salvation with fear and trembling", as he is ultimately responsible for the performance.

KENT T.B. MINOR

Having considered the general implications of conducting, let us now consider precise details:—

The bob in Treble Bob methods should be called when the treble is in 2nds place before leading full. The bells which have already done one dodge in 5-6 do another dodge as 4ths is made and then repeat the lead that they have just rung (giving three dodges together). The bells going into and out of the slow work are not affected by the call but the bell which would have become a 5ths place bell makes another blow in 4ths place and takes up the work of the 4th in the plain course. The net effect of the call on this bell is that it makes 3rds, four blows in 4ths, 3rds and returns to lead.

The coursing order in Kent Treble Bob is exactly the same as for Plain Bob, i.e., 53246, which means that the transposition of the coursing orders for the methods is also the same. Some examples will be given shortly. **The most important thing to remember when conducting Kent Treble Bob is which bell is ringing the slow work.** It will be remembered that when we considered the ringing of the method we observed that the bells coursed in the same order in every lead, with the exception that the treble took the place of the bell which was in slow at the time. Should a trip occur, the above fact enables one to determine which position the treble should be in, in relation to the other bells, and so prevent a change in coursing order which would result from a treble "shift", e.g.:

If in ringing the plain course, with the 4th the slow bell, a trip occurred, resulting in the treble following the 6th down to lead instead of vice-versa, the new coursing order would be 45326 instead of 53246. This would be spotted easily on six bells, particularly if they should be in the plain course; it might not be picked up quite so easily on 12 bells, other than by observing that the resulting coursing order is "out of course".

TOUCHES OF KENT T.B. MINOR

A good selection of touches is given in the "Ringers' Notebook and Diary", but a few standard callings are given below.

72	Coursing orders
23456	53246
42356 —	52436
34256 —	54326
23456 ---	53246

216	Coursing orders
23456	53246
42356 —	52436
34256 —	54326
23645	54326

Twice repeated.

Notice in the above touch of 216 changes the 5th becomes the "observation" bell in the first repetition, and the 4th the observation bell in the second repetition. However, it is preferable to relate all coursing orders to the 6th, which means that for the first repetition the coursing orders become 35426 and 32546. This problem only arises in Minor ringing where the coursing order system is not as useful as on the higher numbers of bells.

PEALS OF KENT T.B. MINOR

To ring a complete peal of Kent T.B. Minor it is necessary to ring the equivalent of seven 720s. This is usually done by ringing complete 720s, although at least one 5,040 containing each change seven times does exist. Because Kent T.B. Minor has a 6ths place lead end, bobs which are not to affect an observation bell must be called when that bell is about to become a 2nds or 3rds place bell at the lead end. For this reason the two standard 720s which are normally rung with the 5th or 6th unaffected have the calls made when the observation bell is coming out of, or going into slow.

720	Coursing orders
23456	53246
42635	53246
64235 —	25346
26435 —	24536
42563	24536
54326	24536
35642	24536
63542 —	52436
56234	52436
25463	52436
42356	52436

Twice repeated.

The above calling is generally remembered as "call the 6th in, out, in, three times". It will be noticed at the first two bobs the 5th is at the "home" position, i.e., dodging 5-6 down, and at the third bob the 5th makes 4ths. This is a useful secondary guide to calling the bobs in the correct position. Peal conductors should always learn a composition to a plan, which can help them to determine where the next call is to be made, should they forget where they are up to. This is one of the reasons that many conductors call their own compositions—they know how they have been constructed and are therefore less likely to miscall them.

The second "standard" 720 of Kent T.B. Minor is to call the 5th out, in, out. For this calling the 6th makes 4ths at the first call and dodges 5-6 up at the other two calls. The same part ends are produced in the same order as for the first calling given, 5-6 are the right way throughout both callings, i.e., no 6-5s at backstroke.

The above callings may be used with any bell as observation, but 6-5s result at backstroke.

[To be continued]

5,088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

By JOHN PLADDYS

W	5/4	B	H	23456
		X*	—	36425
		X	S	52436
			X	— 52364
S			3	62354
S			2	23564

Repeat five times, single half-way and end.

* SB

Produces 144 combination roll-ups, with no 82s or 83s.

Rung at Deptford on January 25th, 1968, conducted by the composer.

"I am especially fascinated by the present cover of 'The Ringing World' showing very beautiful old churches and telling their history inside."—Miss M. A. Crane, Franklin, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

LATE NOTICE

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—South and West District.—Surprise practice, St. Mary's, Staines, Monday, March 10th, at 7.45 p.m., Evening practice at Ruislip, Wednesday, March 19th, 7.45 p.m.—J. Palmer, Dis. Sec. 6730

QUARTER PEALS

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.—On Nov. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Jarvis (first quarter) 1, G. O. Crane 2, L. Setton 3, T. V. Barnard (cond.) 4, E. C. Stuart 5, K. Bartle (first quarter) 6.

MINSTER-IN-SHEPPEY, KENT.—On Jan. 29th, 1,260 Doubles (six meth./var.): Susan Goodwin 1, Glynis Poppleton (first in six methods) 2, Mira Ford 3, Marianne Leworthy 4, D. P. Leworthy (cond.) 5, Ann Bryant 6. Rung to welcome David Hunt home from hospital.

NAILSEA, SOM.—On Feb. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Willis 1, W. Neath 2, E. Davey 3, L. Derrick (cond.) 4, J. Lott 5, L. Childs 6. A birthday compliment to ringer of 5.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,320 London and Cambridge Surprise Minor: D. H. Stone 1, R. Weeks 2, M. Thomas 3, Susan E. M. Davis 4, B. J. Read 5, D. J. Forder (cond.) 6. First London 2, 4, 5. A 21st birthday compliment to Margaret J. Davies, of the S.U.G.C.R.

OXFORD.—At St. Ebbe's Church, on Jan. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. Cooper 1, M. Journeaux 2, C. Woodward 3, C. Coles 4, B. Gray 5, R. Abbott 6, C. Holloway (cond.) 7, V. Fox 8. For Evensong.

OXFORD.—At the Church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr, on Jan. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: N. C. V. Pollock 1, D. Cooper (first Pl. Bob Minor) 2, N. R. D. Orchard 3, P. W. West 4, J. K. Walton 5, R. H. Johnston (cond.) 6. By O.U.S. for morning service. Also on Feb. 2nd, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: N. R. D. Orchard 1, Pam Whitfield 2, Shirley E. Jones 3, R. A. Yeates 4, R. H. Johnston 5, S. F. Royal (cond.) 6. For morning service.

PENN, BUCKS.—On Jan. 28th, 1,260 Pl. Bob Minor: J. Woolley 1, Margaret Stoney 2, P. Badcock 3, P. Reynolds 4, G. Reynolds 5, D. Whitlock (first Minor as cond.) 6. First Minor 2, 4 and 5.

PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Bob Triples: Voirey Kennaugh 1, Janet Aston 2, Susan Chew 3, J. Perry 4, D. J. Purnell 5, M. Androlia 6, R. J. Tibbetts (cond.) 7, C. Kennaugh 8. Rung for the launching of St. John's appeal for fabric, organ and the bells.

PORTSMOUTH, HANTS.—At the Cathedral, on Feb. 2nd, 1,360 Kent T.B. Royal: Jennifer L. Quaife 1, A. S. Hayden 2, T. R. Natt 3, W. Williams 4, R. A. Gilliver 5, B. L. Burrows 6, G. J. Gammon 7, A. A. J. Buswell 8, W. Johnson 9, K. P. Gilliver (cond.) 10. First Royal 1, 2, 3, 4, 9. For Evensong.

PRITTEWELL, ESSEX.—On Jan. 15th, 1,280 Bristol Surprise Major: B. Sadler 1, R. Tomlin 2, D. Sloman 3, P. M. Fleckney (cond.) 4, M. Hallett 5, D. Belcham 6, H. Turner 7, A. House 8. Also on Feb. 2nd, 1,360 Kent T.B. Royal: P. Bedford 1, D. Sloman (50th quarter) 2, Penny Halliwell 3, Sylvia Bedford 4, H. Furninger 5, J. Belcham 6, B. Sadler 7, P. Sadler 8, A. Cansdale 9, S. Halliwell (cond.) 10. First in method by all except 6, 7, 8. For Evensong.

PURITON, SOM.—On Jan. 29th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Lesley Bowden (12) 1, J. Champion 2, Mrs. J. Broom 3, G. Nabb 4, R. Short (cond.) 5, L. Pope 6. First attempt 1, 2, 3. Believed first by Sunday service band. A farewell to Rev. and Mrs. T. E. Rogers, leaving for Australia.

PUTNEY, S.W.—At St. Mary's Church, on Feb. 2nd, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: Josephine Patterson (first T.B.) 1, Jean Henderson 2, N. R. Waite (50th quarter) 3, Julie S. Armstrong 4, R. L. Jones 5, A. R. Patterson 6, C. F. Mew 7, M. J. Uphill (cond.) 8. For Patronal Festival Evensong; also to mark the baptism this day of Sarah Louise Tuppen and Richard Michael Bull, children of former Putney ringers.

RADCLIFFE-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.—On Feb. 9th, 1,320 Minor (three methods): Mrs. A. Stainsby 1, Mrs. J. Bull 2, Miss R. Willey 3, B. J. Bull 4, A. King 5, M. A. Rose (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.—On Jan. 23rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: Pamela Court 1, R. A. Birch 2, D. Manger 3, A. Bourner 4, H. Deacon 5, O. Webster 6, B. Johnson (cond.) 7, J. Hemsley 8.

ROUGHTOWN, LANCS.—On Jan. 31st, 1,260 Pl. Bob Minor: A. Wheeler 1, B. D. Holt 2, Lynn Backhouse (first quarter) 3, G. Rigby 4, W. H. Nield 5, G. Nield (cond.) 6.

RUSHDEN, NORTHANTS.—On Jan. 29th, 1,260 Pl. Bob Triples: H. Hodgekin 1, S. Hodgekin 2, Mrs. Brenda Dixon 3, Mrs. Ann Smith 4, G. Muncey 5, R. Whitworth 6, T. Smith (cond.) 7, D. Mason 8. Half-muffled in memoriam Mr. S. Clifton, senior sidesman, cremated this day.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—At St. Peter's Church, on Feb. 2nd, 1,360 Kent T.B. Royal: Frances Dodds 1, Elizabeth Forster (first T.B.) 2, K. J. Darvill (cond.) 3, Joyce Clarke (first T.B.) 4, R. W. Darvill 5, T. C. Holland (first T.B. "inside") 6, H. V. Frost 7, J. E. Ewer 8, G. W. Debenham 9, B. C. Johnson 10.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—At St. Stephen's Church, on Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Alison Malyan (first quarter) 1, Carol Parkhurst (first "inside") 2, P. T. Daie (first in method as cond.) 3, A. Ewer 4, P. J. Fells 5, A. Malyan 6. Rung before Evensong as a 71st birthday compliment to Arthur Malyan and a 14th birthday compliment to his grand-daughter, Alison.

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL, SOM.—On Feb. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Rev. M. J. Odium 1, Miss G. Rixon 2, C. Rixon 3, P. Poppstone (cond.) 4, I. Atkinson 5, L. Hellings 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. George Stephens, died February 4th.

SANDHURST, KENT.—On Jan. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Hemsley 1, H. J. Pope 2, H. Deacon 3, R. Rumery (first quarter) 4, B. Johnson 5, Rev. Green 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam O. G. A. Phillips, churchwarden.

SAWLEY, DERBYS.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. N. Marshall (first in method) 1, Mrs. S. Marshall 2, Mrs. I. Simpson 3, Mrs. C. Charter 4, D. J. Marshall 5, J. Harvey 6, A. Humphrey (cond.) 7, R. G. Newsam 8.

SHELFORD, NOTTS.—On Jan. 19th, 1,280 St. Remigius Bob Doubles: R. Mills 1, A. Lazzarini 2, Mrs. C. Mills 3, D. Lazzarini 4, B. Mills (cond.) 5. Also on Jan. 26th, Rev. St. Osmund Bob Doubles: F. Bradley 1, A. Lazzarini 2, Mrs. D. Bradley 3, B. Mills (cond.) 4, D. Lazzarini 5. Both for Evensong.

SILVERTON, DEVON.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Howe (first on working bell) 1, W. J. Ransom 2, J. Furbear 3, H. Ransom 4, W. E. Richards (cond. and capt.) 5, D. Petherick 6. For Confirmation service, and compliments to W. J. Ransom (birthday), J. Furbear (birth of a son) and for a grandson to Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Ransom.

SKIPTON-IN-CRAVEN, YORKS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: 1, Cox 1, A. Stott 2, R. Crabtree 3, R. M. Harker 4, M. Hillary 5, D. Featherstone 6, E. Lee 7, M. F. D. Burton (cond.) 8.

SMARDEN, KENT.—On Jan. 5th, 1,260 Doubles (two methods): Shirley Black 1, Sylvia Knight 2, A. Bourner 3, E. Clifton 4, B. Johnson (cond.) 5, J. Bennet 6. For Evensong. Also on Jan. 9th, 1,320 Minor (four methods): Sylvia Knight 1, D. Manger 2, A. Bourner 3, E. Clifton 4, J. Hemsley 5, B. Johnson (cond.) 6. First of four Minor methods for all the band. Also on Jan. 26th, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): Shirley Black 1, J. Hemsley 2, Sylvia Knight 3, H. Deacon 4, B. Johnson (cond.) 5, A. Bourner 6. For Evensong. Also on Jan. 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Veronica Johnson (first quarter) 1, Sylvia Knight 2, D. Manger 3, J. Hemsley 4, B. Johnson (cond.) 5, F. Goodearle 6. Also on Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Single Oxford Bob Minor: E. Clifton 1, H. Deacon 2, A. Bourner 3, J. Hemsley 4, K. Butler 5, B. Johnson (200th quarter as cond.) 6. For Evensong.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 19th, 1,250 Yorkshire Surprise Major: M. L. Haigh (first quarter of Surprise) 1, M. S. Loveday 2, Caroline Mackie 3, B. J. Read 4, T. G. Williams 5, D. L. Nibbs 6, R. E. Stillwell 7, A. P. Foster (cond.) 8.

STORRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 19th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: M. Taylor 1, Jean Horton 2, Bronwen Davies (first "inside") 3, M. Davies (cond.) 4, J. Taylor 5, G. Mercer 6. A birthday compliment to Michael Taylor. Also on January 31st, 1,320 Pl. Bob Doubles: M. Taylor 1, Jean Horton 2, B. W. Farhall 3, M. Davies (cond.) 4, J. Taylor 5, D. Nicholson 6. Rung in memoriam Mr. R. G. Blackburn.

STRATFORD ST. MARY, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 31st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. E. Lester 1, D. Rose 2, L. Wright 3, R. Rose 4, L. Nice 5, M. J. Rose (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Harry Wright, ringer and chorister for over 60 years, interred the day before, aged 88 years.

STOTFOLD, BEDS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: T. Groom 1, P. Jewel 2, R. V. Webb (cond.) 3, D. Hope 4, P. Mehew 5, K. R. Webb 6. First quarter 1 and 6.

STRATTON, CORNWALL.—1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Sangwin 1, J. Sangwin 2, Miss B. M. Boyle 3, H. Trewin 4, W. J. V. Conduct 5, H. Stacey (cond.) 6, B. G. D. Vince 7, G. Halford 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mrs. O. Dodd, wife of the Vicar, who passed away on January 30th.

SWINDON VILLAGE, GLOS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. House 1, Mrs. P. Barter 2, M. Maggs 3, R. Sadowska (first as cond.) 4, D. Brooks 5. A welcome to the new Vicar (Rev. M. E. Bennett).

TAUNTON, SOM.—At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, on Jan. 27th, 1,260 Stedman and Grandsire Doubles: W. H. Tarr 1, A. F. Arscott 2, F. Matravers 3, D. Adams 4, R. F. Arscott (cond.) 5. Rung on the first five bells.

TEWKESBURY, GLOS.—At the Abbey, on Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: F. Matty (first quarter) 1, Naydene N. A. Price 2, Mary H. Schofield 3, J. Attwood 4, D. Deakin 5, H. B. Schofield (cond.) 6. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the Vicar's daughter, Elizabeth Pouncey, a ringing member at the Abbey.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.—On Jan. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss P. Hopkins 1, G. Harding 2, Mrs. Penn 3, R. Quartley (cond.) 4, R. Lucas 5, T. Holloway 6, F. Penn 7, G. Davis 8. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mr. R. A. Webb, chairman and church worker.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Green 1, C. Bassett 2, R. D. Divall 3, Lynn Warner 4, E. J. Ladd 5, H. Stacey (cond.) 6, J. E. Warner 7, I. Cockrane 8. For morning service.

WARNFORD, HANTS.—On Jan. 30th, 1,260 Doubles (11 methods): D. Pearce 1, Mary White 2, K. G. Waller 3, R. A. Stone 4, C. E. Bassett (cond.) 5, T. White 6. For the sixth anniversary of the union of the benefices of Warnford and West Meon.

WARSOP, NOTTS.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Plain Minor (Single Oxford, Pl. Bob): Miss S. Ettles 1, B. Moran 2, B. Richards 3, G. Challans 4, F. Cooke 5, D. H. Rooke (cond.) 6. For Festal Evensong.

WARWICK.—At St. Nicholas' Church, on Feb. 2nd, 1,280 Kent T.B. Major: D. Randall 1, P. Randall 2, Miss C. Dolphin 3, E. Gower 4, I. Maycock 5, G. Randall (cond.) 6, R. Randall 7, J. L. Garner-Hayward 8. First in method 1, 7. For Evensong by the Sunday service band.

WATERLOO, LONDON.—At St. John's Church, on Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. D. Grainger 1, Sandra C. Thexton 2, Deborah Bishop 3, A. J. Hampton 4, A. S. Bishop 5, K. J. Rider 6, C. M. Meyer (cond.) 7, R. D. Bing 8. For the "Visitation" by the Lord Bishop of Southwark.

WELDON, NORTHANTS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (three methods): T. Fellows 1, R. Webster 2, Susan Kemp 3, R. Newby 4, Susan M. Fitton (first as cond.) 5, Penny McCreadie 6.

WELLS, SOM.—At St. Cuthbert's Church, on Feb. 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss S. Hallett 1, M. Whiteley (first Stedman) 2, S. Salmon 3, A. Whiteley (first Triples) 4, C. Jenkins 5, M. Bartlett 6, V. Roberts (cond.) 7, C. Wainwright 8.

WESTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 29th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Eileen Jayne (first Major) 1, J. H. Hunt (cond.) 2, Mrs. B. M. Hunt 3, Mrs. C. Rolph (first Major) 4, L. D. Duguld 5, E. Treagus 6, J. F. A. Rolph 7, M. Marshall 8. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss E. Jayne.

WINCHESTER, HANTS.—At the Cathedral, on Feb. 2nd, 1,231 Grandsire Cinques: P. M. Tubbs 1, A. M. Tubbs 2, J. M. Kippin 3, K. J. Maundrell 4, J. C. Baldwin 5, G. Cooper 6, W. G. Young 7, C. H. Kippin (cond.) 8, R. Abbott 9, G. C. Grant 10, G. Benfield 11, J. A. Dodd 12. For Evensong.

WITHAM, ESSEX.—On Jan. 26th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Mrs. P. Chapman 1, J. Warner 2, R. Dorking 3, H. Dorking 4, T. Monk 5, W. Butler 6, P. Chapman 7, A. Piggott (cond.) 8. A farewell to A. Piggott on his departure to Somerset.

WOODBOROUGH, NOTTS.—On Jan. 28th, 1,344 Pl. Bob Minimus: D. W. Flower (first quarter) 1, Lynne Heskins (first quarter) 2, Patricia M. Hayward (first as cond.) 3, P. L. R. Hayward 4. First on bells by resident band. Rung for the 210th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns.

WRINGTON, SOM.—On Jan. 26th, 1,282 Pudsey Surprise Royal: W. H. Kingcott 1, Diana M. Bridge 2, P. J. England 3, S. Brown 4, J. Brain 5, E. T. Lee 6, J. H. Gilbert 7, J. R. Taylor 8, P. Bridle 9, R. C. Kippin (cond.) 10. First Pudsey Royal for 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. For Evensong.

COMPOSITIONS

5,160 SPICED SURPRISE ROYAL

(Two methods)

By ROBERT B. SMITH

23456 M W H

43652	—	(3)
63254	—	3
52436	—	3
34625	—	3
23645	—	3

Twice repeated omitting (3) in the 2nd part.
Each course called R.Y.R.

As rung on handbells at 10, Eden Drive,
Macclesfield, Cheshire, on January 16th, 1969.

5,088 OSBOURNBY SURPRISE MAJOR

Arranged by TIMOTHY G. PETT

B M W H 23456

—	—	52436
—	—	63425
—	—	26435
—	—	46532
X	—	46325
—	—	3 23564

Repeat twice.

True to all methods with l.h. B and f.c.h.'s b, c.
First rung at St. John-the-Baptist's Church,
Pinner, Middx, conducted by Timothy G. Pett.

5,079 STEDMAN CATERS

Arranged by R. A. G. INGLIS

231456789 5 16

216453978 (a)
214356 2

413256 — 2
312456 — 2
314256 S 2 } X
412356 — 2
213456 — 2

213465789 (b)
214365 X

213465978 X with bob at 1 in 1st course.

215364879 (c)
213465 2

214365 X

(a) = 1, 3s, 8s, 14, 16.

(b) = 7s, 9s, 12s, 18.

(c) = 2, 9s, 16.

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