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GREAT TOM AND LITTLE TOM

OXFORD'S fame as the City of Bells is known the world over, but probably never before has such a comprehensive account of the city's bells and their history been written as that contained in Volume III. of the 'Church Bells of Oxfordshire,' by Frederick Sharpe. Although much has been written in the past on Oxford bells, particularly those of Christ Church, no one has yet related a full and complete history of the bells from the viewpoint of both the antiquary and the campanologist.

The ring at Christ Church had its origin in the Abbey of Oseney, which was situated some 350 yards south-west of the present Church of St. Thomas, Oxford. In 1129 the Abbey had a ring of three bells in addition to a sanctus bell and a litany bell. In the year 1539 Oseney Abbey surrendered to King Henry and three years later the Diocese of Oxford was founded with the Abbey Church as its Cathedral. This, in turn, surrendered in 1545 and the See was refounded as Christ Church at St. Frideswide's in the following year. Eight bells, including Great Tom and the Litany bell, were removed that year from Oseney Abbey to Christ Church.

The first alteration to Oseney bells was made in 1589 when the tenor, or Little Tom, was recast. Payment for this work was made to one Nicholas Reeve, about whom little is known. Reeve was not the owner of any of the principal bell foundries of his day; he may have been a descendant of Roger Reve, who was founding at Bury St. Edmunds 1527-1533, or a relative of Giles Reve, who was founding in Kent 1584-1592; or, what is far more probable, suggests Mr. Sharpe, he may have been a relative of Thomas and Michael Reve, who cast bells for Worksop, Notts, in 1567, as Christ Church tenor has characteristics peculiar to the Nottingham founders. There is also a possibility that the presence of his name in the disbursement book may indicate that he was an agent receiving payment on behalf of some other person.

The Christ Church tenor has always puzzled campanologists. It is a fine-toned bell, with a bold, rich clear strike-note now mellow with age. Undoubtedly it is the product of highly skilled craftsmen; but neither the plant

used in the construction of its moulds nor the moulding stamps used to form its decoration and inscription belong to the stock in trade of any known founder. It may at first seem strange that the largest bell in the largest and most famous ring in the county should be of anonymous origin, but it should be remembered that the art of bell-founding declined considerably during the second half of the 16th century, and that the casting of such a bell would be a formidable task for a local man: the most natural thing for him to do would be to call in the assistance of some of his contemporaries. In these circumstances they would not use their own individual founders' marks and moulding stamps. It is noticeable that the bell has none of the characteristics of the work of the Reading or London founders. Its lettering and mouldings resemble those on bells cast by Bartholomew Atton, of Buckingham, the type of decoration favours that used by the Leicester founders, and the inscription, 'Trinitate sacra fiat haec campana beata,' is peculiar to the Nottingham foundry at this period.

Famed the world over in song and verse is Great Tom of Christ Church, now used as a clock bell and tolled 101 strokes every evening at five minutes past nine. It is a descendant of one of the bells of Oseney Abbey. When rung from the ground floor of the Cathedral it needed the combined strength of 16 men to swing it. This bell seems to have been a source of profit to bell founders, for it was recast at least six times in the 17th century. The article of the agreement for recasting this bell by Michael Darby, of Whitechapel, in 1654 is still preserved in the Christ Church Treasury. The inscription on the bell read: 'Michael Darbye did run me Great Tom of Oxford for to be and here I hang until I crack for I am metal to the back.'

But Darby's bell had a short life. There were the three attempts to recast Great Tom by Richard Keene, of Woodstock, in 1678, and finally in the following year Christopher Hodson, of London, agreed to cast a bell 7ft. in diameter for the sum of £180, although his fees were increased to £190. And this 7 ton 7½ cwt. bell is still in being, although repairs were carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank as recently as 1946.

Living in Oxford when Hodson cast his bell was Richard Duckworth, who was Rector of St. Martin's, Carfax, and the author of the first book on change ringing. He is likely to have been the composer of Oxford Bob, Double Oxford and Oxford Treble Bob, the last-named method dating from the year 1677.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 21, 1952, in 3 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5280 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 25 cwt.

*WILLIAM A. LACEY .. Treble	JOHN R. SMITH .. 7
†DEREK G. GOODMAN .. 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 8
PETER J. STANFORTH .. 3	SIDNEY O. CHENEY .. 9
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON .. 4	HAROLD J. POOLE .. 10
JOHN HILL .. 5	HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. 11
HARRY G. WAYNE .. 6	WILLIAM J. ROOT .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

* First peal of Maximus. † First peal of Maximus on an 'inside' bell. The conductor's 50th peal of Surprise Maximus on tower bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thurs., April 24, 1952, in 3 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS

Tenor 26½ cwt. in D.

GEORGE E. OLIVER .. Treble	*ALAN ELSMORE .. 7
*JOAN BERESFORD .. 2	*GEORGE W. HUGHES .. 8
HERBERT KNIGHT .. 3	*SAMUEL BIRCH .. 9
*†J. NORMAN HADLEY .. 4	*AUBREY M. PICKERING .. 10
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 5	*†MAURICE G. TURNER .. 11
*†ERNEST STITCH .. 6	HOWARD HOWELL .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES.

Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* First peal of Maximus. † Completes Kent Treble Bob from Minor to Maximus. First peal of Maximus as conductor.

TEN BELL PEALS

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb.

GEORGE E. FEARN .. Treble	EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 6
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 2	*REGINALD WOODYATT .. 7
*CLAUDIA A. HARDING .. 3	SYDNEY T. HOLT .. 8
*GEORGE E. LARGE .. 4	HENRY H. FEARN .. 9
ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 5	FRANK E. HAYNES .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.

* First peal of Yorkshire Royal.

HATFIELD, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ETHELREDRA,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in D.

*DAVID J. HISCOCK .. Treble	†WILLIAM T. HOLMES .. 6
*JACK S. DEAR .. 2	*EDWARD G. BENNETT .. 7
*JOHN KEMP .. 3	SIDNEY F. CARTER .. 8
*DEREK J. WILSDEN .. 4	*ALAN F. CULL .. 9
STANLEY HUCKLE .. 5	THOMAS NEWMAN .. Tenor

Composed by W. WILSON.

Conducted by SIDNEY F. CARTER.

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Bob Royal. First peal of Royal as conductor.

LEOMINSTER, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HERFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5067 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 22½ cwt.

HOWARD HOWELL .. Treble	J. NORMAN HADLEY .. 6
ALAN ELSMORE .. 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. 7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 3	SAMUEL BIRCH .. 8
WILLIAM DAVIES .. 4	MAURICE G. TURNER .. 9
ERNEST STITCH .. 5	LESLIE EVANS .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES.

Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

125th peal as conductor.

NEWBURY, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PUDSEY SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb. in D.

DAVID WOODLEY .. Treble	NOEL J. DISERENS .. 6
MARGARET L. TUTT .. 2	REGINALD W. REX .. 7
MICHAEL E. H. BARROW .. 3	J. RICHARD CHAUNDY .. 8
WALTER F. JUDGE .. 4	FREDK. A. H. WILKINS .. 9
WILLIAM C. PORTER .. 5	ALAN R. PINK .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

The first peal of Pudsey Surprise Royal by all the band.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 37 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb. in C sharp.

THOMAS W. CROWE .. Treble	KENNETH W. CHEESEMAN .. 6
KENNETH ARTHUR .. 2	EDMUND P. CROWDY .. 7
JOHN A. BROWN .. 3	DENIS A. BAYLES .. 8
ERIC N. HARRISON .. 4	W. NORMAN PARK .. 9
WILLIAM E. ROBINSON .. 5	ROLAND PARK .. Tenor

Composed by HENRY G. MILES. Conducted by DENIS A. BAYLES.

First peal of Grandsire Caters by all except 9 and 10. The conductor's 100th peal for the Association. Rung for the birthday of H.M. Queen Elizabeth.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5075 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 24 cwt.

W. BAXTER .. Treble	*R. GOULD .. 6
MRS. F. A. PENN .. 2	E. PARKER .. 7
P. W. J. HARDING .. 3	F. A. PENN .. 8
R. AMOR .. 4	G. HARDING .. 9
F. SLATFORD .. 5	L. HITCHINS .. Tenor

Composed by F. HAYES.

Conducted by F. A. PENN.

* First peal of Caters. First peal of Caters as conductor. A wedding compliment to Mr. R. Newton and Miss B. Cleveland, a ringer of this tower.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

KETTERING, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., April 15, 1952, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.

BRIAN AUSTIN .. Treble	GEORGE CARE .. 5
ERNEST E. WHITMORE .. 2	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 6
JOHN KING .. 3	RONALD C. NOON .. 7
BRIAN S. COPE .. 4	GEOFFREY E. WATSON .. Tenor

Composed by P. I. CHAPMAN.

Conducted by GEOFFREY E. WATSON.

BULKINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in G.

*JUNE KNIGHT .. Treble	HUBERT E. ASHLEY .. 5
MARGARET A. BAILEY .. 2	†F. ANTHONY ELSON .. 6
ROSEMARY E. ASHLEY .. 3	ALFRED J. HINDE .. 7
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 4	CECIL T. NEALE .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by HUBERT E. ASHLEY.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung for the silver wedding of Mr. S. Carter, a ringer and chorister of the above church, and Mrs. Carter.

**CHURCH & TURRET CLOCKS**

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READING, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 19, 1952, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.		Tenor 25½ cwt.
RONALD F. DISERENS .. Treble	JOHN HILL 5	
ALBERT DISERENS 2	DAVID E. PARSONS 6	
MARGARET L. TUTT 3	JOHN CHILCOTT 7	
WALTER F. JUDGE 4	NOEL J. DISERENS Tenor	

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 21, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE,

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

*DAVID WOODLEY .. Treble	GEORGE F. BURTON .. 5
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS 2	*EDMUND E. PEARSON .. 6
*CHARLES COLES 3	*PETER ANGER 7
FRANCIS S. BEAUMONT .. 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in the method. Rung for the 26th birthday of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

CHUDLEIGH, DEVONSHIRE.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARTIN AND MARY,

A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. in F.

E. MAURICE ATKINS .. Treble	CYRIL C. DEEM 5
FRANK WILLS 2	WILLIAM D. ASHDOWN .. 6
BETTY SMITH 3	ARTHUR T. TRUMAN .. 7
HORACE W. J. BUTT .. 4	FREDERICK WERFORD .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.

Rung on St. George's Day as a birthday compliment to Her Majesty the Queen.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Washbrook's Variation.	Tenor 6½ cwt.
COLIN HARRISON .. Treble	HAROLD MARCON 5
JOHN P. FIDLER 2	A. HUBERT EPLETT 6
PAUL L. TAYLOR 3	JOSEPH A. FENTON 7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. 4	*ROY MARSDEN Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH A. FENTON.

* First peal.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in G.
RHODA HEMMINGS .. Treble	WM. GEOFFREY HAIR .. 5
*GEORGE W. RIDGWAY .. 2	ERNEST MORRIS 6
†JOAN COTTON 3	PERCIVAL W. GRICE .. 7
WILLIAM H. CURSON .. 4	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples 'inside.' † First peal in the method.

PETWORTH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Six-part.	Tenor 18 cwt. 9 lb. in E.
*IAN WINDWOOD .. Treble	HAROLD F. WOOD 5
RAYMOND P. WOOD .. 2	BASIL W. WHITE 6
ERNEST TREAGUS 3	LEONARD STILWELL 7
†BRIAN J. LUFF 4	CECIL DENYER Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD STILWELL.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples, Rung half-muffled in memoriam Lord Leconfield, patron of the living.

WIGSTON MAGNA, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., April 25, 1952, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation of Thurstans'.	Tenor 16 cwt. 11 lb. in E.
HAROLD J. POOLE .. Treble	ALFRED BALLARD 5
JOHN R. SMITH 2	JOHN HILL 6
PETER J. STANFORTH .. 3	HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. 7
*RICHARD J. CARTER .. 4	TH. EDWARD HARROLD .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung in honour of the appointment of the Rev. G. H. West, M.A., Vicar of Wigston Magna, as honorary Canon of Leicester Cathedral.

ALLOA, CLACKMANNAN.

THE SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

W. H. PICKETT .. Treble	*ERNEST BOUMPHREY .. 5
*†JOYCE E. TAYLOR .. 2	*ERNEST A. STAFFORD .. 6
*HENRY F. SARGENT .. 3	THOMAS C. WINDERAM .. 7
*†KATHARINE M. H. BRANSON 4	DONALD R. MARSHALL .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by DONALD R. MARSHALL.
* First peal of Kent. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Major. Rung for the wedding in this church of Miss Jean F. Paton, of Alloa, to Mr. Kenneth B. W. MacLellan, of Bearsden.

BOCKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

FRANK CLAYDON .. Treble	RONALD SUCKLING 5
DAVID W. BEARD 2	HILDA G. SNOWDEN 6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN 3	CHARLES E. WILLMINGTON 7
FRANK V. GANT 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION Tenor

Composed by CHAS. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.
In memoriam William Keeble.

OCTOGENARIANS' PEAL

DEPTFORD, LONDON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN WHEADON (age 80) Treble	RICHARD W. STANNARD (82) 5
ISAAC EMERY (80) 2	WILLIAM J. NUDDS (84) .. 6
FRANK BENNETT (82) .. 3	HARRY STALHAM (80) .. 7
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS (81) 4	GEORGE H. DAYNES (82) .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

This is the first full peal ever rung by eight ringers over 80 years of age. A birthday compliment to Jean Barnett, great-granddaughter of the conductor.

FINCHLEY, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt.

THOMAS BEVAN .. Treble	JOHN L. MORRIS 5
GEOFFREY F. CARTER .. 2	LEONARD E. TUBB 6
FREDERICK A. BARKER .. 3	MAURICE J. BUTLER 7
ARTHUR W. J. BUTLER .. 4	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by ARTHUR W. J. BUTLER.
First peal as conductor. Rung on the anniversary of the first peal of Plain Bob Major (London, April 26th, 1725).

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 23 lb. in G.

*H. JOHN VERITY .. Treble	GEOFFREY F. PAGE 5
PATRICIA CLARKE 2	FREDERICK J. CRAPNELL .. 6
RODERICK W. PIPE .. 3	SIDNEY W. ARBON 7
MAX P. PAGE 4	CECIL W. PIPE Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by RODERICK W. PIPE.
* First peal, aged 13. First peal in the method as conductor.

HAWKHURST, KENT. THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt.

WILLIAM GORRINGE Treble	THOMAS E. SONE 5
REGINALD E. LAMBERT 2	BENJAMIN F. BAKER 6
ROBERT T. LAMBERT 3	ROBERT COLLINS 7
DORIS E. COLGATE 4	S. GEOFFREY WATERS .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
Quickest peal of Major on the bells.

KEMPSTON, BEDFORDSHIRE. THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5184 ST. CLEMENT'S BOB MAJOR

Tenor 17½ in E.

*MARY E. STEPHENS Treble	ALAN S. SMITH 5
J. MICHAEL STEPHENS 2	CHRIS. G. WOODHEAD 6
*DAPHNE J. HARE 3	C. HENRY HARDING 7
*MALCOLM G. HOOTON 4	BRYAN G. SIMS Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by J. MICHAEL STEPHENS.
* First peal of Major. First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells and for the Association.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE. THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

M. J. Morris's Transposition of J. J. Parker's Twelve-part.
Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.

OLIVE SMITH Treble	FRANCIS R. LOWE 5
HAROLD TAYLOR 2	ALBERT E. THOMPSON 6
KATHLEEN I. TIVEY 3	WILLIAM LANCASTER 7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 4	REV. R. J. MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.
Rung as a 70th birthday compliment to the father of the ringer of the 5th.

ORMESBY, YORKSHIRE.

THE CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt.

THOS. M. COX (Pres.) .. Treble	*W. J. PETER WISHART .. 5
P. W. B. SEMMENS (Sec.) .. 2	*G. A. ROBINSON (Treas.) .. 6
*RALPH JACKSON 3	J. C. POLLARD (Vice-Pres.) .. 7
GEORGE P. KEMBALL 4	*C. ROBINSON (Vice-Pres.) Tenor

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by J. CYRIL POLLARD.
* First peal in method. First peal for the re-formed Association.
Rung to mark the wedding of Dorothy Leng and E. Peter Rock, and the birth of a son to Dorothy and Alan Robinson.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

RONALD W. STEWARD .. Treble	HORACE J. MANSFIELD .. 5
LESLIE FOSTER 2	HARRY D. LISTER 6
*ROBERT E. LESTER 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL .. 7
GEORGE W. PIPE 4	EDWARD E. DAVEY Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.
* 50th peal. First peal in the method as conductor. In memoriam Shelford Sparrow and Thomas Langford Sparrow.

HAWKLEY, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., April 27, 1952, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in A.

*CHARLES SANGWIN .. Treble	PETER N. BOND 5
BLANCHE M. BALL 2	JOHN W. MEADE 6
NORMAN J. SMITH 3	JOHN H. HUNT 7
E. WINIFRED KEYS 4	FREDERICK W. BURNETT .. Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by FREDK. W. BURNETT.
* First peal of Major. First peal on the eight bells. Rung as birthday anniversary compliments to Messrs. P. N. Bond and J. W. Meade.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

DAWLEY MAGNA, SHROPSHIRE.

NON-ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 14, 1952, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being fourteen six-scores of Grandsire, seven six-scores of April Day and twenty-one six-scores of Plain Bob.	Tenor 10 cwt.
MARGARET RUSHTON .. Treble	R. MICHAEL BARNETT .. 4
MARIE BAILEY 2	HENRY DOUGLAS 5
ALAN V. EDWARDS 3	ALAN BRISCOE Tenor

Conducted by HENRY DOUGLAS (Grandsire) and
ALAN V. EDWARDS (April Day and Plain Bob).

The first peal of Doubles on the bells and first peal by all the band.
Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Michael Barnett.

LULLINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Wed., April 16, 1952, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and five extents of Plain Bob.	Tenor 14 cwt.
PERCIVAL W. GRICE .. Treble	WILLIAM F. WOODWARD .. 4
RHODA HEMMINGS 2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON 5
WILLIAM H. CURSON 3	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH WILLIAM COTTON.

A 70th birthday compliment to Mr. W. Darby and 84th to Miss Nelle Wright, both of Lullington.

MARTLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 17, 1952, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents, 10 callings.	Tenor 14 cwt.
THOMAS W. LEWIS .. Treble	REGINALD WOODYATT .. 4
ALLEN MORGAN 2	CYRIL TANSELL 5
*WILLIAM H. A. COMPTON .. 3	FREDERICK C. PUGH .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS W. LEWIS.
* First peal of Stedman Doubles.

BAGBOROUGH, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PANCAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings.	Tenor 20 cwt.
*DERRICK LOCK .. Treble	FRANK MORRIS 4
HARRY COMMINS 2	CLAUDE TARR 5
REGINALD STONE 3	TOM HANCOCK Tenor

Conducted by CLAUDE TARR.
* First peal.

BREEDON-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND HARDULPH,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In 16 methods, viz.: (1) Durham, York, Beverley, Berwick, Surfleet, Hexham; (2) London, Wells, Cuneastre; (3) Cambridge, Primrose; (4) Chester, Munden; (5) Carlisle; (6) Westminster, Allendale; (7) Cambridge.	Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.
ROGER G. SOARS .. Treble	JOHN A. UNDERWOOD .. 4
RICHARD E. MANTON .. 2	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY 5
C. WILLIAM HALL 3	*ROLAND BENISTON Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

* 75th peal. First peal on the bells. First peal in 16 Surprise methods for the Guild and by all the band.

BURY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different 720's.	Tenor 10 cwt.
GORDON WHEWELL .. Treble	ROGER LEIGH 4
NORMAN SMITH 2	KENNETH HARTLEY 5
WILLIAM LANGHORNE .. 3	BRIAN H. WOOD Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN H. WOOD.
Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss E. Bruce.

HIGH HALDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 13 cwt.
 *MARY F. FENSON Treble | MARK W. MARSHALL .. 4
 PERCY REEVES 2 | THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. 5
 WILFRED W. RING 3 | MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. Tenor
 Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal.

STANWELL, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 19, 1952, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 13 cwt. 14 lb.
 *JANET E. LAWRENCE .. Treble | PETER A. LAWRENCE .. 4
 FRANK T. BLAGROVE .. 2 | ROBERT G. LAY .. 5
 .. 3 | TONY PRICE Tenor
 Conducted by TONY PRICE.

* First peal. F. T. Blagrove's first double-handed tower bell peal.

WELLAND, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 10 six-scores Grandsire, 10 callings, 4 Morris's 240 Grand-sire, 12 six-scores April Day, and 12 six-scores Bob Doubles.
 Tenor 11 cwt.

TOM HILL Treble | FRANK LAWRENCE 4
 CHARLES HAYTINGS 2 | JACK ROBERTS 5
 KEN SPIERS 3 | LEN DOVEY Tenor
 Conducted by JACK ROBERTS.

APSLEY END, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 21, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPICED SURPRISE MINOR

In 25 methods, with 111 changes of method: (1) Chester, Munden, Alnwick, Newcastle; (2) London, Wells, Cunecastre; (3) Lightfoot, Wearmouth, Rossendale, Stamford; (4) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Primrose, Hull, Bourne; (5) Beverley, Berwick, Hexham, Surfleet; (6) York, Durham; (7) Allendale, Westminster. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*JOE HOBBS Treble | AUGUSTIN V. GOOD .. 4
 WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT .. 2 | †DEREK E. LATCHFORD .. 5
 *WILLIAM C. HUGHES .. 3 | WALTER AYRE Tenor
 Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal in 25 methods. † First peal in more than 16 methods.
 First peal in 25 Surprise methods by all the band, on the bells, in the county, and by the Association. Specially rung in honour of the birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

MISTERTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., April 21, 1952, in 2 Hours and 24 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 1,440 Plain Bob and 3,600 Grandsire. Tenor 7 cwt.
 *HORACE GOOSEY Treble | †JOSEPH S. HAYNES .. 3
 †KENNETH H. ROWLAND .. 2 | PETER J. THOMAS .. 4
 DENIS ALLSOP Tenor
 Conducted by PETER J. THOMAS.

* First peal away from cover bell. † First peal in two methods. A
 26th birthday compliment to Her Majesty the Queen.

HUTTON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 different extents, using quick, slow and the normal start.
 Tenor 8 cwt.

*FRANK V. GANT Treble | *DAVID W. BEARD 3
 HENRY T. WILSON 2 | HARRY TURNER 4
 JOHN H. CRAMPION Tenor
 Conducted by HARRY TURNER.

* 25th peal together. The ringers of 2nd, 3rd and 5th have completed the sequence of Stedman from Doubles to Cinques. Rung for St. George's Day.



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STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

HILDA G. SNOWDEN Treble	CLAUDE SNOWDEN 4
FRANK CLAYDON 2	JOHN WARNER 5
*JOHN LEEMING 3	RONALD SUCKLING Tenor

Conducted by RONALD SUCKLING.

* First peal. Rung in honour of St. George of England.

TICKNALL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's each of St. Clement's and Oxford Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

T. J. MARRIOTT Treble	L. WARREN 4
*MISS A. S. NOBLE 2	W. G. SOAR 5
P. MARRIOTT 3	†A. J. MARRIOTT Tenor

Conducted by W. G. SOAR.

* First peal of Minor. † Has now 'circled' tower. Rung for the Patronal Festival.

OFFENHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND MILBURGH,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two different extents each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Bob, and one extent of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

WILFRED J. NEWMAN .. Treble	FREDERICK G. NURDEN .. 4
*GERALD C. HEMMING .. 2	R. ROGER SAVORY .. 5
GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 3	E. TREVOR NEWBURY .. Tenor

Conducted by R. ROGER SAVORY.

* First peal in more than one method. First peal of Minor as conductor. Southern Branch quarterly peal.

STAVERTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(The Old Davenport Society.)

On Sat., April 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

*MARY E. GOODENOUGH .. Treble	Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. in G.
MAUD CLARKE 2	VICTOR A. PERRY 4
MALCOLM J. V. CHOWN .. 3	HAROLD HAYNES 5
	ERNEST G. ORLAND Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST G. ORLAND.

* First peal.

HANDBELL PEALS

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., April 11, 1952, in 1 Hour and 45 Minutes,

AT 53, LEYS ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents.

*PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 1—2	Tenor size 8 in C.
JOHN KING 5—6	ROBIN G. TURNER 3—4

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

* First peal on six handbells. A welcome home to Patrick Chapman on his demobilisation from H.M. Forces.

LONDON, S.E.1.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., April 18, 1952, in 2 Hours and 14 Minutes,

IN COUNTY HALL,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED MAJOR

Being 1,920 Plain Bob, 1,760 Double Bob and 1,320 Little Bob with 231 changes of method. Tenor size 16 in B.

*THOMAS J. LOCK 1—2	*WILFRID G. WILSON .. 5—6
*EDWIN A. BARNETT .. 3—4	EDWIN J. LINDLEY .. 7—8

Adapted from B. ANNABLE.

Conducted by EDWIN J. LINDLEY.

* First peal in the method. First peal in three methods as conductor.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5093 GRANDSIRE CATERS

No. 33.

Tenor size 15 in C.

ROY C. HURST 1—2	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5—6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 3—4	ARTHUR V. DAVIS 7—8
FRED PAICE 9—10	

Composed by M. J. MORRIS. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

RISLEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT 85, DERBY ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.

*ALFRED MOULD 1—2	*JACK BAILEY 5—6
CLEMENT GLENN 3—4	DENIS R. CARLISLE .. 7—8

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

* First handbell peal in the method.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., April 23, 1952, in 1 Hour and 44 Minutes,

AT 53, LEYS ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents.

Tenor size 8 in C.

*MALCOLM KING 1—2	ROBIN G. TURNER 3—4
JOHN KING 5—6	

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

* First peal (aged 14).

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., April 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED MAJOR

In eight methods, comprising 1,472 Plain Bob, 1,392 Gainsborough Little Bob, 576 Little Bob, 448 Reverse Bob, 320 each of Double and St. Clement's Bob, 288 Wellington Little Bob, and 224 Crayford Little Bob, with 399 changes of method. Tenor size 15 in C.

WILLIAM G. YOUNG .. 1—2	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5—6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 3—4	ROY C. HURST 7—8

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., April 27, 1952, in 2 Hours and 13 Minutes,

AT 22, YORK STREET, REDFIELD,

A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

ERIC SUTTON 1—2	JACK R. WORRALL 5—6
FREDERICK J. SAMPSON .. 3—4	REGINALD G. HOOPER .. 7—8

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

First peal of Major on handbells as conductor. A birthday compliment to the conductor and his twin sister.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Wed., April 30, 1952, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes,

IN THE CATHEDRAL BELFRY,

A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 16 in B flat.

*BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 1—2	FRANK E. HAYNES 5—6
J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 3—4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. 7—8

Composed by R. F. B. SPEED. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* 50th peal on handbells.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Wed., April 30, 1952, in 1 Hour and 58 Minutes,

AT SALTLEY COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation). Tenor size 14 in D.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 1—2	WILFRID F. MORETON .. 5—6
*JOHN R. MAYNE 3—4	†BRIAN R. SUTTON 7—8

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal in the method 'in hand.' † First peal in the method.

QUARTER PEALS

ATTENBOROUGH, NOTTS.—On April 25th, 1,320 Bob Doubles: A. Shakespeare 1, W. R. Harrison 2, P. Rose 3, M. Bailey 4, D. J. Marshall (cond.) 5, D. Bateman 6. First quarter for 1, 3 and 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Miss K. C. Day, youngest daughter of the vergers, Mr. T. M. Day.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.—On April 26th, 1,344 Yorkshire Surprise Major: H. Baker 1, R. J. Lancelfield (first quarter of Surprise) 2, W. C. Marshall 3, M. W. Marshall 4, A. J. Lancelfield 5, W. W. Ring 6, T. Cullingworth 7, M. S. Lancelfield (cond.) 8.

BIRMINGHAM.—On April 20th, at Bishop Ryder's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. E. Fearn 1, Miss M. Reay 2, A. Ager 3, S. O'C. Holloway 4, H. H. Fearn 5, G. W. Critchley 6, F. E. Haynes (cond.) 7, W. T. Froggatt 8.

BRAMPTON, HUNTS.—On April 23rd, 1,260 Grand-sire Doubles: J. W. F. Allen 1, Lucy Allen (first quarter) 2, Elizabeth Smith (first quarter) 3, E. J. Whiting 4, R. F. Baker (cond.) 5. Believed first quarter by a local service band. For St. George's Day.

BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. I. Chapman 1, E. E. Whitmore 2, R. G. Turner 3, R. C. Noon (cond.) 4, J. King 5, G. E. Watson 6, H. Wooding 7, H. Pettitt 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Bernard James Saddington, 50 years a ringer.

CASTON, NORFOLK.—On April 19th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: F. Arnold 1, F. Philippo 2, C. Banham 3, F. Pearson 4, D. Heighton (first quarter as cond.) 5, J. Barnes 6.

CAWTHORNE, YORKS.—On St. George's Day, a Date touch, 1,952 charges Minor (20 Bob Doubles, 132 Bob Minor, 1,200 Kent and 600 Oxford): B. Broadhead 1, G. K. Crompton 2, F. Cowling 3, R. Brogan 4, H. Rusby 5, M. F. Moxon (cond.) 6.

COWBRIDGE, GLAM.—On April 16th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Hannington 1, E. Stith 2, G. I. Lewis 3, R. E. Cole 4, A. Hoare 5, D. Hoare 6, A. J. Pittman (cond.) 7, T. M. Roderick 8.

DAWLEY MAGNA, SALOP.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. Rushton 1, M. Bailey 2, R. M. Barnett 3, S. Rushton 4, H. Douglas (first quarter as cond.) 5, A. V. Edwards 6. First quarter for 1, 3 and 4. Rung for the Easter Festival, and birthday compliments to the conductor's mother and the tenor ringer.

EPSOM, SURREY.—On April 26th, at St. Martin's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. M. Besant (first quarter) 1, E. J. Lindley (cond.) 2, S. Mason 3, R. C. Spittle 4, J. S. Seager 5, J. E. Beams 6, A. E. Harman 7, D. Donalds 8.

FRIEZLAND, YORKS.—On April 20th, 1,320 Oxford Treble Bob: J. Smith 1, L. Dawson 2, H. Nutt (cond.) 3, C. Henshaw 4, A. Farrand 5, A. J. Bennett 6. Rung for the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. H. Nutt.

GAYTON, NORTHANTS.—On Mar. 24th, 1,260 Minor (being 720 Kent, 240 Oxford Treble Bob, 300 Plain Bob): G. Mansfield 1, I. Dicken (first of Minor in 3 methods) 2, R. Paul (first of Minor) 3, A. Mansfield 4, M. Stephenson (first of Minor) 5, W. F. Eyden (first of Minor and cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of James Hillyer, ringer and sexton at this church for many years.

GODSHILL, I.O.W.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 780 Grandsire): E. Westmore 1, E. Thorne 2, L. Bailey (cond.) 3, C. Callaway 4, C. Dennes 5, F. Rowson 6. Also 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. Rowson 1, S. Hollis 2, E. Thorne 3, C. Dennes (cond.) 4, E. Westmore 5, C. Morris 6.

HELMDON, NORTHANTS.—On April 25th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: W. J. Chester 1, Miss D. Spokes (first of Minor) 2, J. Steel 3, M. Saunders 4, C. Hinton 5, W. Yates (cond.) 6.

HESTON, MIDDLEX.—On Palm Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Newnes 1, A. Jones 2, B. Rose 3, D. Howells (first quarter 'inside') 4, W. W. Webb 5, W. J. Winters 6, W. A. Lewis (cond.) 7, J. Ricketts 8.

HOOLE, CHESHIRE.—On April 13th, 1,320 Grandsire Doubles: B. Harris (cond.) 1, Roselyn Crewe (first 'inside') 2, E. C. Crewe 3, Dilys Jones 4, R. G. Corby 5, S. S. Wood 6.

HURST, BERKS.—On April 18th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: J. Froome 1, S. Day 2, C. Eele 3, Mrs. A. J. N. Rance 4, L. Hall 5, B. C. Castle 6, W. Mortimer 7, A. J. N. Rance (cond.) 8. First of Major for 1, 3, 5 and 7.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.—On April 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Thorne 1, P. Newing, R.A.F., 2, W. F. Judge 3, E. Moore 4, D. Woodley 5, F. Beaumont 6, Wm. Judge (cond.) 7, G. Webb 8.

MONKEN HADLEY, MIDDLEX.—On April 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Richards 1, H. S. Arbin 2, Miss S. L. Evans 3, M. Soper 4, R. Fraser 5, C. W. Ward (cond.) 6, W. Langley 7, D. Tinsley 8. In honour of the birthday of H.M. the Queen.

NAILSEA, SOMERSET.—On April 21st, 1,260 Doubles (being 360 April Day, 480 Plain Bob and 420 Grandsire): E. J. Baker 1, J. J. Yeates 2, E. F. Shearn 3, L. Derrick 4, C. Korright (cond.) 5, C. J. Miles 6. Rung for the birthday of H.M. Queen Elizabeth.

NEWINGTON-NEXT-FOLKESTONE, KENT.—On April 25th, 1,440 Doubles (720 Plain Bob, 720 Grandsire): Miss R. P. Longhurst (first in two methods) 1, G. F. Gray 2, C. A. Wratten (cond.) 3, E. J. Walker 4, M. J. Martin (first in two methods 'inside') 5, J. Soles 6. Also on April 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss R. P. Longhurst 1, J. Chittenden 2, P. Crook, sen., 3, M. J. Martin 4, C. A. Wratten (cond.) 5, J. Soles 6.

NORTH OCKENDON, ESSEX.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Doubles (360 Stedman, 480 Plain and 420 Grandsire): F. V. Gant (cond.) 1, A. R. Chapman 2, S. Meadows 3, S. Penfold 4, C. E. Brown 5, W. J. Carter 6. Also on April 17th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: W. J. Carter 1, A. R. Chapman 2, D. M. Salisbury 3, A. J. Salisbury 4, F. V. Gant (cond.) 5, C. E. Brown 6. First of Minor for 1 and 3.

RIPPLE, WORCS.—On Mar. 30th, 1,260 Doubles (being 2 six-scores and one 240 Grandsire, 2 six-scores April Day and 44 six-scores Bob Doubles): P. Bennett 1, C. Haylings 2, K. Spiers 3, B. Spiers 4, J. Roberts (cond.) 5, E. Sherwood 6. Rung as birthday compliment to C. Haylings and his mother.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Hicks 1, G. King 2, E. Avery 3, J. Harris 4, A. Smith 5, A. Hoad 6, W. H. Hoad (cond.) 7, F. Hook 8. Also on April 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Hicks 1, Helen Gorringe 2, E. Avery 3, W. Gorringe 4, A. Hoad 5, W. H. Hoad (cond.) 6, G. King 7, J. Harris 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam John Hartner, clerk at the above church for 22 years and member of the choir for 70 years.

SHRIVENHAM, BERKS.—On April 23rd, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: D. Goodridge 1, Miss P. Manning 2, Miss M. Skinner 3, T. Stone 4, A. Peake 5, B. Bladen 6, P. Anger (cond.) 7, E. Vincent 8. First quarter in the method for 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8.

THAKEHAM, SUSSEX.—On April 15th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: Joy Gumbrell 1, Marian Skinner 2, C. B. Skinner 3, E. Foseberry 4, B. W. Farhall 5, C. Hone (cond.) 6.

WANTAGE, BERKS.—On April 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. R. Wood 1, A. E. Fullbrook 2, H. White 3, K. Leach (first quarter as cond.) 4, C. Lester 5, H. Gregory 6, H. C. Mulford 7, W. Seymour 8. On the occasion of the birthday of H.M. the Queen.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

The Middlesex County Association and Lon-
don Diocesan Guild decided at their annual
meeting at Clerkenwell to inaugurate a Bell
Restoration Fund.

To help the Hertfordshire
Association in their diffi-
cult financial position the
Northern District at its meeting at King's Wal-
den on April 26th decided to take a sixpenny
fee from all ringers at each meeting to help the
general funds of the Association.

Radley, Berks, bells are to be rehung.

Stalybridge is to have a local ringer as its
next Mayor in the person of Mr. Percy Walton.

Breedon-on-the-Hill is the 129th tower in
Leicestershire where Mr. Ernest Morris has
rung a peal.

The series of articles that appeared in 'The
Ringing World,' 1933-34, on 'English Towers
and their Bells,' by Mr. Ernest Morris, may
shortly be published in book form.

Because the Parochial Church Council of
Abbot's Ann, near Andover, have given the or-
ganist notice, the ringers in this five-bell tower
have resigned.

Very good instructional work is being done
at Shirley Church, Birmingham, by Mr. Vincent
A. Hemming, who during the past six months
has taught ten young ladies much about the
Exercise.

Mr. A. Nutt, of Greenfield, near Oldham,
informs us that it was his silver and not golden
wedding that was recently celebrated. We regret
we were misinformed and extend to them our
good wishes for another 25 years of happy mar-
ried life.

Trowbridge ringers and friends had the un-
usual privilege of ringing a peal for the wed-
ding of Miss B. Cleveland on April 26th and a
quarter peal on April 29th for the golden wed-
ding of Mr. S. Francis. Both Miss Cleveland
and Mr. Francis are regular ringers at Trow-
bridge Parish Church.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. J. Arthur Hoare, sec-
retary of the Swansea and
Brecon Diocesan Guild, in
extending his congratulations to the Hereford
band who rang five* peals in a day, writes that
the village of Llanfihangel Rhydithon is in the
Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. 'I was really
under the impression that a gentleman's agree-
ment existed between Diocesan Guilds, that
peals should be rung for the Diocese to which
the church belongs. However, I seem to be
wrong.'

The footnote to the peal of Single Oxford
rung at Burton-on-Stather on April 17th should
have been 'First in the method in the county,'
and not 'First for the Guild.' A peal had been
rung in this method at East Markham, Notts,
in 1936, for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

There are nearly 20 past members of Daventry
Grammar School who are ringers. They have
formed themselves into a section of the Old
Daventry Society. Their first peal was rung
at Staverton where many of the members were
taught the elements of change-ringing by the
late Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Powell.

It was appropriate that for the Cumberlands'
peal at Finchley on April 26th a composition of
the late Mr. C. H. Martin, who had been as-
sociated with the tower for many years, should
have been selected. There have been three pre-
vious peals on the eight bells at Finchley but
this is the first of Mr. Martin's compositions to
be rung on the bells.

The peal at Misterton on April 21st was rung
on the back five of the six there, the peal being
originally arranged for the five at North Kil-
worth, but owing to Mr. Charles Bennett's death
that day, last-minute arrangements had to be
made for the peal to be rung elsewhere. The
band wish to express their thanks to the Rector
of St. Leonard's, Misterton, for the use of his
bells at such short notice.

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THE HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Serious Financial Position

THE annual meeting of Hertford County Association was held at St. Albans on April 19th, members attending from all parts of the county with visitors from Willesden, Hornsey, Purton (Wilts), Brentford, Cambridge, and Liverpool. Many took advantage of ringing at Hatfield in the morning, including several promising youngsters from Norton and Baldock.

Ringing at the Cathedral, St. Peter's and St. Michael's Churches during the afternoon suffered somewhat by the absence of the committee, who had met to discuss the serious financial position of the Association.

Evensong at the Cathedral was attended by the members who were addressed by the Bishop of Bedford (the Rt. Rev. C. T. T. Wood), who preached an inspiring Easter message to the assembled ringers. The Dean (the Very Rev. C. Thicknesse) read the second lesson and a collection was taken in aid of the funds.

After tea, which was held at the Abbey Institute, the president (Mr. T. J. Southam) welcomed the Bishop of Bedford and other visitors. Apologies were received from the Lord Bishop of St. Albans, the Dean and Mr. E. G. Buck (Northern District secretary), who had left earlier. Greetings were received from Mr. A. Barnes, of Stockport, who rang his first peal at the Abbey on Easter Monday, 1887.

The minutes were then read and confirmed, followed by the election of Mrs. A. H. Martin as an honorary member, Messrs. E. Edmondson (Bootle) and V. Griffin (Purton) as non-resident life members, Messrs. A. Leighton, D. Biggs, A. Tompkins, B. Fensom (Flamstead) as probationers, also Messrs. H. M. Stevens (Essendon), R. Wells (Cathedral), A. R. Sherlock and Miss A. P. Collins (North Mimms) as ringing members.

A LOAN OF £150

Mr. G. W. Debenham presented the statement of accounts which showed an excess of expenditure over income of £100 19s. 8d., and proposed the acceptance of a loan of £150 from an anonymous friend of the Association to be repaid as soon as possible by special money-raising efforts such as socials, etc., by the Districts. He also gave notice that he would propose that the subscriptions of ringing members (over the age of 16) be raised to 5s. He would also like the Reserve Fund raised to a three-figure sum. The loan was agreed to and Mr. T. J. Lock proposed that a general meeting be called in six months' time and the date of October 18th was agreed on. Applications were received for a grant from the Voluntary Bell Fund from Redbourn and St. Stephen's, St. Albans. The sum of five guineas was voted to each.

In his first annual report, the secretary (Mr. H. V. Frost) referred to the number of towers without any ringers and suggested that if the clergy would help by finding suitable young people of either sex, willing to form new bands, then the Association would do its best to provide instructors. He also referred to the small number of members attached and appealed for an increase in membership throughout the county.

With reference to the serious financial position incurred by the high cost of printing the 1948-50 report, Mr. Frost thought it was essential that they continued to publish a report in order to maintain interest, as without it they tended to lose touch with each other, especially those members who needed that little bit of encouragement to keep them in the fold. He suggested that every band attached to the Association should donate the proceeds of fees received for ringing for one wedding during the year in order to repay the loan.

He reported with regret the loss by death of Messrs. J. North (St. Ippolyt's), W. Brad-

ford (Stevenage), G. Wolfe (Hitchin), W. Shepherd (Hemel Hempstead), Alderman A. Parkiss Ginn (Hertford) and that outstanding ringer and conductor, Mr. Maurice F. R. Hibbert, of Bushey, and asked the members to stand as a mark of respect.

Bell restoration.—Bengeo bells had been recast, Hemel Hempstead bells had been rehung in a new frame and Aldenham and Langleybury towers had been re-opened for ringing again. Great Amwell bells were to be augmented from three to five as soon as sufficient money was raised. There was, as yet, no news of anything being done at All Saints', Hertford, where the tower was unsafe, but at Knebworth an appeal had been assisted by the Northern District.

Peals.—The number was fifty, being six less than last year, but were well spread over the area and ranged from Doubles to Maximus. Fourteen members had rung their first peal and two their first as conductor. The peals were rung at 28 towers, including four outside the county. There were 17 conductors, Mr. F. W. Croft, having called eight peals, was the leading conductor. The most notable peal was undoubtedly the handbell peal in 12 Surprise Major methods by Mr. Cashmore's band. Four peals were rung in connection with the Festival of Britain. The reports of the District secretaries followed and, together with the general secretary's report, were adopted.

Election of officers.—President, Mr. A. E. Symonds (Hitchin); hon. treasurer, Mr. G. W. Debenham; hon. secretary, Mr. H. V.

Frost; assistant secretary, Mr. T. J. Southam; hon. librarian, Mr. C. F. Sayer; hon. auditor, Mr. H. H. Cook, C.A.

Proposed alterations to Rules.—The resolution affecting Rule 5, 'That the annual meeting be held in St. Albans at intervals of not less than three years,' was discussed, and it was agreed to amend the Rule by the insertion of the words of the resolution.

Rule 10, concerning peals and peal-booking fees, was deleted and a new rule was adopted, raising the peal fee to sixpence but containing no reference to entries in the peal book.

Mr. B. C. Johnson gave notice that he would raise the subject of the continuance of the peal book at the next general meeting.

It was agreed to delete Rule 12 as it stood and adopt a new rule in its place that no alteration in, or addition to, the rules be made except at an annual general or special meeting of the Association, and notice of any proposed addition or alteration must be sent to the general secretary, in writing, at least 21 days before one of such meetings.

Mr. S. H. Hoare voiced the congratulations of the Association to Mr. G. W. Cartmel, who was at the meeting; Mr. Cartmel being an original member of the Association and secretary for over 50 years.

Mr. W. G. Hughes proposed a comprehensive vote of thanks to all who had helped in any way with the success of the meeting, and ringing at St. Peter's concluded the affairs of a remarkable day in the history of the Association.

H. V. F.

CIVIC RECOGNITION FOR SELBY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Dinner and Meeting Combined

THE sixth annual meeting was held at Selby Abbey on April 19th. Methods rung during the afternoon on the Abbey bells included Kent Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, Bob Minor and rounds. Friends and visitors inspected the Abbey and several were attracted to the organ, where the organist (Mr. W. Hartley) kindly gave a full description and demonstration. A short service was held in the chancel at 4.30 p.m., conducted by the Rev. J. A. P. Kent (Vicar of Selby), who gave a very instructive address.

The general meeting (postponed owing to the King's death) was held in the vestry when the following officers were elected:—President, the Rev. B. A. Ramsker (Vicar of Snaith); chairman, Mr. H. S. Morley; Ringing Master, Mr. Fred Terry; committee—Messrs. J. J. Taylor and J. Thorley; secretary and treasurer, Mr. L. M. Woodhead.

The secretary's report and balance sheet were accepted, a slight increase in funds being shown over the previous year. Mr. S. H. Steel (York) proposed and Mr. C. W. King (Goole) seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Selby for use of the bells and to the local company for arrangements.

Members and friends then adjourned to the Londesborough Arms Hotel, Selby, where 63 persons participated in the annual dinner and social evening. Guests included Councillor Mooney (chairman of Selby U.D.C.) and Mrs. Mooney, Alderman R. Jolley (Mayor of Goole) and the Mayoress, Mrs. Jolley. The Rev. J. A. P. Kent and Mrs. Kent, the Rev. and Mrs. Pattinson and Mr. W. Hartley (organist, Selby Abbey).

After an excellent dinner, and the loyal toast honoured, the president (the Rev. B. A. Ramsker) welcomed the civic heads of Selby and Goole. He said it was good that the various church bell ringers represented could meet together on this occasion and be happy, and

compared the ringing of bells by ringers to amplified records which he had heard in some churches, the latter sounding far different from when the bells were properly rung.

Councillor Mooney thanked the president for his welcome and recalled that when living at Skipton he enjoyed hearing the sound of Gargrave bells.

The Mayor of Goole (Alderman R. Jolley) also expressed appreciation for the president's welcome and said that if the bells were not rung he felt there was something missing on Sundays. Ringers could be looked upon as 'Top Room Boys,' ringing out a message from Almighty God Sunday by Sunday. In conclusion, he said, 'I commend your work, keep on doing it. I appeal to the young people to take up the art of change-ringing.'

Mr. H. S. Morley ably proposed the toast, 'The Church,' saying that during his long experience as a ringer, he had always received every assistance from the clergy of the various churches visited.

The Rev. J. A. P. Kent, responding, said there were definite signs of a return to the Church, not only in this country but throughout the world.

The toast, 'The Society,' was proposed by Mr. T. H. Foster (Selby Abbey). He said that many years ago ringing was looked upon as an old man's job, but could assure the company that young people would be welcomed and encouraged. Mr. C. W. King (Goole) responded, paying tribute to the work of the secretary and to the advancement in the standard of ringing.

Mr. S. H. Steel (York) submitted the toast of 'The Visitors,' to which Mr. W. Hartley (organist, Selby Abbey) replied.

During the evening Mr. S. H. Steel (York) was the vocalist, accompanied by Mr. W. Hartley.

Dancing and games followed and the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' ended what was generally felt to be an excellent evening's entertainment.

L. M. W.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION Annual Meeting

THE annual general meeting was held in Norwich on Easter Monday. During the day good use was made of the bells of Mancroft, St. George Colegate, St. Giles', St. Miles' and St. John de Sepulchre, at the last named until the necessity for a neighbouring baby to sleep brought ringing to an end.

The annual service took place at Mancroft at 12 noon. At this, the new service book was used for the first time and members were delighted with it. The sermon was preached by the Rev. F. E. Vokes, Rector of Fornsett, and chairman of the South Norfolk Branch.

A splendid lunch was served in Mancroft Youth Centre, and all who had previously bought a ticket got a seat with comfort and convenience. At this, members were present from, if possible, even further afield than usual, including Loughborough, Feltham and Sutton and Hesse (Yorkshire). Ringers were present from other places, including Leicester, during the day.

At the business meeting, arising out of the minutes, it was noted that the new service book was now out, and the 1951 annual report would be out soon. Apologies were received from Messrs. W. L. Duffield and W. C. Duffield, whose absence was much regretted.

New members elected included Horace Easey and Douglas Mitchell (Pakefield), Miss Muriel Nunn (Wroxham) and Horace Womack (Fornsett).

The officers were re-elected as follows:—President, the Rev. A. St. J. Heard; general secretary and treasurer, the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow; the vice-presidents, en bloc; Ringing Master, Mr. Nolan Golden; hon. auditor, Mr. George Fletcher.

The accounts were presented by Mr. Fletcher, who was warmly applauded for his lucid manner of explaining the Association's financial position.

RULES TO BE REVISED

The meeting agreed to endorse the Standing Committee's action in getting on with the 1951 report on the lines of the 1950 one, also that the Sub-Committee should in due course take similar action over the 1952 report. It was agreed to make those over 65 honorary members of the Association. A committee consisting of the chairman and secretary of each Branch, with the chief officers of the Association, was appointed, with power to co-opt, to revise the Association Rules and Branch Rules. Mr. Nolan Golden spoke about the annual outing to Loughborough, etc., which he is arranging on May 24th.

Members stood in silence in honour of those who had passed away since the last annual meeting, including W. J. Lee, Russell Riches, William Dye, Charles Cracknell, C. Bailey, Maurice Hibbert, A. W. Taffender, T. Groombridge, C. Deane and J. George. Hope was expressed that at the next annual meeting the popular bells of St. George Colegate should be open in the morning; the Vicar said this would gladly be done. It was agreed that the new service forms should be paid for out of the Association's funds.

Thanks were expressed to Canon Waddington for the use of Mancroft bells and for having the service at Mancroft, to the Revs. Hay, Rae, Thurlow and Wallis, for use of the other City bells, the Rev. F. E. Vokes for his sermon and the organist of Mancroft for playing and thus sparing the Association from hearing the general secretary's efforts. At the conclusion of the meeting the bells were rung again until nightfall.



WINDOW RECENTLY DEDICATED IN THE RINGING CHAMBER AT ST. PETER'S, ST. ALBANS.

The window is the work of Martin Webb, one of the young ringers at St. Peter's, who rang his first peal recently, just prior to entering H.M. Forces.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD Stockport Branch at Norbury

Sixty-six members and friends attended the Stockport Branch meeting at Norbury on April 26th. The Vicar (the Rev. E. Taylor), who conducted the service, referred to the sudden and unexpected death of Miss Ethel Fernley, whose family had been closely identified with the work of Norbury Church for many years. He also spoke of the profound impression which the fellowship among ringers had made upon him.

An excellent tea preceded the business meeting at which the Vicar presided, supported by the Branch chairman, Mr. Elkins. Through a slight indisposition, the secretary was unable to attend, and his wife kindly acted as his deputy.

It was announced that the next quarterly meeting, on June 28th, would be at Knutsford, instead of Mobberley, and as a compliment to Mr. Percy Walton, who had been elected Mayor, the November meeting would be at Stalybridge St. Paul's. The heartiest congratulations of the Branch were extended to Mr. J. W. Hartley, who had recently completed 50 years' ringing service in the belfry of Norbury Church.

Tributes were paid to the memory of Dr. J. C. E. Simpson and to Miss Ethel Fernley, who had passed to higher service that morning.

Three new members, all from Norbury, were elected—Miss Molly May, Miss Valerie Duncan and Mr. Charles Povall. A letter of good wishes was read from Mr. W. W. Wolstencroft, an old and well-remembered member of the Branch. Members were asked to support the Wilmslow Festival of Christian Arts and Drama by attending the Open Ringing Day on May 17th. The meeting was particularly glad to welcome Mr. Barry Corbishley, who is recovering from a serious accident sustained some time ago.

BUCKINGHAM OUTING

Buckingham ringers, with friends from Maids Moreton and Wicken, had an enjoyable outing on Easter Monday ringing at Kibworth, St. John's and St. Margaret's, Leicester (where they met Mr. Ernest Morris), the Loughborough foundry (with a welcome from Mr. John Fidler), Loughborough Parish Church and Wigston Maena. Mr. Frank Townsend was 'father' of the party and the arrangements were made by Mr. W. Gates and Mr. D. Wesley.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD MEET AT WOOL

The quarterly meeting of the Dorchester Branch was held at the Church of the Holy Rood, Wool, which still displayed its charming Easter decorations. The light six bells were rung from 2.30 p.m. until 4 p.m. when the Guild service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. L. Edwards, who also gave the address. The lesson was read by the Branch chairman, Canon A. Wilkinson Markby.

Tea was served in the Recreation Hut by the ladies and was followed by the business meeting, conducted by the chairman.

New members were elected as follows:—Messrs. Douglas and Rodney Leak (Wool), the Misses E. Bowditch, P. Brown, I. Henson, G. Upshall, Mr. G. Henson (Bere Regis), Mr. V. Eeles and Miss P. M. Eeles (Milton Abbey).

It was agreed to hold the next meeting (subject to confirmation by the Vicar) at Milton Abbey, on Thursday, June 12th, and the next Branch practice at Dorchester on Saturday, May 3rd.

Mr. J. T. Godwin asked to be relieved of his office as trustee of the Branch funds and Mr. R. H. Duke, hon. assistant secretary, was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Fred Precey, Branch Ringing Master, stated that Charminster bells (6) were to be

rehung and he had been informed that the ringers would be grateful if some steps could be taken to give them some instruction in change ringing. The secretary was instructed to inform the Charminster band that such help was always at the disposal of any tower in need of it.

Mr. J. H. Hayne, hon. secretary, remarked that all ringers were always welcome at Branch practices, which had already proved their value, and were most popular.

The captain of Cattistock ringers, Mr. T. Lippitt, stated that it was hoped that their eight new bells would be dedicated by the Bishop of Sherborne, on Sunday, June 29th.

A vote of thanks to all concerned in the success of the meeting, especially to the Rev. A. L. and Mrs. Edwards and the ladies who had looked after their visitors so well, was proposed by Mr. Duke and supported by the chairman.

Mr. Edwards, in reply, said they were always pleased to welcome the Branch ringers and hoped to be able to do so again in the not too distant future.

Ringing was resumed until about 8.45 p.m. under the direction of Mr. Precey and his deputy, Mr. Stedman. J. H. H.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MEADOWSMANSHIP

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent, Raymond Philpott, appears to have taken Mr. Meadows' efforts far more seriously than ever was intended.

Of course there are doubtless, in ringing as in other pursuits, people whom this particular cap fits, but I venture the opinion that this was not the idea Mr. Meadows had in view. All the ringers I have spoken to about these articles, and I get around fairly extensively, are highly amused although a few are not quite certain of what is behind it, any more than people did not quite know what to make of the B.B.C.'s broadcast Lifemanship Lectures.

I can assure your correspondent that 'Meadowsmanship,' as he terms it, is not born of an unfortunate ringing life, and as to whether or not it was sired by the seven deadly sins, perhaps this brings us back to the beginning of my second paragraph.

In his last paragraph Mr. Philpott mentions chess. A well-known chess periodical has from time to time in the past year or two published items somewhat akin to the matter under review, but up to the time of writing no chess enthusiast appears to have been upset by them, although in the absence of any comment whatsoever I am unable to say if anyone was amused.

'Meadowsmanship' is amusing rather than salutary, as it is intended to be. Let us hate other views or ideas if we feel that way disposed but let us not deny their holders the right to express them.—Yours, etc.,

Worcester. BERNARD C. ASHFORD.

A YOUNG ESSEX BAND

Dear Sir,—You will see in last week's issue of 'The Ringing World' the report of the peal rung on the bells of All Saints' Church, Springfield, Essex, the average age of the band being 16½ years. This is believed to be unique in this division, but we should like to know if any other peal of its kind has been rung. The two girls are members of the All Saints' ringers and the four boys are members of the Danbury Church band, and apart from the one who rang the third bell, all have learnt to ring in the past two years, including the conductor, whose age is 16 years 4 months.—Yours faithfully,

Danbury, Chelmsford. PETER J. CAME.

FREEDOM BELL

Dear Sir,—The German Government has produced a range of postage stamps commemorating the 9½-ton Freedom Bell installed in the Rathaus Tower, Schöneberg, West Berlin, in 1950, by my firm. It is beautifully engraved and I have pleasure in enclosing a copy.

It would be interesting to know whether an English-founded bell has ever before formed the basis of a stamp design. Perhaps one of your readers may be able to say.

Croydon. FRED C. W. STEVENSON.

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THEY WERE ALL OVER EIGHTY

First Octogenarian Peal

A remarkable performance took place at St. John-the-Evangelist Church, Deptford, on Saturday, April 26th, when a band of ringers all over 80 years of age rang a peal of 5,024 Plain Bob Major in three hours and two minutes.

On October 20th a previous attempt was unsuccessful. There were two changes in the personnel of the band: Mr. John Wheadon, making the journey from Cheshire, replaced Mr. A. E. Reeves on the treble, and Mr. Harry Stalham, of Brighton, took the place of Mr. Frank Blondell on the seventh.

The previous record was a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Olave's, Hart Street, London, on October 21st, 1933, conducted by C. F. Winney. Then the united ages, 612 years, averaged 76½ years. In this peal the united ages were 651 years with an average of 81.375.

Editorial comment on the St. Olave's peal: 'A hundred and forty years ago, when James Barham rang his 100th peal, the total age of the band was 582. It has taken nearly a century and a half to stretch the average age by four years, but with the growing expectancy of life coupled with the increased efficiency of bell-hanging, it may not be anything like as long before another four years are added to the record. A peal by a band of the average age of 80 would be a wonderful achievement.'

BIOGRAPHY

Treble.—John Wheadon, born Lambeth, London, January 4th, 1872. Learnt to ring at Brenchley, Kent. Now ringing at St. Bartholomew's, Wilmslow, Cheshire. Rung about 360 peals.

Second.—Isaac Emery, born St. Mary Cray, June 25th, 1871. Learnt to ring at St. Mary Cray and now rings at SS. Peter and Paul's, Bromley. Rung 365 peals.

Third.—Frank Bennett, born at Basingstoke, January 27th, 1869. Learnt to ring at St. Michael's, Basingstoke, and now rings at St. Nicholas', Brighton. Rung 1,590 peals.

Fourth.—William H. B. Wilkins, born at Chatham, December 30th, 1870. Learnt to ring at Bobbing, now ringing at St. Ebbe's, Oxford. Rung 290 peals.

Fifth.—Richard W. Stannard, born at Saxmundham, Suffolk, September 5th, 1869. Started to ring at Leiston, Suffolk, in 1825 and rang three peals in 1886. Now ringing at St. Margaret's, Westminster, and Leytonstone. His 140 peals include 10,304 Bob Major on April 21st, 1888. He has rung on every national occasion since Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887.

Sixth.—William J. Nudds, born at Banham, Norfolk, May 29th, 1868, and learnt to ring at Banham. His regular towers are Stanmore and St. Margaret's, Westminster. Rung 501 peals.

Seventh.—Henry Stalham, born March 17th, 1872, at Eastbourne. He learnt to ring at St. Paul's, Brighton, and now rings at St. Nicholas', Brighton. Rung 223 peals.

Eighth.—George Henry Daynes, born Lyminge, near Folkestone, July 6th, 1870. Learnt to ring at East and West Malling, Kent, and now rings at St. John's, Deptford. Rung about 300 peals.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

The Editorial Committee gratefully acknowledges the following contributions to meet the added cost of 'The Ringing World':—

Peals.—Countesthorpe 3s., Chudleigh 4s., Hemingbrough 3s., Dawley Magna 2s. 6d., Hawkhurst 3s., Kempston 4s., Misterton 2s. 6d., Alloo, Clackmannan 4s., Finchley 5s.

Quarter peals.—Bencfield 4s., Wookey 3s., Caston 1s., Ticknall 3s., Helmdon 2s. 6d., Brampton 2s. 6d., Sidmouth 2s. 6d., Ottery St. Mary 4s., St. Albans 2s., Clerkenwell 2s. 6d., Saltwood 3s., Newington 2s., Chipping Norton 2s. 6d.

SUSSEX RINGERS' WEDDING

Mr. Edgar R. Rapley — Miss Enid

E. Lonnen

A wedding of interest to ringers far beyond the towers of Sussex took place at Felpham (Sussex) Parish Church on April 26th between Mr. Edgar R. Rapley and Miss Enid E. Lonnen.

The bridegroom learnt to ring at West Grinstead and Shipley 20 years ago and, encouraged by that grand Sussex ringer, Walter Charman, who staged an excellent monthly practice at Horsham, progressed rapidly to the higher methods and soon became one of the leading Sussex peal ringers and conductors. He took part in the record length of Bob Royal at Prittlewell on August 7th, 1950, and in the ill-fated 'raisin' record of Double Norwich Court Bob Major at Debenham on October 21st in the same year.

The bride's ringing interest centred round the activities of the Western Division of the County Association and her loyal support earned her the office of assistant hon. secretary. Her record of attendance—every monthly meeting since November, 1946—must be almost unsurpassed.

The marriage service was conducted by the Archdeacon of Chichester (the Ven. Lancelot Mason), himself a ringer and a vice president of the County Association. Mr. G. W. Cecil (Master) and many officers of the Association, including three Divisional secretaries, were among the large congregation. The service was choral, with Mr. G. R. H. Smith (a ringer from Chichester Theological College) at the organ. The two bridesmaids were the sisters of the bride, one also a ringer at the local tower.

A reception was held in Bognor Regis, where nearly 100 guests assembled. It can quite readily be assumed that the remark made by the best man (Mr. Frank Lufkin, of Prittlewell) concerning the welcome he had received from ringers in Sussex was founded on the hospitality he received from these now vacated homes, and there must be many among the ringing fraternity from far and near who will wish to join at this opportune moment in an expression of gratitude for the never-failing welcome, no matter how inconvenient the time, which always awaited one at Butcher's Row, West Grinstead, and Downview Road, Felpham.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World' of
May 10th, 1912.

VETERAN RINGER'S DEATH

We have to record the death of Mr. John Coales, who had been a member of the St. Andrew's Society, Rugby, since its formation in 1895 . . . who passed away in his 82nd year.

Mr. Coales had a remarkable career. . . . As a young man [he] assisted his father in his business as a blacksmith. Village life did not appeal to him, however, for at the age of 21 he enlisted in the Metropolitan Police Force, being on duty at the opening of Crystal Palace. When the Crimean War broke out, he enlisted in the Commissariat Department, going over the town of Sevastopol after the famous siege, and being on the field of Balaklava and Inkerman. He was then for a number of years a sorter in the Post Office, travelling between Rugby and Carlisle, retiring on a pension in 1886, when he became curator of the Art Museum at Rugby School. In 1890 he was appointed verger at the Parish Church. . . .

He learned to handle a bell when quite a lad but it was not until 1895, when he was 65, that he began to learn change-ringing He belonged to that grand old school of perfect strikers which the present generation would do well to follow. . . . Opportunities for peal-ringing were very few and he had rung only one 5,000, but it is worthy of note that he learned to ring Bob Major and Stedman after his 75th year.

OBITUARY

MR. BERNARD J. SADDINGTON

The death occurred on April 15th. after an intermittent illness over the last two years, of Mr. Bernard Saddington, of Burton Latimer, near Kettering, aged 61. He had been a ringer from his youth, first at his native Cranford and later at Burton. He was a first-class striker and method ringer and had rung approximately 50 peals ranging from Doubles to Royal and including Surprise Major. One of his happiest ringing experiences was a quarter of Grandsire which he conducted in which both his father and his daughter, Joy, took part.

Mr. Saddington had acted as captain at Burton for 14 years and during that period had devoted a considerable amount of time to the instruction of young ringers. For some years up to his death he held the office of auditor to the Peterborough Diocesan Guild and had also held various offices at the church, where he had been a regular worshipper.

He was in earlier years well known as a sports man, particularly as a cricketer and billiards player and, in more recent years, as a bowls player.

The enthusiasm which Bernard had for ringing, his devotion and patience with learners and his kindly and cheerful presence will be greatly missed by his friends over a wide area.

On the day of the funeral the bells of St. Mary's Church were rung in the afternoon by friends from various towers and in the evening by the local band. An attempt for a peal was unsuccessful owing to a rope breaking after half an hour but a quarter peal was rung by a representative band which included the Master and the general secretary of the Guild.

G. E. W.

BEVERLEY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

The April meeting of the Society was held at Patrington with 30 members attending. Severe thunderstorms prevented additional members from joining in the evening but did not spoil the meeting in the lovely church, 'The Cathedral of Holderness.'

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. E. Jones), who gave an excellent sermon telling of his experiences with ringers in five different dioceses.

Tea was taken in the Church Hall, followed by the business meeting. The Rector was thanked for the use of the bells and service.

The bells were rung again and some good ringing was enjoyed to standard methods, Erin and Little Bob.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Mid-Devon Branch

A quarterly meeting of the Mid-Devon Branch was held at Dittisham, near Dartmouth, on April 19th when members and friends attended from Buckland Newton (Dorset), Honiton Clyst, Kenn, Teignmouth, Newton Abbot, Paignton, Dartmouth, Totnes, Dartington, Buckfastleigh and Plymouth.

The handy ring of six was kept going throughout the afternoon to touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor. A short service in church was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. E. Claydon), who gave an excellent address.

After tea the business meeting followed with Mr. J. E. Lilley in the chair, the secretary reporting on matters arising from the minutes. It was announced that, subject to the necessary permission, a joint meeting with the South-West Branch would be held at Berry Pomeroy with Totnes on June 28th, and that the next quarterly meeting would be held on July 26th at Dawlish.

The usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting and further ringing afterwards took place at Halwell Parish Church.

A. L. B.

LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting

The Society's 63rd annual meeting was held at Leeds Parish Church on April 26th.

The bells were rung up in peal at 3 p.m. and rung until evensong, which put a temporary stop to the proceedings. The interval was used by many to refresh the inner man at the various cafes in town. Ringing was started again at 5 p.m. and enjoyed until the business meeting at 7 p.m.

A letter of apology for absence was received from the president, Mr. T. W. Strangeway (vice-president) was elected to the chair. Visitors included Messrs. Stote (Coventry) and Kennington (Grimby), the latter now serving with H.M. Forces stationed in Leeds.

The business details were quickly dealt with and new members elected were Mr. G. Smith, Misses O. Gale and S. Colley and Mr. F. Colley (Wetherby), Mr. G. Thackray, the Misses J. Lawn, Margaret Barker, S. Dinsdale and E. Murray (Collingham) and Mr. P. Dawson (Calverley).

The vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and local company was proposed by Mr. H. Lofthouse, who said he wished to thank the local company for their prodigious efforts in getting the tower ready for the meeting. Owing to certain repairs and renovations, the tower was left on Thursday in a very sorry state—48 hours before the meeting. An alternative tower was arranged as a stand-by but this was not required owing to the wonderful effort made by some of the local ringers. 'Thank you, Leeds,' for the arrangements and to the authorities for allowing the meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Alf Johnson and supported by the chairman.

Mr. Drake acknowledged the thanks and regretted the tenor clapper had broken and he hoped that on their next visit the full ring would be available.

The next meeting will be at Guiseley on May 31st.

Election of officers.—Owing to the numerous nominations, ballot papers were distributed and when the scrutineers had finished their work, the chairman declared the following to be the Society's officers for 1952-53:—President, Mr. J. W. Bente; vice-presidents, Messrs. T. W. Strangeway, S. H. Barron and L. Drake; hon. vice-president, Mr. F. Hutchinson; Ringing Master, Mr. W. Dixon; secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. Lofthouse.

The secretary's report gave the following details.—Eleven meetings held during the year with an average good attendance, should and could be better if all members remembered the last Saturday in each month was the Society's day. Membership 217. 16 new members having been elected during the year. The financial side was sound. The number of peals rung could be improved and some non-members ringing peals in the District should be invited to join the cheapest Ringing Society—subscription sixpence per year, the original subscription fixed in 1889.

The alteration to Rule 12 was carried unanimously.

The secretary was authorised to purchase a new peal book.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

The quarterly meeting of the Southern District at Charlwood on April 26th, was attended by 28 ringers. Following an excellent tea at the Half Moon a short business meeting was held. Members were reminded that there would be a bi-monthly meeting at Godstone on May 24th. A collection for the Belfry Repair Fund realised 17s. 9d.

Further ringing was enjoyed during the evening until 7.50. This early finish was in deference to the parents of two very young members of the local community, who had apparently been complaining vociferously all the afternoon.

Methods rung ranged from rounds to London Surprise Minor.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDINGTON, KENT.—On April 24th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: M. J. Martin (first touch of Minor) 1, Miss M. Vantom 2, Miss O. M. Boulden 3, R. Swift 4, J. R. Cooper 5, C. A. Wratten (cond.) 6.

ANSTEY, LEICS.—On April 23rd, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: Miss J. M. Simpson (first quarter in method) 1, Mrs. P. J. Staniforth 2, D. S. Harris 3, R. F. Elkington (cond.) 4, W. A. Lacey 5, J. Hill 6, A. Disney (first quarter in method) 7, P. J. Staniforth 8. Rung for St. George's Day.

BENEFIELD, NORTHANTS.—On April 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. P. E. Clarke (first quarter) 1, H. W. Smith 2, N. Freer (first quarter 'inside') 3, A. B. Clarke 4, W. Freer (cond.) 5, A. Moisey (first quarter) 6. In honour of retiring president (Canon J. L. Cartwright, of Oundle).

BUCKLEY, FLINTSHIRE.—On April 27th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Hayes 1, A. Lewis 2, Nancy P. Hanton 3, A. G. Watkin 4, P. Roberts 5, F. H. Birks 6, D. H. B. Millward (cond.) 7, J. E. Ellis 8. A farewell to Nancy P. Hanton (nee Birks), who is leaving to take up residence in Johnstone, Renfrewshire.

CHIPPING NORTON, OXON.—On April 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Francis 1, H. Cook 2, S. Pulker 3, I. Harris (cond.) 4, R. Jarvis 5, F. Perry 6, J. Jarvis 7, C. Tompkins 8. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect for N. Coleman, for 28 years ringer and sexton at Chastleton Church, interred at Chipping Norton the same day.

CLERKENWELL, LONDON.—At St. James's, on April 27th, 1,296 Little Bob Major: Miss D. A. Deverell (first in method) 1, Miss M. Prockson 2, E. Pryor 3, W. Prockson 4, J. L. Morris 5, D. Harman 6, R. H. Begrie (cond.) 7, F. C. W. Knight 8.

FRAMPTON, Lincs.—On April 20th, 1,260 Bob Minor '720 Cambridge Surprise, 360 Oxford Treble, 180 Plain: J. R. Kemp 1, F. Bishop 2, J. R. Young 3, E. Fisher 4, T. Cummins 5, A. E. Flatters (cond.) 6. Also on April 21st, 1,260 Bob Minor '720 Cambridge Surprise, 540 Plain: F. Bishop 1, J. R. Kemp 2, A. Young 3, A. E. Flatters 4, W. E. Clarke 5, J. R. Young (cond.) 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled.

GORLESTON-ON-SEA, SUFFOLK.—On April 22nd, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: M. J. King (cond.) 1, P. G. W. Newstead 2, C. Parnell 3, J. G. W. Harwood 4, A. G. Wignmore 5, A. W. Bird 6. In honour of H.M. the Queen's birthday, and to celebrate the wedding of the Rev. R. G. Robinson and Miss P. E. Higgins, who were married that day.

GRESFORD, DENBIGHS.—On April 23rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. Hodges 1, E. Webster 2, E. Millington 3, F. R. Evans (cond.) 4, J. Clutton 5, A. Lea 6, W. Cathrall 7, C. Pridding 8. A golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. Cathrall (parents of the 7th ringer), who were married at this church on April 23rd, 1902.

LINCOLN.—At St. Peter-at-Gowts, on April 21st, 1,260 Minor (being 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob and 180 Plain Bob): C. Pople 1, F. Dixon 2, A. Melton 3, F. Crowe (first quarter as cond.) 4, V. Briggs 5, H. Hurst 6. A birthday compliment for H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

NORBURGH (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.—On April 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: N. Taylor (first quarter) 1, Miss M. May 2, Miss E. Brentnall 3, W. Fernley 4, Miss S. Cain 5, Mrs. J. Fernley 6, B. Jones (cond.) 7, J. Fernley 8. Rung as a welcome to N. Taylor on leave from the Navy.

OTTERY ST. MARY, DEVON.—On April 26th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: B. Pidgion 1, J. Arbury 2, K. Clark 3, E. Retter 4, E. Marks (first quarter 'inside') 5, E. Rowe 6, G. E. Retter (cond.) 7, G. F. Turner 8. A compliment to Preb. E. V. Cox, over 50 years a member of the Devon Guild.

POWICK, WORCS.—On April 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: K. Smith (first quarter) 1, Susan Jackson 2, G. Morris 3, G. Lewis 4, H. Cole 5, F. Hyde 6.

SALTWOOD, KENT.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 780 Grandsire): G. F. Gray 1, C. A. Wratten (cond.) 2, E. J. Walker 3, J. L. Morris 4, F. C. W. Knight 5, J. Soles (first in two methods) 6.

SIDMOUTH, DEVON.—On April 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: K. Clarke 1, R. Pike (cond.) 2, Betty Smith 3, Marion Davis 4, P. Davis 5, E. Rowe 6, R. Woodley 7, B. Vincent 8.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—At the Cathedral, on April 25th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss B. Copson 1, J. G. Blow 2, H. E. C. Goodenough (cond.) 3, H. R. Hofton 4, R. F. Ewer 5, A. Hatten 6, F. Beeson 7, W. J. Arnold 8. Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to C. H. Walklate, a member of the Society for 29 years.

TICKNALL, DERBYS.—On April 27th, 1,260 Minor (being 540 St. Clement's, 720 Double Oxford): Mrs. T. J. Marriott 1, W. G. Soar 2, P. Marriott 3, L. Warren 4, T. J. Marriott 5, A. J. Marriott (first quarter of Minor as cond.) 6.

WOOKEY, SOMERSET.—On April 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: F. Hall 1, A. Wear 2, W. J. Furze 3, R. Gardiner 4, V. Roberts 5, F. Sandy (cond.) 6. A golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. M. Hale.

BELLS IN ENGLISH LIFE

By ERNEST MORRIS

(Continued from page 251)

IN a number of ancient churches and in some museums may be seen—preserved as curios—bellringers' jugs, gotchers and pitchers. These were used in the 'good old days' to contain refreshment after special ringing occasions at a time when all kinds of labour was paid for 'in kind.' For this reason our ancient bellringers must not be condemned lightly, as it was the rule and custom of the period in which they lived. It is often pointed out by would-be critics of the old-time ringer that he was a drunkard, and that there are many entries in old churchwardens' accounts quoting payment for ringing as being in so much 'ale or beer,' yet these same critics do not tell you that the same drinks were the usual refreshment of all classes, and the same churchwardens' accounts will prove this. A delightfully candid instance is found at a church near Liverpool where the churchwarden enters: 'Spent on ourselves when we met at the Abbey Arms to decide how much to give the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.' At St. Mary-on-the-Hill, London, is this entry:—

'Paid for wyne & peres at skrasis house at Aldgate for Mr. Jentyll, Mr. Russell, John Althorpe & the clerkes of Synt Antonys to go and see whether Smythes bell wer Teun abill or nat . . . viij.'

Beer and ale were the common drink; tea, coffee, cocoa were unheard of until quite modern times, and at first even then only obtainable by rich folk at very high prices. 'Church Ales' are still a comparatively recent memory, and in one Dorset parish at least it was the custom to keep a barrel of cider in the vestry. A still more august example might be cited. In Queen Victoria's reign a bottle of sherry used to be provided in the vestry of the Chapels Royal for the refreshment of any distinguished preacher to partake of after his oration. Numbers of churches owned public-houses, the income from which went towards the upkeep of the fabric and the stipend of the incumbent. At St. Peter's, Belgrave, Leicester, until a few years ago the Talbot Inn nearby thus provided income, and other examples might be quoted.

Ringers in early days did exactly as other people, and as a whole were not a bad sort. They composed 'Rules and Observances' for good behaviour in the belfry, and on many an ancient church wall may be seen these rules, quaintly worded and in 'rhyme.' Thus at Drewsteignton, Dartmoor:—

'A good ringer and a true heart,
Will not refuse to stand a quart.'

Or at Pitminster, Somerset:—

'If anye do were hisse hat
When he is ringing here
He state way then shall sixpence pay,
In sider or bere.'

Or as at Newark, Notts:—

'Who brawls or wrangles, whom ye major part
Finds to be guilty, shall pay his quart.'

At Crosthwaite is a long set of such 'rhymes' continuing:—

'And he in ringing who interrupts a peal
for such offence shall pay a quart of ale;
In falling bells one penny must be paid
by him who stops before the signals made.
And he who takes God's Holy Name in vain
shall pay one shilling, and this place refrain.
You ringers all take care, you must not fail
to have your forfeits all spent in ale.
With heart upright let each true subject ring
for health and peace, to Country, Church
and King.'

In many cases ringers had their own 'jugs' and a number remain to this day. At Ixworth, Suffolk, this is of brown glazed ware and was

formerly carried from house to house to receive whatever beer the liberal parishioners might feel disposed to give. This pot, long since disused, had neither lip nor spout, but was provided with a tap at the base to draw off the two gallons that it held. It is inscribed in rude letters:—

'Here you may see what
I request of Hanst (honest) Gentlemen
My Baly (belly) filled of the best . . . I com
but now and then . . . 1716.'

Another curious pitcher of this period is at Hadleigh, also in Suffolk. It holds 16 quarts and is inscribed in rudely indented letters without any regard to uniformity of size or straightness of lines:—

'ME. Thomas Windle: Isaac Bynn: John Mann: Adam Sage: George Bond: Thomas Goldsbrough: Robert Smith: Henry West.'
There is no doubt these are the names of the ringers at Hadleigh had eight bells. Below are the lines:—

'If yov love me doe not lend me
Evsce me often and keep me clenely,
Fvll me fvll, or not at all,
If it be with strovg, and not with small.'

HADLY:

Under one handle is the date 17 T.G.15 while under the other is 17 R.O. 15. This jug was in the possession of Mr. Pettitt of the Eight Bells Inn, Angel Street, who held it for the ringers,

he being their leader. Another similar pitcher was preserved in the tower of the church at Hinderclay inscribed:—

'By Samuel Moss, this pitcher was given to the Noble Society of Ringers at Hinderclay in Suffolk, viz.:—Tho. Sturgeon: Ed. Lock: John Haw: Ric. Ruddock: and Ralf. Chapman: to which Society he once belonged, and left in the year 1712.

From London I was sent,

As plainly doth appear;

It was this intent,

To be filled with strong beer.

Pray remember the Pitcher when empty.' The well-known Ringers' Pitcher of Beccles, still kept in the belfry, has three handles and bears the name of the potter, 'Samuel Strong-fellow Potter 1827.' It holds six gallons less one pint, and bears the quaint rhyme:—

'1827

When I am filled with liquor strong,
Each man drink once & then ding dong;
Drink not to much to cloud your knobs,
Lest you forget to make the bobbs.

A gift of
John Pattman
Beccles'

Great Yarmouth ringers preserve a large jug of Staffordshire pottery. It has one handle and a steady nib on front. It is hand-painted in colours, and pictured on either side. Capacity 23½ pints and is inscribed:—

'Should you venture up the tower high
To visit ringers, know that they are dry;
And if you be generous, kind and free,
Give a trifle and remember me.

Yarmouth, May 2: 1808.'

(To be continued)

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION BY THE RIVER

AS is customary, the Bedfordshire Association held its annual meeting in Bedford on Easter Monday. The two previous annual meetings have seen somewhat dampened ringers hurrying from tower to tower in a steady downpour of rain, but this Easter the warm weather brought out the summer clothes, and the travelling between churches was far more leisurely. Bedford was full of people, most of them enjoying themselves by the river, and the sound of church bells added a gay note to the general excitement of the crowds.

The day's programme began at half past ten, when the belfries at Biddenham and St. Paul's, Bedford, were opened. Biddenham looked unpromising from a ringer's point of view as the tower was encased in scaffolding, but permission had been granted for Easter ringing and many varied touches were rung on the six bells. Meanwhile the ten-bell experts were making themselves at home on the glorious ring at St. Paul's. Here the sitters-out were able to enjoy the sunshine on the church roof and look down on the busy streets beneath. At mid-day a company assembled at St. Peter's, by the Green, for touches on the light ring of eight, and here most of the standard Major and Triples methods were rung. Lunch at St. John's Church Hall was signalled by several 'tower-collectors,' who climbed the adjacent church tower to ring the single bell! After lunch, which was prepared by Mr. and Mrs. D. Thompson and Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Stephens, the visitors were told they were free to leave the hall and that St. Peter's bells were once again available.

The business meeting was opened by the president, Miss E. Steel, making a speech in which all the Association ringers with over 50 years' membership were remembered. The secretary and treasurer, Mr. F. J. Plummer, read the minutes of the previous annual meeting and these were confirmed by the meeting. Next on the agenda was the adoption of the annual report for 1951, which was described as the best ever produced because of its varied contents. In addition to the usual lists of members, practice nights and peals rung, there were reports of meetings, dedication services

and obituary notices, and the secretary was congratulated on collecting such good material for his last report.

The balance sheet showed that the two shilling subscription, augmented by the peal tax and profit from the sale of badges, was sufficient to meet the general expenses. The committee's report stated that membership remained steady with 11 honorary, 241 performing and 9 probationary members. Thirty-three peals were rung during 1951, an analysis giving the following figures:—Doubles 2. Minor 13 (one 'in hand'). Triples 2, Major 14 (one 'in hand') and Caters 2. Two specially mentioned by the committee were the handbell peal of Major, the first since before the war, and Stedman Caters, at Luton, by the local Sunday service band. The conducting of peals was shared by 16 ringers and eight members rang their first peal.

The election of officers was speedily carried out. Miss E. Steel was unanimously re-elected president, as were the vice-presidents, Messrs. A. King, E. Herbert, A. E. Sharman, H. D. Harris, G. W. Heley, W. Stapleton, C. J. Ball, L. H. Bywaters and P. Inskip. It was with great regret that the meeting heard Mr. F. J. Plummer announce that he would be leaving Bedfordshire shortly and would, therefore, be resigning his post of secretary and treasurer. Mr. J. M. Stephens was elected in his place. The auditor and librarian, Messrs. G. H. Mason and S. Foskett, respectively, were both re-elected and Mr. D. Thompson was voted to the new post of assistant librarian.

Bedford was chosen for the place of the 1953 annual meeting on April 6th, and the committee's suggestion of holding the 1952 Summer Festival at Woburn, on June 28th, was agreed. Two non-resident life members, Messrs. N. Park (Darlington) and R. Manning (Otley), were elected. After a short discussion on the purchasing of suitable books for the Association library, the votes of thanks were put to the company and the business meeting terminated.

Ringing was then resumed at St. Paul's until the early evening when those still eager for more, journeyed over to Kempston for an hour's ringing.

REOPENING OF CASTLE ACRE BELLS

MEMORIES of the magnificence of Castle Acre Church, Norfolk, at the recent hallowing of the bells were revived on April 26th, when the new six, now completed, were re-opened. Ringers were present from Norwich, Gaywood, Wymondham, Herringfleet, Watton, Acre, Gressenhall, North Elmham, Stonham Aspal (Suffolk), Caston and Fakenham. Members from a long distance included Mr. S. Flint, of Liverpool, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Taylor, of Loughborough, whose firm has made such a magnificent job of the new ring, and the Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Roberts, of Carbis Bay.

The service was festal in character as befitted the occasion. The Vicar, the Rev. R. N. Evans, conducted the service, praying for those who had rung the old five in the past and those who will ring in the future and for all who will hear the bells, and the president of the Association, the Rev. A. St. J. Heard, read the lesson.

After Psalm 150, a procession consisting of the clergy, members of the Offord family—the work having been made possible by a bequest of the late Mrs. Offord—and Mr. Paul Taylor, went to the ringing chamber, which is on the ground floor. Here the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow dedicated the bells and the work which ringers will do here, and receiving one of the ropes from Mr. Taylor, handed it to the Vicar, representing the bells as a sacred trust committed to him.

The opening touch of 60 Grandsire Doubles was then rung by the following:—C. V. Ebberston (conductor) 1, S. Marshall 2, Nolan Golden 3, V. Owens 4, G. A. Cooke 5, C. V. Tovell 6. Then was sung the ringers' hymn by the Rev. W. G. Bridge, of King's Lynn, whilst the procession returned to the chancel. In his address, the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow said that the finest sermons are those we can look at, and Castle Acre as we see it to-day provides a tremendous challenge to the thoughtful. Here are three historic buildings; two, the Priory and the Castle, dead, because they no longer serve men's needs; the third, the Parish Church, still lives and now proclaims from its tower by a sound never heard before in this parish by the oldest here that it is alive. How long the Parish Church continues to live depends on the people and whether they continue to desire that for which it stands, just as the extent to which the bells ring depends on the extent to which Castle Acre reacts to the work which donors and founders have done here.

After the service the bells were rung in a variety of methods, and universal approval was expressed at their 'go,' which is very easy despite a longish draught of rope, their tone, which is Taylor at its best; and the volume outside, which is perfect, as the bells have been rehung several yards beneath the belfry windows.

Formerly the bells were a ring of five cast by Thomas Newman, 1710: they hung in a frame which appears to be as old as the tower (15th century), and which has been preserved as an interesting historic relic in its old position. The old five are all recast this year, and the new tenor bears the inscription, 'The five bells recast by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough, 1952, and this new bell added to make six. Richard Neville Evans, M.A., Vicar. William Richard Savage, Robert George Joplin, Church Wardens. Given by bequest of Mary Maude Frederica Offord.'

The new tenor weighs 10 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb., and the bells are hung in metal frames, with ball bearings.

CHISELDON, WILTS.—On April 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. M. Court 1, R. J. Court 2, B. Thompson 3, F. G. Cook 4, W. E. Court (cond.) 5, W. Ford (first quarter) 6. Also on April 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. M. Court 1, R. J. Court 2, B. Thompson 3, S. C. Archer 4, W. E. Court (cond.) 5, W. Ford 6. Rung as a wedding compliment to the Vicar's son (Mr. B. Anderson) and Miss L. Faubel.

MR. PETER J. STANFORTH'S 300 PEALS

Mr. Peter J. Staniforth, who recently rang his 300th peal, has a particularly interesting list. These peals have been rung in 48 different towers for 14 societies. On tower bells Mr. Staniforth has scored 222 peals (conducted 57) and on handbells 78 (conducted 13).

TOWER BELLS

Triples.—Grandsire 3 (cond. 1), Stedman 15 (4).

Caters.—Stedman 9 (1).

Cinques.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 4 (2).

Minor.—Two methods 1 (1), Cambridge S. 3 (2), London S. 1.

Major.—Plain Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 2, Double Norwich Court Bob 4, Aldenham S. 1, Belgrave S. 1 (1), Bristol S. 13 (2), Cambridge S. 30 (11), Leicestershire S. 1, Lincolnshire S. 2, London S. 8 (2), New Cambridge 2 (1), Premier S. 1, Pudsey S. 1, Rutland S. 3 (1), Superlative S. 5 (1), Uxbridge S. 1 (1), Watford S. 1, Yorkshire S. 19 (5); Spliced S., four methods 4 (1), six methods 1 (1).

Royal.—Albanian S. 2, Aldenham S. 2 (1), Belgrave S. 1, Cambridge S. 10 (4), Leicestershire S. 1, New Cambridge S. 1, Pudsey S. 1, Rochester S. 2, Rutland S. 1, Wye S. 1, Yorkshire S. 12 (7), Spliced Cambridge and Yorkshire 1.

Maximus.—Albanian S. 1, Aldenham S. 2 (1), Bedford S. 1, Belgrave S. 1, Bristol S. 2, Buckingham S. 1, Cambridge S. 13 (3), Leicestershire S. 1, Lincolnshire S. 1, New Cambridge S. 1, Pudsey S. 2 (1), Rochester S. 1, Rutland S. 1, Superlative S. 4, Wigston S. 1, Yorkshire S. 10 (1); Spliced S., two methods 1, three methods 1, four methods 2 (1), six methods 1, seven methods 1.

HANDBELLS

Triples.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 6.

Caters.—Grandsire 2, Stedman 8 (1).

Cinques.—Grandsire 1, Stedman 14 (3).

Minor.—Cambridge S. 2.

Major.—Plain Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 6 (2), Cambridge S. 7 (2), Superlative 1, Yorkshire 1.

Royal.—Plain Bob 4, Kent Treble Bob 8 (2), Cambridge S. 6 (2), Yorkshire S. 2.

Maximus.—Plain Bob 2, Kent Treble Bob 3 (1), Cambridge S. 1, Spliced Plain four methods 1, Kent Treble Bob Fourteen 1.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

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Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

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MISCELLANEOUS

PEAL-RINGING TOUR.—Cornwall, July 12th—19th. A few vacancies for ringers available. For details write Box 717, 'Ringing World,' c/o The Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford. 717

WOULD ANYBODY interested in a cycle-hostelling ringing tour, July 5th—13th, starting at Ludlow, please contact A. Cave, Wills Hall, Bristol 9. 733

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Meetings for practice during the summer months have been arranged as follows:—Chaddesley Corbett (8), alternate Fridays from May 9th, 7.30 p.m., and Kidderminster (12), alternate Thursdays from May 15th, 7.30 p.m.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec. 725

CATTERICK CAMP, YORKSHIRE.—All ringers welcome at St. Mary's Church, Richmond. Sunday ringing 10 a.m. and 5.45 p.m. Practice, Tuesdays 8 p.m.—Doris M. Killingley, 2, Potter Gate, Richmond, Yorks. 741

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

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MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Saturday, May 10th, meeting at St. Denys', Rotherfield, Sussex. Bells (8) 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Individual names for tea to Mr. W. Rogers, Vine Cottage, Rotherfield, Sussex. Tea in Memorial Institute. Train, Charing Cross, 1.25. Coach, Tunbridge Wells Central 2.39.—A. B. Peck. 614

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Meeting at Sutton (6 bells) on Saturday, May 10th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Business after. 703

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Edenbridge (8). May 10th. Names for tea to Mr. E. Leigh, Holmesdale, Station Road, Edenbridge.—C. A. Bassett. 668

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Apsley End (6). Saturday, May 10th, 3 p.m.—P. A. Martin. Dis. Sec. 679

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, St. Nicholas-at-Wade, Saturday, May 10th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at 2s. per head.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Sec. 646

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Meeting at Ightham (6). Saturday, May 10th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5, followed by business. Names, punctually, please, to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, Ditton, Maidstone (Maidstone 7216). 647

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, May 10th, 3 p.m., quarterly meeting. All Saints', West Ham. Service 4.45. Tea and business. 5.15, in Church Hall. Ringing afterwards. All welcome. Names for tea, please.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. HOU 3921. 638

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION AND LONDON GUILD.—N. and E. District.—Meeting at St. Matthew's, Warwick Grove, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, May 10th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, and business. Further ringing, also at St. John-at-Hackney in evening.—T. J. Lock, Sec. 685

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, May 10th, Theale. Bells 3 p.m. and evening. Service 4.30 p.m.. Englefield bells in evening. 664

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chipping Norton Branch.—Annual. Kingham (8). May 10th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.45. 700

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Quarterly Meeting, Carisbrooke and Newport, May 10th. Bells from 2.30. Tea available.—Mrs. A. M. Guy, Dis. Sec. 677

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Micheldever, Saturday, May 10th. Bells (6) 2. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Village Hall. Look up London Minor.—J. A. C. King. 673

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Meeting, Nempnett Thrubwell, May 17th, 4 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 712

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Practice meeting at Westonzoylead, May 17th, 6.30—9 p.m.—R. Short, Chilton Trinity. 742

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Meeting, Toddington (8), Saturday, May 17th, 3 p.m. Names for tea, by Tuesday, May 13th, to Dennis Knox, 17, Woodlands Avenue, Houghton Regis, Dunstable, Beds. 737

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Wilmslow Festival of Christian Arts and Drama. Open ringing day May 17th. Bells from 2.30. Tea 5.30. For tea advise, by May 13th, Mrs. Kidd, Oakcot, Parsonage Green, Wilmslow.—C. K. Lewis. 695

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—Meeting, St. Saviour's, Oxton, Birkenhead, Saturday, May 17th. Bells (8), 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea provided for those notifying by 14th.—Alexander J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 735

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Coventry and Rugby Branch.—Meeting at Kenilworth (6 bells), Saturday, May 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea, before Wednesday, May 14th, to J. L. Garner-Hayward, 8, Orchard Crescent, Coventry. 715

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at All Saints', Gosforth, on Saturday, May 17th. Names for tea, by Thursday, May 15th, to R. S. Dryden, 2, Harewood Road, Gosforth, Newcastle 3. 707

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Ashover (8), Saturday, May 17th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names not later than Wednesday, May 14th, to Miss F. Price, Sec., 1, Bertrand Avenue, Clay Cross, Chesterfield. 708

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at St. Neots (8), Saturday, May 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Own arrangements for tea; plenty of cafes nearby.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 723

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Evening practice, Downham Market, Saturday, May 17th. Bells (8) 6 p.m.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 728

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch.—Meeting at Newland, May 17th. Bells (6) 2. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Names for tea, by Wednesday, May 14th, to Mrs. D. Stafford, Staunton, Coleford, Glos. 718

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Combined practice at Grayshott (8) on Saturday, May 17th, 6 p.m.—9 p.m.—G. S. Joyce, Dis. Sec. 730

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Meeting at Dunsfold, May 17th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea at Village Hall. 5. Hascombe bells available after tea. Notifications for tea, by previous Wednesday, to Mr. R. C. Fincher, Ivy Cottages, Dunsfold. 684

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Waldron, Sussex, on May 17th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Names for tea, by May 14th, to Geo. Billenness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Hawkhurst. 706

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ledbury District.—Quarterly meeting at Ledbury, May 17th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Names for tea, please, to J. Ward, Woolfields, Coddington, Ledbury. 705

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—Ringing meeting at St. George's, Mossley, May 17th, 3 p.m. Cups of tea. All welcome. Bus from Ashton Market.—R. Benson. 734

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Next meeting at Helmsshore on Saturday, May 17th. All ringers welcome. Bells from 3. 729

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Ilston, May 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5; cups of tea only. Outing fare 18s. 6d. inclusive. Names and fare to be paid by this meeting.—L. W. Allen. 722

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—S. and W. District.—Ruislip (8), May 17th, from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (obtainable nearby) and business to follow, with further ringing. Evening practice, Fulham (10), Thursday, May 22nd, 7.30 p.m.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks. 710

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—Meeting at Redenhall (8), Saturday, May 17th. Service 4.15. Tea, 5 p.m., at the Yew Tree Tea Rooms, for all who notify, by May 12th. Mr. W. Flatt, 11, Mendham Lane, Harleston. Special business after tea.—A. G. Harrison, Hon. Sec. 696

OXFORD GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Meeting, Midgham (6), Saturday, May 17th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea, by May 14th, to Mrs. Vallis, 6, Council Houses, Midgham, Reading. 672

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Berks Branch.—Annual meeting at Appleton, Saturday, May 17th. Service 3.30. Tea 4.30, for those who advise me by the 13th.—A. E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks. 663

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Spring meeting, Hanbury, near Burton-on-Trent, May 17th. Bells (8) 2.30. Important committee meeting 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Coach will leave Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, 2 o'clock. Names for coach to Mr. D. Holden, 22, Harding Street, Coseley. Names for tea and coach not later than Tuesday, May 13th. There will be no need for those travelling by coach to notify me for tea.—Fred Bennett, Pool House Road, Wombourne. 682

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Newark District.—Meeting at Coddington, Saturday, May 17th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Bring food; cups of tea available. Buses from Newark. 675

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Quarterly meeting, Steyning, May 17th, 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names for tea, please, by 12th, to E. Treagus, 78, Kyoto Court, Bognor Regis. 727

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—Laverstoke (6), May 17th. Bells from 2.30. Names by 15th.—J. A. Hill, Anna Valley, Andover. 720

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Southampton District.—Practice meeting at Eling on May 17th. Bells from 2.30. Names for tea, by May 13th, to M. J. Butler, 8, St. Peter's Road, Southampton. 709

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Bi-quarterly meeting at Wolverley, Saturday, May 17th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., 2s. per head. Names, by Thursday, May 15th, please, as facilities are limited. No name, no tea.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Lane, Stourbridge. 724

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby, Ilkeston and Peak Districts.—Joint meeting at Wirksworth on May 24th. Bells available 3 p.m. Names for tea, by May 21st, to Miss K. Tivey, 232, Chellaston Road, Shelton Lock, Derby. 738

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—Meeting on Saturday, May 24th, at Manuden (5), near Stansted, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Thence to Farnham (6), near Bishop's Stortford, for tea and further ringing. Visitors are requested to bring own sandwiches, etc.; cups of tea provided.—G. Blake, Dis. Sec., Teesta, Jack's Hatch, Epping Upland, Essex. 911

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—Meeting, Thorverton, Saturday, May 24th. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Silverton (8) 7—8.30 p.m. Names, by May 20th, to F. Wreford, 24, Normandy Road, Exeter. 739

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—Annual District meeting, May 24th, Mansfield. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. (price 2s. 6d.) for all who notify, not later than Tuesday, May 20th, Mrs. J. Stanforth, 150, Narborough Road South, Leicester. 726

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Annual meeting, Metheringham, May 24th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names, by Tuesday previous, to C. Brown, 3, Altham Terrace, Lincoln.—F. Lord. 721

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD and PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A joint meeting will be held at Stony Stratford on Saturday, May 24th. Bells (8) at 2.30. Service 3.30 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify me by May 19th?—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. 721

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—South Oxon Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Thame on May 24th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4. Tea for those who notify me by May 20th.—H. Badger, Branch Sec., North Street, Thame. 716

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.—Saturday, May 24th. Meeting for ringers wishing to practise on ten bells. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5, only for those notifying, by May 21st, R. C. Hide 1, Priory Place, Southover, Lewes. 713

THE NORTH BEDFORDSHIRE FIVE-BELL FESTIVAL will be held on May 24th. All ringers are invited to attend. Renhold 2.15—3.15; Wilden 3.30—4.30; Great Barford 6—8. Tea at the Anchor, Great Barford, 5. Names for tea must be sent, by May 21st, to Miss M. Pettitt, Bedford Hill, Great Barford. 713

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Bi-quarterly meeting, May 24th. Coach leaves Birmingham at 1.30 p.m. Ringing at Shustoke (6), Kingsbury (5), Grendon (6), Polesworth (6), Tamworth (8). Numbers limited. Please notify early.—G. E. Fearn, 92, Etwell Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28. Phone: SPR 1025. 731

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Meeting at Godstone May 24th. Bells (8) 3. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Names for tea, by May 21st, to J. W. Knight, 92, Coldshott, Oxted. 719

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Stonham Aspal (10). Ringing Sunday May 25th. Ringing 2.30. Service 3.30. Tea 5. Ringing until 9. Names for tea, by May 17th, to W. J. Button, Stonham Aspal, Stowmarket. 704

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival and meeting, Coalbrookdale (10), Whit Monday, June 2nd. Service 3.30. Tea 4.15. Annual meeting 5. Bells available 11 a.m.; also Broseley (8), Much Wenlock (8) for parties. Names for tea, by May 29th, to Rev. E. G. Benson, Presteigne Rectory, Rads. 714

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Daventry on Whit Monday, June 2nd. Guild committee meet at 2 p.m. Abbey Buildings. Service 3 p.m. Parish Church. Tea in Abbey Buildings at 4.15 p.m. Names for tea to reach me by Saturday, May 24th. Bells available: Braunston 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Byfield and Great Brington 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Whilton, Lower Heyford and Harpole 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.; Weedon 12 noon to 2.30 p.m.; Staverton, Newnham and Badby 1 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. and Daventry 1 p.m. onwards. Bells available after meeting announced later. Please make an effort to attend and note proposed alterations to Rules as printed on leaflets in reports.—R. C. Noon, 3, Denton Road, Brafted, Northants. 714

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival at St. Barnabas', Bromborough, Saturday, June 7th. Service at 3.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Tickets for tea (3s.) obtainable. (Continued on next page)

NOTICES—Continued

able from Branch secretaries, who are requested to forward numbers sold to Mr. A. J. Martin, 19, Faloon Road, Birkenhead, not later than Tuesday, June 3rd. Towers available: Eastham, Port Sunlight, Bebington and Bromborough, 1—3 p.m. and after the meeting. Cathedral en route by arrangement with Mr. P. Swindley, 71, Prenton Place, Chester.—J. Kingdon, Hon. Sec. 746

EXETER CATHEDRAL BELLS (1902—1952) 50th anniversary of restoration. Commemoration meeting, June 14th. Service, Cathedral, 3 p.m. evensong. Tea 4.15. Ringing, Cathedral, after tea till 8.30 p.m. Other Exeter towers being applied for. Details later.—F. Wreford, Hon. Sec. 740

LADIES' GUILD.—Annual general meeting, London, Saturday, July 5th. Towers available: St. Giles-in-the-Fields 2.30—3.30; St. Martin-in-the-Fields 3.30—5; St. Margaret's, Westminster, 7.30—9. Further details later.—D. Colgate, Hon. Sec. 736

BRENTFORD TOUR

Ringers of St. Lawrence's, Brentford, had a successful tour on Easter Monday. Towers visited were Little Missenden (famed for its mediæval bells and wall paintings), Ellesborough (with a cordial welcome from Harry Jones), Weston Turville (a fine-toned, recently-rehung five), Aston Abbots, Wingrave (where the Vicar pointed out a cracked mediæval bell due for preservation), Cheddington (a church in an orchard), Edlesborough (an unringable six), Eaton Bray (the six would be easier to handle if the organ did not occupy half the tower) and Langleybury (a newly-re-opened six, lovely though noisy).

Home was reached in heavy rain, tired, but with memories of a happy day.

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