



'The Ringing World' was founded in the year 1911 by John Sparkes Goldsmith, who remained its proprietor and editor until his death in 1942.

No. 2188 Vol. XLIX.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1953

Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper

4d.

CORONATION DAY RINGING

THE Standing Committee of the Central Council have considered what advice should be offered to any who are in doubt as to what ringing should take place on Coronation Day, and they feel that they can do no better than reproduce a leading article by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith on the occasion of the last Coronation in May, 1937. The committee realise that some small details of the article are not entirely up to date, and allowance should be made for changed circumstances.

Mr. Goldsmith's article, which appeared in 'The Ringing World' of April 9th, 1937, was as follows:—

'Numerous inquiries have come to us on the subject of Coronation Day ringing. There are many towers, apparently, where ringers are desirous of knowing if there is to be any general plan for celebrating this event, so far as the church bells are concerned. There can, we think, be no general rule laid down. Obviously there must be widely varying local circumstances into which the ringing of the church bells must be made to fit, and one of the first things, we suggest, ringers should do is to ascertain what the local programme of festivities is to be and come to some arrangement to fit the ringing in with the town or village scheme.

'On this occasion there is another extremely important point to bear in mind—one which has never arisen in connection with previous Coronations. The ceremony in Westminster Abbey is to be broadcast. Nearly everyone who can do so will be listening, at their wireless receivers, to the service, and that makes it essential that nowhere should ringers, however loyal and enthusiastic, ply their art to the disturbance of those who are listening to the proceedings in the Abbey. To do so would be not only an annoyance, but a breach of good manners, and would recoil on the ringers' heads. No doubt the desire of the majority of ringers themselves to listen to the historic ceremony will be sufficient to ensure the silence of the towers during the service, and the bells will come with all the more dignity and effect if they are heard at a more apt time.

'It has been suggested in high quarters that ringers might take their cue from the bells of the Abbey itself, which will be heard as their Majesties leave the building. That seems to us very useful guidance, and ringers who are anxious to get to work as soon as possible after the ceremony can lay their plans accordingly. Apart from this, however, we feel that ringers, wherever they can, should herald the great and auspicious day by ringing as

early as convenient in the morning. It would give an appropriate and cheerful start to the local celebrations, it would distinctively mark the festival and would not interfere in any way with broadcast reception.

'Whatever ringing is done, however, it should be the aim of every responsible ringer to see that it is the best that the band can produce. Ringing for the Coronation should not be made the opportunity of a practice, or even of a peal for ringers who are not capable of putting up a good performance. The ringing of the bells on that day will be expected by the public; they will be listening more critically than is usual with them, and it is a mistake to run away with the idea that the public do not know the difference between good ringing and bad. There may be some who, having heard nothing but bad ringing, say little about it, but the public do appreciate good ringing, and if a band is not capable of ringing bells well in changes, they should, for this occasion, be content to do something less ambitious. If every ringer will go into the belfry on Coronation Day realising that his reputation is at stake, the public will appreciate the bells, and a good turn will be done for the art, by helping to remove opposition, where there is any, to ringing on other occasions.'

The committee suggest that ringers should approach the local authorities as soon as possible with their plans, so that they attain recognition as one of the public activities fitting in with the general programme. Especially is it suggested that, where the local arrangements include a church or open-air service, the bells should be rung beforehand, apart from at any other times during the day. Ringers should also see that their part in the celebrations is fully and correctly reported in the Press.

E. A. BARNETT, Hon. Sec.

FORTY YEARS AGO

From 'The Ringing World' of March 7th, 1913

PENTRE RHONDDA

The Llandaff Diocesan Association

On Thursday, February 27th, 1913, in 3 hours and 12 minutes

At the Church of St. Peter

A PEAL OF ERIN TRIPLES, 5,040 CHANGES

Tenor 26 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

Harry Page	Treble	Thomas Hamlin	5
George Cross	2	William Page	6
Tom Page	3	James Cross	7
George Wines	4	Henry Crabbe	Tenor

Composed by G. Lindoff.

Conducted by Harry Page.

First peal in the method by all, and the first in Wales.

[A notable performance, especially by the conductor. Few ringers have called peals of Erin Triples from a non-observation bell. This was one of a number of notable achievements by the local band; in later years they rang a number of Surprise peals.]

TWELVE BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Thurs., Feb. 19, 1953, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5000 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

WILLIAM C. DOWDING .. Treble	HENRY H. FEARN .. 7
MURIEL REAY .. 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON .. 8
ALBERT WALKER .. 3	*ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 9
FRANK W. PERRENS .. 4	JOHN PINFOLD .. 10
FRANK E. PERVIN .. 5	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 11
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 6	FRANK E. HAYNES .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN E. CHILCOTT.

* 200th peal for the Guild. Albert Walker's 500th peal on twelve bells.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 48 cwt. 9 lb. in B.

DONALD G. CLIFT .. Treble	WILFRED WILLIAMS .. 7
DAVID E. PARSONS .. 2	MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT .. 8
JOHN PHILLIPS .. 3	RICHARD E. PRICE .. 9
HAROLD N. PITSTOW .. 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION .. 10
JOHN E. CHILCOTT .. 5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS .. 11
*SELWYN H. DEARDEN .. 6	CYRIL G. J. WATTS .. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FREDK. E. COLLINS.

* First peal of Cinques.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 26, 1953, in 3 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5280 METROPOLIS SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 25 cwt.

WINIFRED M. BURTON .. Treble	S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 7
HAROLD J. POOLE .. 2	HARRY G. WAYNE .. 8
ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 3	SIDNEY O. CHENEY .. 9
MRS. P. J. STANFORTH .. 4	JOHN R. SMITH .. 10
PETER J. STANFORTH .. 5	HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. 11
E. ALAN JACQUES .. 6	HAROLD J. POOLE .. Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

First peal to be rung in this method.

TEN BELL PEAL

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL

No. 3 Version.

Tenor 25½ cwt. in D.

JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. Treble	JOHN E. BIBBY .. 6
FRED DUNKERLEY .. 2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 7
*BASIL JONES .. 3	PETER LAFLIN .. 8
WILFRED STEVENSON .. 4	EDWARD JENKINS .. 9
C. KENNETH LEWIS .. 5	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by C. K. LEWIS.

Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

* First peal of Royal in the method.

In memoriam Dr. J. C. E. Simpson, who died February 6th, 1952, and who rang his last peal in the method on these bells on December 1st, 1951.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BLEWBURY, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Taylor's Six-part.	Tenor 19 cwt.
CLAUDE CORDEROY .. Treble	FREDERICK JAMES .. 5
*RICHARD CORDEROY .. 2	ROBERT BLOND .. 6
ALFRED GREENOUGH .. 3	JAMES BLOND .. 7
CHARLES ALDRIDGE .. 4	TIM CORDEROY .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT BLOND.

* First peal 'inside.'

COLERAINE, CO. LONDONDERRY.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

(Northern District.)

On Sat., Jan. 31, 1953, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PATRICK,

A PEAL OF 5288 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.

WILLIAM PRATT .. Treble	JAMES EDGAR .. 5
*HARRY CHASTY (19) .. 2	JOHN T. DUNWOODY .. 6
†JEAN STEWART (18) .. 3	†JOHN CAMPBELL .. 7
*WILLIAM HALL (16) .. 4	HARRY BROWN .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS.

Conducted by HARRY BROWN.

* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal of Treble Bob Major. First peal in the method on the bells.

BLEWBURY, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.

Tenor 19 cwt.

*JOHN GRACE .. Treble	FREDERICK JAMES .. 5
HENRY BISHOP .. 2	CLAUDE CORDEROY .. 6
ALFRED GREENOUGH .. 3	ROBERT BLOND .. 7
*CHARLES ALDRIDGE .. 4	TIM CORDEROY .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT BLOND.

* First peal of Stedman.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., Feb. 9, 1953, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5152 CREWE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

ALBERT WALKER .. Treble	ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 5
MURIEL REAY .. 2	JOHN PINFOLD .. 6
BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 3	HENRY H. FEARN .. 7
TERRY R. HAMPTON .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES.

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

The first peal in the method.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 12, 1953, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in G.

BRYAN S. COPE .. Treble	BRIAN AUSTIN .. 5
JOHN KING .. 2	JOHN E. SKERRITT .. 6
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. 3	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 7
RONALD J. SHARP .. 4	GEOFFREY E. WATSON .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

Rung as a farewell peal to Brian Austin, who is joining H.M. Forces.

BURNHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 14, 1953, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Pritchard's Four-part. Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb. in F sharp.

*PETER R. ASLET .. Treble	E. DENNIS POOLE .. 5
JOHN M. ELLWOOD .. 2	BERNARD C. CASTLE .. 6
CYRIL A. BURGESS .. 3	RONALD BARLOW, R.A.O.C. .. 7
†GEOFF. H. G. LISTER .. 4	GEORGE GILBERT .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

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

A birthday peal for Reg W. Rex, who was prevented at the last minute from taking part.

ALVECHURCH, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Feb. 15, 1953, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's Variation.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM C. DOWDING .. Treble	BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY .. 5
ARTHUR D. COOK .. 2	ANTHONY AGER .. 6
SHIRLEY V. RYMER .. 3	HARRY PARKES .. 7
MURIEL REAY .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

A wedding compliment to Alan J. Rymer and Miss Margaret Shoc-smith, who were married at Colombo, Ceylon, on February 12th.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., Feb. 16, 1953, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

*PETER J. MORTON	Treble	ANTHONY AGER	5
MURIEL REAY	2	GEORGE E. FEARN	6
JOHN McDONALD	3	HENRY H. FEARN	7
MICHAEL G. MORTON	4	BRIAN G. WARWICK	Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

*First peal with Treble Bob hunt.

CAMPSALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Doncaster and District Society.)

On Fri., Feb. 20, 1953, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN,

A PEAL OF 5040 ST. CLEMENT'S BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*DONALD WHEAT	Treble	RONALD J. SANDERSON	5
ERNEST J. PADGETT	2	DENNIS A. CHAPMAN	6
HOWARD SCOTT	3	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY	7
ERNEST SHORT	4	EDGAR C. STACEY	Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

*First peal on eight bells. First peal in the method for all the band, in the county and for the Association.

A farewell peal to the Vicar, the Rev. G. L. A. Hick, who is leaving the parish. Also a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 2nd.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

WILLIAM C. MARSHALL	Treble	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD	5
WILFRED W. RING	2	MARK W. MARSHALL	6
*WILLIAM P. GARNER	3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD	7
FREDK. G. HUCKSTEPP	4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH	Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

*First peal of London. First peal of London on the bells. 100th peal as conductor.

BOCKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

CLAUDE SNOWDEN	Treble	HILDA G. SNOWDEN	5
FRANK CLAYDON	2	*JOHN WARNER	6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN	3	RONALD SUCKLING	7
JEAN M. HARRIS	4	FRANK L. HARRIS	Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by RONALD SUCKLING.

*First peal in the method.

A birthday compliment to the Dean, the Very Rev. Edgar Rogers, O.B.E.

BREWOOD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND CHAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 21 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

Thurstans' Four-part.		ARTHUR PRITCHARD	5
JOAN BERESFORD	Treble	BARNABAS G. KEY	6
RICHARD J. WARRILOW	2	GEORGE E. OLIVER	7
WILLIAM J. LEACH	3	ROY K. MOWFORTH	Tenor
EDMUND MALIN	4		

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

CHATHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 25 cwt.

*CECIL C. BISHOP	Treble	TREVOR A. CROSS	5
HARRY SPRINGATE	2	RALPH BIRD	6
VICTOR A. JARRETT	3	CYRIL S. JARRETT	7
PETER F. BORER	4	GEORGE KENWARD	Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL S. JARRETT.

*First peal of Triples. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Mr. F. Richardson, a member of the local band, who died on February 19th.

CLARE, SUFFOLK.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 31 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

A. D. R. KER (Clare)	Treble	W. J. RIDGMAN (Queens')	5
*R. J. HOUSDEN (Sel.)	2	F. E. ROBERTS (Selwyn)	6
J. H. FIELDEN (St. Cath's.)	3	C. M. P. JOHNSON (Selwyn)	7
R. B. MORRIS (Clare)	4	P. A. F. CHALK (Selwyn)	Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD (Trinity).

Conducted by C. M. P. JOHNSON.

*First peal 'inside.'

CLEMENT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ANTHONY AGER	Treble	FRANK E. HAYNES	5
MURIEL REAY	2	HENRY H. FEARN	6
JOHN PINFOLD	3	HARRY PARKES	7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON	4	GEORGE E. FEARN	Tenor

Composed by H. LAW JAMES.

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

In memoriam William Shillock, for many years ringer at this church.

FRITTENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5120 ASHTED SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt.

HARRY BAKER	Treble	WALTER H. DOBBIE	5
*PETER C. WRIGHT	2	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	6
REGINALD E. LAMBERT	3	BENJAMIN F. BAKER	7
THOMAS E. SONE	4	ROBERT COLLINS	Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM BARTON.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

*First peal in the method.

An 86th birthday compliment to Mr. F. J. Lambert, sen., and to Mr. J. Beach, both old ringers of Horsmonden, whose birthdays were on the above date.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5184 SPLICED PLAIN AND LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Consisting of 3,072 of Plain Bob, and 2,112 of Little Bob, 95 changes of method.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*DOUGLAS KIRKPATRICK	Treble	*HAROLD WORRALL	5
HENRY O. BAKER	2	*CECIL RADDON	6
*ERIC HORNBY	3	*JOHN SCOTT	7
*HENRY PARKER	4	*HARRY W. HOWARD	Tenor

Composed by C. K. LEWIS.

Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

*First peal of Spliced Plain and Little Bob.



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HYTHE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 9 lb.

*JOHN E. CHITTENDEN .. Treble	PETER J. SMALL .. 5
CYRIL A. WRATTEN .. 2	THOMAS H. HOLMES .. 6
ALLAN E. BUTLER .. 3	JOHN L. MORRIS .. 7
WALTER C. CHANDLER .. 4	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK C. W. KNIGHT.

* First peal of Major.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.

Tenor 16 cwt. 24 lb. in E.

MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS .. Treble	A. RONALD LING .. 5
*MARJORIE F. JACKSON .. 2	THOMAS H. FRANCIS .. 6
*FRANK J. MATTHEWS .. 3	ALFRED J. HOUSE .. 7
*ARTHUR W. J. BUTLER .. 4	FRANK E. HAWTHORNE .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS H. FRANCIS.

* First peal of Stedman Triples.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF IMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11½ cwt.

ERNEST J. GOWER .. Treble	CHARLES W. BLAKEY .. 5
CHARLES CLEGG .. 2	ROGER LEIGH .. 6
VICTOR J. C. WOOD .. 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. 7
LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS .. 4	*JAMES SKEATS .. Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

* First peal in the method.

C. Clegg has now rung each bell in this tower to a peal.

PATRINGTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PATRICK,

A PEAL OF 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

LEONARD RODMELL .. Treble	*JOHN A. BROUGHTON .. 5
*PATRICIA DUFFILL .. 2	JOHN G. HOBSON .. 6
*C. THOMAS BARKER .. 3	PHILIP H. SPECK .. 7
*JOHN M. HARROP .. 4	CHARLES BARKER .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by CHARLES BARKER.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major.

A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 7th. and 21st wedding anniversary compliment to the ringer of the tenor.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

OLIVER G. BARNARD .. Treble	HARRY D. LISTER .. 5
LESLIE G. FOSTER .. 2	WILLIAM J. BUTTON .. 6
ROBERT E. LESTER .. 3	RONALD W. STEWARD .. 7
JAMES BENNETT, SEN. .. 4	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL .. Tenor

Composed by WM. E. BASON.

Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

G. A. Blaxcell's 50th peal on Stowmarket bells. A birthday compliment to Mr. Charles Fisher, vice-president of the Suffolk Guild.

SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Bruerton's.

Tenor 15 cwt. 26 lb.

JEAN A. KIRKMAN .. Treble	B. STEDMAN PAYNE .. 5
BARRY CORBISHLEY .. 2	DAVID S. HARRIS .. 6
*JEAN A. BROOKS .. 3	J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 7
HARRY M. PAYNE .. 4	ERNEST F. PAYNE .. Tenor

Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.

* First peal 'inside.'

A birthday peal for Miss Jean A. Brooks.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb. in F.

GEORGE A. FLEMING .. Treble	*RUSSELL G. PARKER .. 5
*PATRICIA M. CLARKE .. 2	LESLIE G. BRETT .. 6
WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN .. 3	*WALTER W. MILLER .. 7
FRANK L. FISHER .. 4	ALBERT E. WHITING .. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY (No. 37). Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.

* First peal of Superlative.

WOOD GREEN, WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb.

CLIVE M. SMITH .. Treble	FRANCIS BROTHERTON .. 5
SAMUEL BIRCH .. 2	J. NORMAN HADLEY .. 6
EDGAR MARLOW .. 3	W. GEORGE PAGE .. 7
ERNEST STITCH .. 4	HOWARD HOWELL .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

SIX BELL PEALS

GAMSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., Jan. 31, 1953, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, viz., (1) Morning Star, (2) Ockley, (3) Norbury,
(4) College Exercise, (5) Duke of Norfolk, (6) Spliced Capel, Kingston.
London Scholars' Pleasure, Sandal and Oxford, (7) Kent.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

GEORGE CHALLENGES .. Treble	HAROLD DENMAN .. 4
MARION BRADLEY .. 2	HERBERT T. ROOKE .. 5
DOREEN ARMSTRONG .. 3	FRANK BRADLEY .. Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT T. ROOKE.

First peal in 11 methods by all the band, on the bells and by the Guild.

DAVENHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Feb. 10, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble
Bob and one 720 Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

A. GORDON LAWRENCE .. Treble	ERIC HORNBY .. 4
DAVID GODFREY .. 2	HARRY W. HOWARD .. 5
REGINALD W. WORRALL .. 3	DAVID SMITH .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID SMITH.

Reginald W. Worrall has now 'completed the circle' of this tower.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Joseph Ashmole on his 90th birthday.

SHAFTESBURY, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 14, 1953, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 16 cwt.

MRS. M. M. GODLEY .. Treble	*JOHN B. POWLESLAND .. 4
A. JOHN GRAY .. 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE .. 5
H. JIM RALPH .. 3	D. W. CHARLES CHANT .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. SHUTE.

* First peal of Minor.

Rung as a compliment to Canon Coley on completing 25 years as
Vicar of the combined churches of St. Peter and Holy Trinity.
Believed to be the first peal on the bells.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSFX ASSOCIATION

On Sat., Feb. 14, 1953, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

HILDA M. SNOWDEN .. Treble	MRS. H. W. MOORE .. 4
HAROLD W. MOORE .. 2	TERRY EARLE .. 5
TERRY L. STOCK .. 3	ALAN R. SYDER .. Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. SYDER.

First peal as conductor.

ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 11 cwt.
*KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. Treble D. KAY ADKINS .. 4
REGINALD ROWLEY .. 2 | RICHARD G. BELL .. 5
RONALD W. R. PICTON .. 3 GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN .. Tenor
Conducted by GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN.

* First peal.

BRITFORD, WILTSHIRE.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven 720's. Tenor 8 cwt. in A flat.
JACK MUSSELL .. Treble JOHN HARTLESS .. 4
KATHLEEN FLETCHER .. 2 HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS .. 5
*JOAN M. GRAY .. 3 RONALD N. MARLOW .. Tenor
Conducted by HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS.

* First peal of Surprise. First peal of Surprise as conductor. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

DISEWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LOUGHBOROUGH COLLEGE SOCIETY.
On Wed., Feb. 25, 1953, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt.
*PETER J. RYMAN .. Treble | †PETER J. SMITH .. 4
*JANE COATES .. 2 | †DAVID S. HARRIS .. 5
ROBERT D. WILSON .. 3 BARRY CORBISHLEY .. Tenor
Conducted by BARRY CORBISHLEY.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. First peal of Minor as conductor. First peal for the Society and by members now present at the College.

EDITH WESTON, RUTLAND.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7 cwt.
ERNEST G. ORLAND .. Treble | A. JOHN HOBLEY .. 4
PERCY AMOS .. 2 | VICTOR A. PERRY .. 5
*MALCOLM R. TOMLIN .. 3 | JOHN H. BLUFF .. Tenor
Conducted by JOHN H. BLUFF.

* First peal 'inside.'

EYNESBURY, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents. Tenor 15 cwt.
FRANK WARRINGTON .. Treble | FRANK W. LACK .. 4
MICHAEL J. DYER .. 2 | WILLIAM A. R. CHAMBERLAIN .. 5
JOHN R. G. SPICER .. 3 | R. FRANK BAKER .. Tenor
Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

Rung half-muffled in memory of Canon A. R. South-Phillips, Rector of Eynesbury 1912-1940.

SEND, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb. in A flat.
WILLIAM A. GOLDSTONE Treble | ROY COLLINS .. 4
HERBERT COLCOMBE .. 2 | *ROBERT J. ANDREWS .. 5
*CLIFFORD J. BEADLE .. 3 | *E. JOHN WELLS .. Tenor
Conducted by E. JOHN WELLS.

* First peal in the method.

STISTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 21, 1953, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. in A.
HILDA M. SNOWDEN (14) .. Treble | PETER WOOD (15) .. 4
SHIRLEY BARRINGER (17) .. 2 | ALAN SYDER (15) .. 5
TERRY STOCK (15) .. 3 | TERRY EARLE (16) .. Tenor
Conducted by TERRY EARLE.

Average age 15 years 4 months.



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OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Thurs., Feb. 12, 1953, in 1 Hour and 42 Minutes.

At 26, ST. MARGARET'S ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 13 methods in seven extents: (1) Spliced Double Oxford Bob, Thelwall Bob, St. Clement's College Bob and Childwall College Bob, (2) Spliced London Bob, Lytham Bob, College Bob and Wavertree College Bob, (3) and (4) Spliced Double Bob and Fulbeck Bob, (5) Spliced Reverse Bob and Canterbury Pleasure, (6) and (7) Plain Bob, 107 changes of method. Tenor size 11 in G.

KATHLEEN HIGGINS .. 1-2 | ROBIN G. TURNER .. 3-4

PETER BORDER .. 5-6

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

The first handbell peal in 13 Minor methods by all the band.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Sun., Feb. 15, 1953, in 1 Hour and 43 Minutes.

IN HERTFORD COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In 17 methods in seven extents: (1) Spliced Double Court and Single Court, (2) Spliced Hereward Bob and Single Oxford Bob, (3) Spliced London Bob, Lytham Bob, College Bob and Wavertree College Bob, (4) Spliced Double Oxford Bob, Thelwall Bob, St. Clement's College Bob and Childwall College Bob, (5) Spliced Reverse Bob and Canterbury Pleasure, (6) Spliced Double Bob and Fulbeck Bob, (7) Plain Bob, 92 changes of method. Tenor size 11 in G.

R. JAMES COOK .. 1-2 | ROBIN G. TURNER .. 3-4

PETER BORDER .. 5-6

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

25th peal as conductor. The first handbell peal in 17 Minor methods by all the band and for the Society.

WOODDITTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 19, 1953, in 2 Hours and 6 Minutes.

AT SUNNY VIEW, WOODDITTON ROAD, NEWMARKET,

A PEAL OF 5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

J. REGINALD HEATH .. 1-2 | JOHN A. ACRES .. 5-6

ALBERT E. AUSTIN .. 3-4 | *THOMAS F. VARNEY .. 7-8

Arranged by A. E. AUSTIN. Conducted by JOHN A. ACRES.

* First peal. 25th peal in hand as conductor.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Feb. 15, 1953, in 2 Hours and 4 Minutes.

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5076 SPLICED MAJOR

In seven methods, comprising 576 Little Bob, 1,116 Gainsborough Little Bob, 336 each of Double and St. Clement's Bob, 408 Crayford Little Bob, 816 Reverse Bob, and 1,488 Plain Bob, with 403 changes of method. Tenor size 15 in C.

WILLIAM G. YOUNG .. 1-2 | DANIEL T. MATKIN .. 5-6

MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY 3-4 | KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER .. 7-8

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

A compliment to Mr. Francis S. Wilson for his 78th birthday, this being the nearest date to the actual day, February 20th, on which the band could meet for a peal attempt.

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

On Fri., Feb. 20, 1953, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes.

IN THE RINGING ROOM,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 15 in C.

*VALERIE WILLARD .. 1-2 | PHILIP M. J. GRAY .. 5-6

JOAN GRAY .. 3-4 | †CHRISTOPHER BILLINGTON 7-8

†JOHN B. WILLIS .. 9-10

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by PHILIP M. J. GRAY.

* First peal of Bob Royal. † First peal on ten bells. First peal on ten bells as conductor. First handbell peal of Royal in Australia.

DROGHEDA, IRELAND.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Feb. 22, 1953, in 1 Hour and 59 Minutes.

AT 26, WILLIAM STREET,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores.

Tenor size 12 in F.

*ROY HUBER (15) .. 1-2 | FREDERICK E. DUKES .. 3-4

*JAMES DOLAN (15) .. 5-6

Conducted by FREDERICK E. DUKES.

* First peal.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

EDITORIAL OFFICE: c/o Woodbridge Press,
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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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BARNETT, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford,
Kent. (Phone Bexleyheath 8689.)

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HAROLD J. POOLE.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Congratulations to the Leicester Cathedral
band, who by succeeding with the peal of
Metropolis Surprise Maximus have now rung
peals in a twelve-bell extension both to London
and Bristol Surprise Major. The latest achieve-
ment proved a headache to more than one mem-
ber of the band, indeed the continuous back-
ward hunting and wrong-way dodging and
leading brought forth the following question
from one of the band after the peal: 'Does the
composer of this one write corky handed?'

It was a big disappoint-
ment to Birmingham Cathed-
ral ringers that the broad-
cast of their bells last Sunday at 9.30 a.m.
consisted only of the back six. The B.B.C. had
not mentioned bells to the Provost, and it was
only by chance that shortly before the broad-
cast was due Mr. George Fearn read the an-
nouncer's script referring to the bells, which
necessitated hasty arrangements. This lack of
co-ordination is most unfortunate, as a broad-
cast from Birmingham, if only for three
minutes, is of national interest to the Exercise.

Mr. Mark S. Lancefield has rung his 100th
peal as conductor. Congratulations!

Progress is being made by the Southwell
Diocesan Guild in Treble Bob Minor. A peal
in 11 methods, the first for the Guild, was rung
at Gamston, conducted by Mr. H. T. Rooke.

Mr. W. H. Cavill, of Ashcott, Somerset, has
met with considerable success with his All Saints'
Doubles. Copies have been sent to over 200
different parts of the country, and peals and
quarter peals with this method included have
been rung in many places.

A letter received by the Editor this week from
Ballarat, Victoria, states that the local band are
progressing slowly but surely. At St. Peter's a
720 Plain Bob Doubles has been rung and a
start has been made on Stedman Doubles. At
the City Hall the ringers can manage a plain
course of Grandsire Doubles.

By the ringing of the peal of Plain Bob Minor
at Diseworth Parish Church on Wednesday,
February 25th, the Loughborough College
Society have passed their first milestone. The
Society was formed just over one year ago and
their activities include handbell ringing twice a
week. These handbells were bought for the
Society by the college and have helped to stimu-
late ringing among the other students.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The first handbell peal of
Royal in Australia was rung
at Melbourne on February
20th, conducted by Mr. Philip M. J. Gray.
Two of the band were attempting their first
peal on ten bells.

Mr. B. C. Sadler is the new Master of the
Southend and District Guild of Ringers.

The last peal has been rung on the bells of
Lyme Regis Parish Church before their removal
to a foundry for recasting.

In connection with the jubilee of the North
Wales Association, a history of the Association
written by Mr. Albert J. Hughes, of Bangor,
will appear in our next issue.

How many ringing societies hold a 'mardle'?
From East Harling, Norfolk, we have received
a report of such a gathering. Incidentally, the
word 'mardle' does not appear in Webster's
Dictionary or the Oxford Concise Dictionary.
Is it peculiar to East Anglia? Its accepted sense
is a gossip or friendly chat.

Congratulations to the band of youngsters
who rang a very well-struck peal of Bob Minor
at Stisted. Three of the band were local lads
taught during the past year by Mr. Albert
Saunders. Albert stood outside the tower dur-
ing the whole of the peal and felt justly proud
of his three pupils at the end.

Mr. William Henry Slee, captain of the
Pyworth ringers, Devon, has had an association
of 62 years with this tower. He started ringing
as a boy of 14 in 1891. For the past 20 years
he has been hon. secretary of the Tamar Valley
Guild. For pure beauty of tone Mr. Slee places
the following rings in order of merit: Stratton,
Werrington and St. Stephen's, Launceston, out
of more than 100 churches throughout Devon
and Cornwall on which he has rung during his
long career.

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CENTRAL COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, librarian to the Central Council, has found it necessary to relinquish the distribution of Central Council publications, which he has undertaken with great faithfulness for many years.

For the time being the distribution will be under the supervision of Mr. F. Sharpe, and orders for publications are to be addressed to:—

Miss P. J. AYRIS,
10, Sherwood Close,
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BICESTER,

Oxon.

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Success Attends First Annual Dinner

The day, brightened by sunshine, was heralded by two peal attempts, Grandsire Triples at Sawley and London Surprise Major at Duffield, both of which came to grief, due, directly in one case and indirectly in the other, to illness. A face-saving quarter peal of London was, however, achieved.

Derby is well endowed with good bells, and the three eight-bell towers were made available for ringing in the afternoon. These were St. Peter's (tenor 11 cwt.), St. Luke's (30 cwt.) and St. Alkmund's (16 cwt.). Thanks are due to the incumbents of these churches and also particularly to Mr. H. Taylor and Mr. P. Whitaker, who worked very hard for several evenings in bad conditions to make St. Alkmund's bells fit for ringing.

The dinner was the Association's first venture of this nature and the committee's were anxious for its success. Unfortunately, a mistake was made in selecting the date, as it was the first Saturday in Lent, a point which had escaped notice when it was fixed last November. As a result the president, the Rt. Rev. R. S. M. O'Ferral, Assistant Bishop of Derby, felt reluctantly unable to attend.

The keynote of the function, held at the Corporation Hotel, was informality and only one speech after dinner was allowed—this by the vice-president, Mr. W. Lancaster. He welcomed the 76 guests and particularly the members of neighbouring societies, the Midland Counties Guild, the Sheffield and District Society and the Southwell Diocesan Guild. The object of the dinner, he explained, was to foster the friendly spirit prevailing in the Association and to extend friendships with neighbours. He did not miss the opportunity of flattering the ladies.

After dinner entertainment was provided by the guests themselves and included handbell ringing and tune ringing by the Ilkeston ringers. An item of particular interest was when Mr. Clement Glenn accompanied a course of Stedman Triples on the piano.

Other items were a piano duet by Mr. P. Castledine and Miss M. Buck, songs by Mr. W. Lancaster and Mr. R. E. Carlisle, community singing, a rather whimsical 'odd ode' by Mr. P. Castledine, a monologue in Yorkshire dialect by Mr. C. Glenn. The rest of the time was filled in with dancing and games, which were greatly enjoyed.

Neighbouring societies were represented by: Messrs. C. Glenn, R. E. Carlisle and B. Buswell, Southwell Diocesan Guild; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cotton, Mr. and Mrs. S. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. W. Soar and Mr. W. Curzon, Midland Counties Guild; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Turley, Sheffield and District Society.

It was generally agreed that the first Derbyshire Association dinner was a great success.

THE PRINCE OF TWELVE-BELL RINGERS

Mr. Albert Walker's 500 Peals

Mr. Albert Walker, the doyen of Birmingham ringers, established a new record on Thursday, Feb. 19th, when he rang his 500th peal on twelve bells. We feel certain the Exercise will extend its heartiest congratulations to Mr. Albert Walker on this fine achievement, and offer its felicitations to him to-morrow at the Henry Johnson Dinner.

It was on January 31st, 1899, at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, that Mr. Walker rang his first twelve-bell peal, and the list has taken 54 years to complete, as in the early days opportunities to ring twelve-bell peals were infrequent. Of Mr. Walker's total of 500, 370 have been rung on tower bells, of which he has conducted 162, and there have been 130 'in hand' (conducted 59). Two of the tower-bell peals and three on handbells have been non-conducted.



MR. ALBERT WALKER

Mr. Walker has rung twelve-bell peals in 43 different towers, the list including St. Paul's Cathedral, London, where he rang a peal in 1928.

An interesting point about his 500th twelve-bell peal was that the band who participated had between them rung 1,956 peals on twelve bells. Individual totals of the ringers participating are:—Muriel Reay 28, T. Hampton 54, A. V. Pearson 87, W. C. Dowling 117, E. C. Shepherd 129, J. Penfold 130, H. H. Fearn 135, F. W. Perrens 147, F. E. Haynes 160, F. E. Pervin 216, G. E. Fearn 253, A. Walker 500.

MR. WALKER'S LIST

Mr. Walker's list of peals on 12 bells is as follows:—

Tower bells. — Stedman Cinques 306 (147 conducted) — 1 non-conducted; Grandsire Cinques 3; Erin Cinques 1; Plain Bob Maximus 1; Kent Treble Bob Maximus 5 (3); Forward Maximus 2; Yorkshire Maximus 7 (1); Cambridge Maximus 33 (10)—1 non-conducted; New Cambridge Maximus 1 (1); Spliced Cambridge and Yorkshire 1; Pudsey 2; Little Bob

1; Belgrave 1; Lincolnshire 1; Lindsey 1; Prittlewell 1; Solihull 1; Albanian 1; Pontefract 1; total 370 (162).

Handbells. — Stedman Cinques 125 (57)—3 non-conducted; Grandsire Cinques 1; Erin Cinques 1; Kent Treble Bob Maximus 3 (2); total 130 (59).

'FIVE HUNDREDS'

Dear Sir,—No doubt many readers will wish to congratulate Mr. Albert Walker on bringing his total of twelve-bell peals to 500. Another notable 500th milestone in a different field had been reached on the previous day, reported in 'The Birmingham Mail' of 19th February as follows: 'The achievement of Joe Davis in scoring 500 century snooker breaks must surely be one of those phenomenal sporting performances which will remain on the record books for all time.' If for 'Joe Davis' we read 'Albert Walker,' for 'century snooker breaks' 'twelve-bell peals,' and for 'sporting' 'ringing,' we have a comment eminently applicable to Mr. Walker. And in addition to the two performances both being the first of their kind, there are other similarities worthy of notice.

Both have demanded a high degree of skill and concentration throughout a period of years, in Mr. Walker's case one of more than fifty. In the pursuit of both objectives there have been some failures and disappointments: sometimes a break has come to an end in the '90's, sometimes a peal has been lost after over three hours' ringing. I can remember, for instance, a broken clapper bringing some excellent Cambridge Maximus to an unfortunate end only a few leads from 'That's all.' Moreover, just as Mr. Davis can no doubt recall certain of his centuries with greater pride than others, so Mr. Walker can look back on some of his peals with particular satisfaction, among them the 5,000 Stedman Cinques that completed the tale, which was indeed worthy of the occasion.

Another 'five hundred,' reported in the Feb. 13th 'Ringing World,' while admittedly notable, is not so remarkable as the foregoing, since it is more likely to be followed by others similar in due course, a contingency by no means probable in the previous cases. Mrs. Thomas will, of course, be widely congratulated on being the first lady to ring 500 peals; but there must be others, in addition to myself, who regret that her confidence in the goodwill of the ringing fraternity is apparently not equal to that in her own ability. If anyone were inclined to say, as Mrs. Thomas suggests, 'her husband or brother put in the odd call which she missed,' he would be just as likely to say, 'I suppose brother Joseph winked at her a couple of sixes before the half-way single was due'! I am certain that I can assure Mrs. Thomas that had she called the peal herself no such query as she fears would have been raised.

A fourth '500th' recently achieved, also appearing in the same 'Ringing World,' is the 500th peal together by the brothers George and Henry Fearn. It had been hoped to arrange this to coincide with Mr. Walker's peal, and had not unforeseen circumstances prevented a proposed attempt at St. Martin's, it might well have done so. It would be interesting to recall the records of previous famous ringing brothers, e.g., George and William Pye.—Yours, etc.,

F. E. HAYNES.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following contributions to meet the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Peals.—Snaith 4s., Hythe 4s., Shaftesbury 7s., Eynesbury 1s. 6d., Send 3s., Isleworth 2s.

Quarter peals.—St. Kea 2s. 6d., Abbotsbury 2s., Wincanton 3s., Hovingham 2s., Houghton 1s., Hemingford Abbots 1s., Luton 1s., Bishop's Stortford 2s. 6d., Great Wymondley 2s., Hitchin 1s., Heddington 2s. 6d., Thorley 2s. 6d., Birchington 1s. 6d., Horbury 2s., Yatton 4s.

RINGERS' RULES (ANCIENT & MODERN)

By ERNEST MORRIS

FROM the earliest times of 'organised' ringing of bells, rules were of necessity drawn up for the use and observance of those concerned. These were often enshrined in verse or quaint language, and I propose to give a selection of these, many of which are still to be seen in our belfries, although a great number are now lost. The formation of authorised and well-conducted diocesan and county guilds and associations have altered these observances somewhat in the progress of social and ecclesiastical needs. To write up the growth and progress of change-ringing and the activities of ringers from the time of its inception in late 16th and early 17th centuries would in itself form a vast amount of interesting data, which to a small extent I have already collected in my book, 'History and Art of Change Ringing' (published 1931).

In the present series I therefore must simply give some of the most quaint and historic examples of these rules; and wherever possible show the source from which I have gathered them.

Ringing societies of one sort or another have long existed. In the early days the ringers or 'cammanarii' formed a distinct order. It is indeed stated that the ringing of bells was originally assigned to priests as part of their duties (Ellacombe: 'Bells of the Church,' p. 291) and in later times to the 'ostiarus' (sextons or virgers), but this is probably a foreign custom. In England the duty was allotted to deacons or clerks in minor orders. Of such we hear as early as the twelfth century at Barnwell Priory, Cambs, and later at Tong College, Shropshire, and elsewhere.

In the reign of Henry III. (1254) a royal grant was made to the Brethren of the Guild at Westminster—who were appointed to ring the great bells—of 100s. annually from the Exchequer ('Bells of the Church,' p. 226; cf. Toulmin Smith, 'English Gilds,' p. 295). The Guild of Saddlers (sellarii) in the City of London were granted the right of ringing the bells of St. Martin-le-Grand, and for doing so at the death of a brother they were to pay 8d. to the church (ibid. p. 492).

At Holy Trinity, Coventry, some constitutions of 1462 give instructions to the deacons when to ring and how to look after the bells. At Ludlow in 1551 there is in the Churchwardens' accounts a payment 'to the dekins for rnyng of day belle.' Bishop Oldham of Exeter in his Statutes of 1511 directs the 'annualarii' of chantry priests to sound or toll a certain number of times with one bell then a full tolling of all the bells at the Canonical Hours after the accustomed manner ('Church Bells of Devon,' p. 75).

LINCOLN'S EARLY MASTERS

Of ringing societies proper, one of the very earliest known is that of Lincoln Cathedral. On the walls of the south-west tower are painted in black lettering the names of several Masters from 1614 to 1635, and above are the words: 'The names of the Companie of Ringers of our Blessed Virgin Marie of Lincolne.' A company of ringers was formed here on October 18th 1612, with Robert Sandie the scrivener, as its first Master 'forever hereafter for the Rinyng of St. Hugh's Bells and Our Lady's Bells' for the encouragement of which Dean Parker and the Chapter granted on September 20th, 1614, a yearly annuity of forty shillings. 'The Ordinances of the Society of Ringers of St. Hugh of Lincoln,' dated October 18th, 1612, are preserved among the muniments of the Cathedral. They are illuminated on five folios of vellum and are accompanied, at the end, by a schedule of the ringers' names illuminated in a similar manner. It is unnecessary to give a

copy of these Ordinances in full as I give below a somewhat similar set from Bristol.

Of the famous Society of College Youths of London (of which I have the honour to be a member) it was stated that Sir Richard Whittington, the well-known Lord Mayor, founded a College of the Holy Spirit and St. Mary, near the Church of St. Martin Vintry, College Hill, London, which was burned in the fire of 1666. That church contained a ring of six bells, and the neighbouring gentry used to amuse themselves by chiming them in rounds. This was said to be the origin of the name 'College Youths' and the traditional date of the founding of the Society in 1637.

Subsequently the title of 'Ancient' was added. On November 5th in that year, Lord Breerton, Sir Cliff Clifton, and other 'nobility and gentry' founded the Society for the purpose of practising and promoting the art of ringing. Next in importance is the Cumberland Society or 'Cumberland Youths,' said to be the successors of the 'London Scholars' who were formerly friendly rivals of the College Youths. It is stated that they adopted their new name in 1746 after the enthusiasm aroused by the Duke of Cumberland's victory at Culloden, when he entered London in triumph and bells were rung.

THE ESQUIRE YOUTHS

At the Restoration of King Charles II. in 1660, a great revival in ringing took place and many local societies were founded often consisting of a single band. These were short-lived as a rule, and many disappeared without leaving any records behind. One company, however—the Esquire Youths—was founded in 1662 and was an exclusive body composed of lawyers, and probably of persons holding minor appointments in the royal court, and apparently did not admit anyone beneath the rank of esquire—in those days a real rank and not merely a polite form of address. The rules of this Company and the names of the original members are extant, and the reason they have survived is curious and romantic.

The late Mr. J. Armiger Trollope gives a full description of his 'find' of this Society's records in an article in the 'Ringing World,' August 5th 1932, so I will content myself in giving brief extracts of their rules. These are in two distinct handwritings and partly in English, partly in Latin with an occasional sentence in Greek. The officers consist of a General or Principal, Treasurer, Clericus or Clerke, senior and junior Stewards, senior and junior Wardens. Under each officer is a description of his duties. The Treasurer was to gather steeppleage at all 'extraordinary neals and forfeitures for the use of ye Company.' The Stewards were to prepare for the yearly feast, and to consult the Treasurer on what moneys he can spare and what can be gathered.

Mention is also made of a Warner, who, amongst other duties, had to give notice to the members on the marriage or death of any member, so that suitable peals could be rung. Candidates for admission to the Society were required to sign 'an engagement for all those that are desirous to be instituted members of the Society to be subscribed unto:

'I doe declare and promise to keepe and maintain all these orders to my full power and utmost endeavour as they are now established by the whole Society, and further engage to have not now or hereafter any interest in any company but this of esquires.'

Provision was made for monthly and quarter (i.e., quarterly) peals and the following form was provided to summon the members on these occasions:—

'Form of a Warrent.

'Whereas it is ye pleasure of the generall and his assistants to appoint the next monthly meeting place for the Company at B. These are

therefore to will and require you upon sight hereof to make yr. personall appearance at the aforesaid church on Tuesday next, the 12th day of July, between 4 and 5 of ye clock by the same Church Clocke in the afternoon there to help and perform the sd. Peale to your best skill and utmost Indeavour and hereof you are not to fail on pain of forfeiture.'

A. B. Generall.'

Two of the rules are as follows:—

'None shall find fault with another's ringing but the generall or whom he shall appoint. None shall prate or make any noise at peals.'

'None shall engage the Company in a challenge without the Generall's consent on pain of being amerced 2s. 6d., and in case the Company shall be engaged every man shall lend his best assistance if required and contribute his equal share to the rest of his fellow-members.'

The following rules are unusual, and may mean that politics were barred from ringing meetings, or may mean that nobody was to repeat anything that the King had said, or what had come to his ears in the course of his official duties:—

'None shall offer to talke or occasion ye talke of his majestie or any state affairs on pain of being fined 8d.'

'None shall offer to talke or occasion ye talke of his majestie or any state affairs, or none concerning ye same among all ye Company to the disturbance of any on pain of being amerced 8d.'

The above rules are very reminiscent of the Scholars of Cheapside, so much so that it is evident that the compilers had the old code before them. The Esquire Youths did not survive for long—Stedman gives a peal on six bells which he calls 'The Twelve Score Long Hunts or the Esquires' Twelve Score,' possibly a favourite one of the Esquire Youths.

Another famous Society was that of the Union Scholars founded in 1713 (Osborn MSS. add. 39-368). In 1749 their Master was John Holt the author of some famous compositions of Grandsire Triples, etc. Their last peal was in 1757 and the society became merged into others: the Society of Eastern Scholars, formed in 1733, the London Youths in 1753, and the Westminster Youths in 1780. Earlier there were in other parts of the country ringing societies such as the Saffron Waldron Society, founded 1623, the Painswick Youths established 1686, the Sherwood Youths of Nottingham, 1672, the Leicester Scholars, supposed to have been formed after a visit to Leicester by the famous Fabian Stedman in 1669, the St. Martin's Society, Birmingham established 1755, Kettering Society, who rang a peal in 1729, Ashton-under-Lyne, and many others too numerous here to mention.

(To be continued.)

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION

St. Albans District

A most successful start for 1953 was made at Harpenden on February 21st. The meeting was very well attended, and about 34 ringers sat down to an excellent tea provided by the Harpenden band, who very generously presented the proceeds of £2 18s. 6d. to the General Fund of the Association. After a short meeting the company returned to the tower for further ringing.

The younger section was very well represented, and we were pleased to receive visitors from Lincoln, Essex, Beds, Middlesex and Surrey.

Ringing was of a high standard, varying from Grandsire to Spliced Surprise in six methods, and was concluded at 8.30 p.m. with a good 'run-down.' Altogether a very pleasant day and one which augurs well for the future. W. J. S.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'ILLEGITIMATE' METHODS

Dear Sir.—I don't think my simile was inapt. The length of time taken to change the law is immaterial and I still maintain that the Council did not act illogically by administering its laws and then almost immediately recommending that the law be investigated—it did not recommend that it should be changed. I think my comparison with a judge is quite a close one. There was nothing wrong with the Council's procedure either.

I agree with Mr. Pink that it has been very unfortunate that a blind eye has been used in the past to these 'illegitimate' methods and also that such appear in official Council publications, from whence they should be removed. But it should have been obvious that in recent years the Council has been trying to put its house in order—revising its rules, etc., and that nobody ought to have been surprised that this particular decision should have been enforced at last.

It was not the fact that the matter was brought up that, to me, savoured of 'cheek' (for it has been discussed every now and again throughout the history of the Council), it was the actual wording of it that did. Nobody could have quarrelled with a plain resolution to investigate the decision concerning Plain Bob lead heads, but it was the reasons given for so doing which spoiled the proposition.

As a point of fact, the Methods Committee was given the job of investigating the matter—Mr. Pink errs in thinking that it wasn't. We would not otherwise have made a pronouncement on the subject. (I fear the poor old Methods Committee seems to get all the awkward subjects thrust upon it followed by the brickbats of those who disagree with its conclusions!)

I sympathise with Mr. Chant in his desire to know 'why'. I hope we shall be able to set out the reasons later on for the benefit of the Exercise, but meanwhile may I suggest that all interested read the long discussion the Council had on the subject as reported in 'The Ringing World' of June 14th and 21st, 1912, or in 'Bell News,' June 22nd, 1912 (not so full an account)? The subject was also prominent at the beginning of the century and also in the early 1920's. It is certainly not a new thing!

Finally, in reply to Mr. Lock's letter, I do not agree that the passing of the Oxford Guild's resolution meant that the controversial peals be recognised. The Council had already voted against them (with more thought than was given to the afternoon resolution, I believe), and passed the latter through the desire to give the Oxford Guild a sympathetic consideration. I do not believe the members of the Council had any idea that this vote would be interpreted as contradicting their decision of a few hours earlier.—Yours sincerely,

K. W. H. FELSTEAD.

Southampton.

WOOD SPIRAL STAIRCASES

Dear Sir.—With reference to the letter in 'The Ringing World' about wooden stairs replacing spiral stone staircases, I have seen quite a number, or alternatively the badly worn parts cut out and filled in with other stone, as is the case at St. Mary's, Bathwick.

Repairs are now in progress at Bath Abbey which will cost £80,000, and of these the tower has been finished at a cost of £8,000. Here the staircase to the belfry is not under the tower, but at the north-east corner of the east end. This spiral staircase is about the best I have ever climbed, consisting of 121 steps. They are a nice gradual slope all the way up. A number of years ago when the stairs became worn the authorities had them entirely encased in wood. They have now been taken out and the steps made up of concrete.—Yours sincerely,

ALBERT E. BAVERSTOCK.

Lower Weston, Bath.

STRIKING OF TONE-DEAF RINGERS

Dear Sir.—It is with some diffidence that I venture to give an opinion on this subject as the best qualified to answer Miss Pam Clements' query would obviously be experienced ringers similarly handicapped.

I understand that tone-deaf pianists can give excellent performances, and can listen to and appreciate a polished performance by another expert musician. Though they cannot pitch a particular note, or keep in tune when singing, I believe (from conversation with tone-deaf people) they can follow and enjoy a melody and immediately detect a faulty note. This seems to suggest that a tone-deaf ringer need not be a bad striker, as the bell and not himself produces the note. What is required to make a good striker appears to be a perfect sense of rhythm.

Although we are not consciously aware of it, do we not count every blow in every row throughout a peal and place our bell in its correct numerical position in each row? Most of us, after some peal ringing experience, begin to enjoy the 'music' of the bells as well as the rhythm; perhaps the tone-deaf miss something of the former—only they can answer that.

I would suggest that a good striker could place his bell accurately if every bell sounded the same note, in which case tone-deafness doesn't enter into the question at all. To your correspondent, then, I would say, 'Don't despair, even if you are tone-deaf.'

Unfortunately, there are many ringers who completely lack a sense of rhythm, and no amount of perseverance seems to improve their striking, and other ringers have to endure hours of mental torment while trying not to be unkind to these unfortunate people, but at the same time endeavour to get them to raise their standard, especially where service ringing is concerned.

It is unfortunate that it takes so long to train a competent change ringer, as, by the time one has discovered that an individual will never be a good striker, it is too late to advise against taking up the art—apart from the loss of a loyal Sunday service ringer upon whom one has spent much valuable time and patience.—Yours faithfully,

W. BIRMINGHAM.

Slough.

AN EXAMPLE FROM WALES

Dear Sir.—A paragraph in 'The Ringing World' of February 22nd by P. A. C. struck me as worthy of a reply where the following questions were asked:—

- (1) Ringing early morning for festivals.
- (2) Number of ringers attending twice on a Sunday.
- (3) Ringing for main services on Sunday.
- (4) Standard of striking.

At St. Matthew's Church, Dyffryn, near Neath, South Wales, we have a six-bell tower (tenor 15½ cwt.) with eight ringers on a register which is marked every Sunday.

In reply to the above questions, I have to state that—

- (1) The bells are rung on festivals at 7.30 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 6 p.m.
- (2) Out of a total eight ringers, six attend twice each Sunday.
- (3) Bells are rung for morning and evening service every Sunday.
- (4) The standard of striking compares favourably with any other tower in the locality.

Also a muffled peal is rung on New Year's Eve and, by request, for any parishioner who passes away.

R. TREMAIN (Tower Captain).

Bryncoch, near Neath, South Wales.

CONGRATULATIONS TO 'Q.E.D.'

Dear Sir.—Our contributor, 'Q.E.D.' is to be congratulated on having presented his argument (about the impossibility of obtaining peals of Stedman Triples with the Stedman standard Bobs only) in a not too mathematical form for the average ringer interested in composition theory. Not an easy task!

The late W. H. Thompson also employed ingenious reasonings of like nature in his treatment of common-bob peal composition in Grandsire Triples. But Dr. Rankin's similar dissertation resorted to the application of principles of Group Theory—a branch of mathematics which is, of course, not exactly elementary.

With this acknowledgment, perhaps Q.E.D. will permit a small measure of comment, intentionally helpful.

Some writers on the Stedman method suggest that his reason for placing rounds as the fourth row of a six is not apparent, and others, that perhaps it was to give a start like that of Grand-sire. The reason, however, seems fairly evident. As the founder of the method-form which remains basic to-day, Stedman no doubt realised the value of symmetry in the construction of the DIVISIONS ('leads' in a hunt-controlled method) of a plain course. In other words, the pattern of the successive permutations throughout the change-rows is a mirror-reflection about the half-division.

The Stedman division consists of 12 change-rows, to include both forms of 'six'—Quick and Slow. But since the grid-patterns of these two sixes are different, symmetry of a Stedman division can only be obtained by sandwiching one type of six between the two halves of the other type—it does not matter, technically, which way. This means that rounds must be placed at the middle of a six. The 'snag' about starting from the middle of a Slow six is the retrograde hunting therein, which would cause the treble to behave in an unusual fashion at the go-off, by remaining on the lead for another blow.

So the start is made from the middle of a Quick six (after the third row) where the direct hunting allows No. 1 bell to run straight up.

At the opening of his argument Q.E.D. cites a block of 12 Stedman rows consisting of a slow six followed by a quick six. This is not, of course, a true Stedman 'division,' and is not a symmetrical row-block. Consequently a little later (middle of second column) it has to be explained that the first of the three 'K's' arising from this exemplary block is not needed for consideration.

If, however, the true Stedman division be cited instead, and the head-rows of the sixes therein be signalled instead of the end-rows, there are only two 'K's' arising for consideration. The whole argument is in no way violated. And the effect of the calls may thus be theoretically considered where they are felt in practice, i.e., at the ensuing hand-stroke row after the call is made. (Calls being orthodox in Stedman, of course, at both the Link and the Junction, of its divisions.)

Later (bottom of second column of the article), when comparison of groups is begun, i.e., 'C(A,B)=Q(3),' and again in column three where further group comparisons are considered, it is suggested that for 'A,' 'B' and 'C,' other letters, e.g., 'X,' 'Y,' 'Z,' might be preferable to avoid possible confusion.

Two minor points may be misprints: One at the bottom of the second column where in the last equivalent of A the r.h. side should apparently be 'Q(3)' instead of 'Q(B)'. The other, at the close of the article, in the last-quoted equation, where the right-hand side should apparently be zero.

'Q.E.D.' will surely have earned the thanks of all students of composition theory.—Yours very truly,

Netley Abbey.

A. YORK-BRAMBLE.

LETTERS—Continued

THE BRIDES OF ENDERBY

Dear Sir,—I was rather interested to read Miss Pilkington's letter in 'The Ringing World' concerning the origin of Jean Ingelow's ballad, 'High Tide on the Lincolnshire Coast,' and the reference to 'The Brides of Enderby.' North's 'Church Bells of Lincolnshire' gives quite a lot of interesting information about this, and the following adapted extract may help to answer Miss Pilkington's query.

It seems certain that the reference to this tune in the ballad is entirely without foundation in fact, and is certainly a case of poetic licence! As a matter of fact, as will be seen from the extract from North, a local amateur composer was later asked to compose a tune of this name to be played by the carillon at Boston, which was cast about 1865 by Van Aerschodt, of Louvain; the tune was not a success and was soon abandoned.

The following is the extract from North:—

Jean Ingelow in a poem . . . relates how the bells in the grand old tower of this church rang out the alarm called the Brides of Enderby. . . . When chimes were first introduced here is not known (for the above allusion to them was only a poetic fancy and not founded on fact); they are mentioned in the Corporation records of 1614. . . . Having seen that Jean Ingelow's mention of the chimes in her poem had no foundation in fact, it may cause some surprise to find the name of the tune she mentions . . . in the list of the new chimes. Its presence there is well explained by a gentleman writing from Boston in 'Notes and Queries' (6th S. ii. p. 435): 'Some of the most active promoters of the new chimes, after receiving Miss Ingelow's answer (saying that there was no foundation in fact for her poetic fancy), wrote to "Claribel," who lived at Louth, and asked her to compose a tune called the Brides of Enderby. She objected, very wisely as I think. A local music master was next applied to. He composed one, but on trial it was found so florid, and otherwise unsuitable to the carillons, that after a short trial it was very wisely abandoned. . . .

North also gives a few further details, but none of any real interest. I think the matter can best be summarised by saying (a) that the tune, and in fact that the very existence of a carillon at Boston in 1571, is purely an invention of the poet; (b) that although the tune was subsequently composed, it was only played on the carillon for a very short time during the mid-nineteenth century; and (c) that the tune could never, therefore, have been used to give a flood warning at Boston or elsewhere. I am afraid I have no record of the number of people who lost their lives in the flood of 1571, but perhaps our Boston friends could help us.—Yours sincerely, PETER N. BOND.
Lincoln.

THE STORM OF 1703

Dear Sir,—I would like to draw attention to my last article (Warwickshire churches series), which was written before the recent flood disasters. I refer to the roof of Meriden Church, which was 'blood of November 28, 1703,' storms being a current topic.

As a matter of interest to those who care to search in old records, it will be found that in that year 'ye greatest hurricane and storme that ever was knowne in England: many churches and houses were extremely shattered.' This storm caused nation-wide havoc, and was so great that Queen Anne ordered a fast.

Meriden Church was one which suffered in the gale; it would be interesting to know if ringing was affected anywhere through falling towers, spires, etc., breaking bells which had to be recast as a result. Those ringers who may be interested will find churchwardens' accounts useful and informative material.—Yours faithfully, ANTHONY A. UPTON.
Knowle, Warwickshire.

THE SHEPHERD POET'S LONG LENGTH

Sir,—I do not remember seeing any reference to the following record in 'The Ringing World,' but it may be of interest to readers not only for the fine ringing performance, but also for the remarkable ages to which the performers lived. Thomas Post was the Shepherd Poet, and I think this is the peal referred to in his book of poems.

On May 4th, 1846, a Peal of Plain Bob Major, 13,440 changes, was rung at St. Leonard's, Hythe, Kent.

in 7 hours 55 minutes, started at 7 a.m.
Charles Fowler (Hythe) Treble, d. Aug. 1875, at 74.

Henry Down (Hythe) 2, d. Mch, 1885, at 80.

James Harrison (Folkestone) 3, d. April, 1887, at 79.

Joseph Stokes (Aldington) 4, d. Mar. 1887, at 71.

Joseph Chapple (Hythe) 5, d. Jany. 1869, at 82.

John Friend (Hythe) 6, d. Oct. 1881, at 77.

Edward Hyder (Aldington) 7, d. Nov. 1896, at 84.

Thomas Post (Aldington) Tenor, d. April, 1906, at 87.

John Friend conducted.

Yours, etc.

GEO. H. HEAD.

THE TOWER CAPTAIN

Dear Sir,—In reply to 'Another Tower Captain,' I would like to say that the first peals by my own band were Doubles with tenor covering.

The three peals he mentions were for special occasions, and therefore I consider he was quite right in arranging them to suit the resident band.

As the ringers are keen enough to ring twice each Sunday I am sure they will soon be ringing peals of Minor, and 'Another Tower Captain' will be amply rewarded for thinking of his own band's interests.

I would like to say that, far from any criticism, my own Association (Norwich Diocesan) gave me every encouragement. C. F. W. P.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

West Dorset Branch

Ringers of the West Dorset Branch held their quarterly meeting at Netherbury on February 21st. The bells (Dorset's heaviest six) were rung up in peal at 3 p.m. Call changes, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent, Cambridge and London Surprise Minor were rung before the Guild service.

The service at 4.30 p.m. was conducted by the Rev. J. M. McAnally, the address given by Canon Lovett, and the lesson read by the chairman of the branch and Master of the Guild, Canon C. C. Cox.

Tea was served in the Village Hall, 25 members sitting down to an excellent meal served by wives and sisters of the Netherbury ringers.

The business meeting that followed showed the accounts had a balance in hand of £39. It was decided to run a coach to Calne for the Guild Festival, and to try and fix a monthly practice for the branch.

Mr. Bishop told the meeting that Melbury Osmond were trying to raise funds to rehang their bells, and he asked the branch to consider making a grant. Mr. W. Godfrey asked if Powerstock might also be considered. These were left to be dealt with at a later date.

Roger Dowle, John Hallett and Robert Moores, of Netherbury, were elected members of the Guild.

Canon Cox proposed a comprehensive vote of thanks to Canon Lovett for his address, to Rev. J. McAnally for conducting the service and for the use of the bells, to the ladies for the tea, and Mr. Elsworth, the organist.

The chairman then declared the meeting closed and handbells were rung to Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, and 'rise and fall' by the Lyme Regis band and Mr. W. Poole from Hardington Mandeville. J. T. B.

MR. JOSEPH ASHMOLE —
90 YEARS

The Northwich Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild rang a peal of Minor on Feb. 10th as a birthday compliment to Mr. Joseph Ashmole, who celebrated his 90th birthday on Thursday, February 5th.

Mr. Ashmole has been a ringer for some 75 years—he was taught to ring at the early age of 15 at Winhill. One of his contemporaries was John Austin, with whom he was associated for many years. He rang his first peal at King's Norton some 70 years ago, and took part in 7,000 Grandsire Major in Birmingham, which was lost in the last five minutes' ringing.

After a few years in Sandbach Mr. Ashmole moved to Northwich in 1888, where he opened his business as coach painter and body repairer. He was instrumental in introducing change ringing to the Davenham tower, for at the time of his arrival the local men were on 'strike' and Mr. Ashmole was persuaded to form a new band. Starting from scratch after Easter, he had his band ringing for the Whitsun services and before long they were ringing Plain Bob and Grandsire.

For many years Mr. Ashmole represented the Chester Guild on the Central Council and he was the Northwich Branch representative on the Guild Committee for many years.

He is a past chairman of the branch, an office he relinquished when he was no longer able to ring regularly every Sunday due to his increasing years preventing him from climbing the belfry steps. He is still to be seen at those towers where ringing is done from the ground level and, occasionally, when the weather is favourable, listening in the churchyard at other towers.

Mr. Ashmole has not been a prolific peal ringer—he rang only 14 peals—but he has given regular and faithful service to his church by being a constant Sunday service ringer.

His friends in the Northwich Branch wish him well and hope he will be with them for many more years to come and join together in congratulating him on reaching this grand old age.

HERTFORD COUNTY

Northern District at Norton

The monthly district meeting was held at St. Nicholas' Church, Norton, on February 21st. This small church, with the lightest octave in the county (tenor 9 cwt. 2 lb.), is in the parish which consists of half of the ever-growing Letchworth Garden City. Five new bells were added in 1946, and since then a very keen young band has been going strong.

The bells were set going at 3.30 to various methods, including the special method of Double Oxford.

In the absence of the Vicar, Canon R. Edwards conducted the service, with Mr. R. Baldwin at the organ. A grand tea was provided by the local ringers' wives and friends in the school.

The Association's treasurer was elected to the chair for the business meeting. He first thanked everyone for all they had done to make the meeting such a happy one. The Misses Ivy Werrett and Juliet Merrel, of Norton, were elected ringing members, and Mr. G. Wyman, of Baldock, an honorary member.

The chairman gave the meeting a few facts about the Association's finances, and of prospects of a brighter year. The next meeting will be at Stevenage on March 28th and the special method will be Little Bob.

Ringing continued until nine o'clock with methods up to Yorkshire; Bristol would not go. The collection for the General Fund amounted to 17s. 6d.

Towers represented were Baldock, Betchworth, Chichester, Colchester, Great Wymondley, Henlow, Hitchin, Knebworth, Stevenage, St. Ippolyts, Stotfold, Welwyn and the local tower.

RETAINING BEGINNERS' INTEREST

By MENTOR

The despairing cry goes up from Guildford, 'How can we retain our beginners?' And many ringing instructors echo the cry.

THE PROBLEM

The ringing instructor's biggest headache in this age of change and unrest is that young recruits lack discipline and concentration—two essentials in the belfry. How much of this is due to a surfeit of 'free activity' ('Let Johnny learn to write when he wants to') only school-masters can say. Perhaps the latest cry ('Johnny can't spell—let's simplify the spelling!') will force the teaching profession to re-examine the disadvantages of 'free activity' and the advantages of a judicious use of the cane.

In the belfry, however, much as some of us at times might like to use the rope-end for purposes other than for setting a bell at back-stroke, we have to foster the pupil's desire to learn by maintaining his interest at every stage. Therein lies the secret of successful teaching, be it of arithmetic, of piano-playing or of bell-ringing. Note that word 'stage.' Too many ringing pupils are forced to proceed at once from rounds to the plain course. No pianoforte teacher would place a Beethoven sonata before a pupil who had just learnt his notes. No, the pupil proceeds step by step, from five finger exercises to easy pieces, from easy pieces to more difficult pieces. As each step is mastered, the pupil feels he is 'getting somewhere' and proceeds to the next step with more confidence.

I made this point in your correspondence columns in 1948, but was disappointed to find that none of our leading conductors would lend the weight of his authority and come forward with a system based on the principle of 'step by step.' So, from my lowly position of instructor in a village tower I give my system for what it is worth. In passing, it would seem that village towers supply the bulk of our ringers; I quote a local conductor—'Town ringers want ready-made ringers—they won't teach.'

THE SOLUTION

Say the beginner learns to ring the treble of a six. Now, what is sacrosanct about rounds? Nothing. His first exercise with the other ringers is, therefore, 321456, the 3rd to give a definite lead, the 2nd to set the beat. He is then called into 2nds place and told to watch the tenor as well as the 3rd (the beginnings of ropesight). Next he is told to lead in the change 132456. The next change is important. Called back into 3rds place, he dodges hand and back with the 4th and then back and hand.

H 321456	B 321456
B 324156	H 324156
H 321456	B 321456
etc.	etc.

Two variations of the three-bell extent follow:—

132546	123456
314256	213546
134526	231456
315426	321546
135246	312456
312546	132546
132456	123456

Note: From now on avoid call changes at all times. Well struck, these two extents are preferable to 'Churchyard Bob' when nothing better can be rung for Sunday.

During the weeks he is learning bell control the pupil should be learning the rule at home and standing by the treble ringer in all plain touches in the tower. The choice of method should be governed by future needs. In five-bell towers, and in towers where the tenor is rarely turned in, naturally Grandsire will be the first method. In six-bell towers Plain Bob Doubles is the obvious choice. Whatever the method, never let the pupil begin to memorise, but vary the calling (or change his bell) at every

practice. Never let the pupil feel himself neglected. Ringers should not grudge the time spent in teaching a beginner nor in ringing 'kindergarten stuff' for his speedier advancement. Nothing 'browns off' the average man more than sitting out an entire evening's practice after only a few rounds with the experts.

If the pupil shows signs of not grasping the theory, a home session with the instructor is not a waste of time.

Don't hurry the remaining steps. From Doubles proceed to Minor, from Minor to Triples and then Major, always taking care to see that the beginner's theory is ahead of his practice. Never let the individual or the band as a whole get into a rut. 'Something fresh every practice' should be the motto. An early quarter peal is a good fillip to enthusiasm. ('Nothing like seeing one's name in print!')

Finally, within the framework of the diocesan or other guild, let each band maintain its own guild of ringers, to which the beginner is formally elected after qualifying. A record book of elections and performances should be kept in every tower. All this, with a periodical corporate Holy Communion, will give ringers that feeling of 'belonging' which, more than anything else, will foster the team spirit that holds a band together.

50 YEARS' SERVICE TO LINCOLN TOWER

Presentation to Mr. H. Hurst

On Sunday evening, February 22nd, in the ringing chamber of St. Peter-at-Gowts' Parish Church, Lincoln, the ringers and friends made a presentation to the Ringing Master, Mr. Horace Hurst, who completed 50 years' service in the tower towards the end of January.

In the presence of the Vicar (Canon G. Holden), the people's warden (Mr. W. Kealey), the ringers and friends, Mr. Jack Freeman, Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, presented Mr. Hurst with a tobacco pouch.

On presenting it, Mr. Freeman spoke of Mr. Hurst's 'wonderful record' in bell-ringing and said that the local ringers could not let such an event pass without recognition.

Mr. Hurst replied by saying the past 50 years had been very happy ones, and he hoped to be able to complete 60 years' ringing service.

The Vicar (Canon G. Holden) said that bells had been rung in the tower for over 1,000 years, but thought Mr. Hurst was the first ringer to accomplish 50 years' service.

A quarter peal of Plain Bob was rung as a compliment to Mr. Hurst on Tuesday, February 3rd, on the bells of St. Peter-at-Gowts', Lincoln. Those taking part were D. Simpson (first quarter) 1. C. Popple (first quarter away from the treble) 2. A. Melton 3. V. Briggs 4. F. Dixon 5. F. Crowe 6. Conducted jointly by the ringers of the 3rd and tenor.

Oxfordshire Surprise Major

12345678	
21436587	
12346857	
21438675	
24183657	
42816375	
42183657	
24816375	
42861357	
24683175	
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42683715	
24867351	
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82647351	
24863751	
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False course end 24365

SOCIETY OF ROVING RINGERS

Fifth Annual Reunion

On February 7th, the Society met at The George, Reading, for its fifth annual reunion. Twenty-seven members and friends attended the dinner that evening.

Mr. Raymond Parsons was elected to the chair at the business meeting which followed. The secretary, Mr. George Evenden, in a most comprehensive report, said the 1952 tour had been a success despite difficulties encountered in arranging accommodation in Devon. The Society was fortunate in having rung three peals during the past year, including a peal of Stedman Triples at Guildford Cathedral in honour of the wedding of Mark and Audrey White. All the members would join in wishing Mark and Audrey the best of fortune in the future.

It was decided that this year's tour be held in the Shrewsbury area and that August Bank Holiday week-end be spent in Shrewsbury if this could be arranged. In future notices of tours and meetings would be published in 'The Ringing World,' and members would not receive individual notifications.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: John Hill, Ringing Master; John and Michael Chilcott, joint secretaries; David Parsons, assistant secretary and treasurer; Audrey Bailey, recorder.

Thanks were accorded to Miss Bailey for her efforts in producing the book telling the Society's story in such an accurate and entertaining manner.

In reply, Miss Bailey said it had been a very interesting and enjoyable task, and she was most grateful to those members who had assisted in so many ways.

Mr. Tony Oliver (Guildford) was elected a member, and honorary membership was conferred upon Mrs. Audrey White (Guildford) and Mr. John A. Freeman (Lincoln).

The evening concluded with handbell ringing, in which the general secretary of the Oxford Guild joined, and music. Unfortunately, the tune of Stedman Cinques 'in hand' was less familiar than the traditional songs which were lustily rendered.

Ringing took place during the week-end at Tilehurst, Arborfield, Caversham and Reading (St. Mary's and St. Laurence's), and ranged from Double Erin Minor to Cambridge Twelve.

The members' best thanks are due to Messrs. A. Diserens and R. G. Burton and all Reading friends for their generous hospitality and welcome.

RINGERS I REMEMBER

WILLIAM WAKLEY

No ringer did more to make Surprise ringing popular than William Wakley, of Burton-on-Trent; a fine ringer and conductor. After his first peal in 1876 he became head of the famous Burton band pioneers of Surprise peals. Before Wakley's band became famous throughout the land for great performances it was possible to count the recorded peals of Superlative on the fingers of one hand, and from 1883 onward if any ringer desired varied Surprise method ringing Burton was the place to go for it.

It was a great task to develop Surprise ringing from its infancy and it was mainly due to his personality, his intrepid conductance and his strenuous life in the cause of ringing that made it possible.

He was great company and would relate many interesting anecdotes with a merry twinkle in his eye. When he died, in April, 1906, at the age of 53, he was buried with full military honours.

W. S.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

The monthly practice meeting of the Chew Deanery Branch was held at Nailsea on Feb. 14th. Between 20 and 30 ringers from various towers attended, and ringing up to London Minor was under the direction of the Master, Mr. H. W. Knight.

OBITUARY

MR. S. T. RACKHAM

We regret to record the death on February 17th of Mr. Sidney Thomas Rackham, of Gilmern, nr. Abergavenny, at the age of 76 years. He had been in failing health for some time, never having regained his former robustness after the death of his wife two years ago.

He was a Man of Kent, coming from the Canterbury district to Breconshire in 1900 with his father and brothers to undertake business at the local mills. In the realm of achievement he certainly earned the title of a great churchman, for he had been choirmaster for 48 years, ringer for 45 years and churchwarden for 20 years. He was one of three brothers well known in the ringing circles of South Wales and West of England, and rang about 90 peals ranging from Doubles to Caters.

He was a founder member, past master and district secretary of Swansea and Brecon Guild and a very active member of the Hereford and Llandaff Guilds after the first world war, when he rang peals under the conductorship of Messrs. W. Short, W. Williams, W. H. Fussell and C. Edwards.

A millwright by trade, he was a remarkable craftsman and able to turn his hand to any trade or machine in metal or wood, a fine example to be found in the Parish Church of St. Eli in the altar rails, choir stalls and pulpit.

At the interment on February 21st friends and ringers were present, and the Rector, the Rev. Parry Jones, spoke appreciatively of the useful but unobtrusive services which the deceased had rendered to the church he loved.

As a last tribute a course of Grandsire was rung at the graveside and a quarter-peal of Minor half-muffled in the late afternoon by his Ebbw Vale friends.

R. S.

A 'MARDLE' AT EAST HARLING

The East Harling ringers' second annual dinner Mardle was held on January 31st at the Swan Hotel, East Harling. Eighteen ringers sampled the really excellently cooked roast fowl for which the East Harling 'Swan' is so justly famous. A short grace was said by the Rector, the Rev. T. Child, and the company set to. Informality was maintained throughout the dinner in order to conform with the title 'Mardle.' Dr. Jonason, who organised the meeting, announced with regret that Mr. and Mrs. Nolan Golden, the Rev. E. T. Thurlow, Dr. and Mrs. Frewen Moore and Mr. Wm. Eagling had sent letters of apology and were unable to be present owing to previous engagements.

A word of welcome was extended to all ringers present, especially Mr. Frank Phillipppo and his party from Bunwell. Mr. 'Todd' Saunders who came from New Buckenham with his wife, and the indomitable Charlie Banham, who cycled the ten miles with a 14-year-old ringer from Caston.

The gale which blew with such ferocity that night necessitated these two being taken home by car with their bicycles lashed on the back.

Handbell ringing was the highlight of the evening—several new young ringers in Harling hearing change ringing carried out in several methods for the very first time. An attempt at Plain Bob Maximus broke down after several very hilarious 'bobs' had been called. The evening was an unqualified success, and it is hoped by more publicity to have an even bigger and better Mardle next year.

P. J.

JUDGING STRIKING COMPETITIONS

From the 'Irish Bell News'

IN our issue published early last year we expressed our views on the standard which, in our opinion, should be attained in the striking competitions. We believe that the various points mentioned were taken into consideration by the judges in the preliminary rounds and the final, and that efforts were made by the teams to put them into operation.

On examining the results of each contest we find that the marks given by the district and final judges do not bear any relation to each other. Even those judging more than one competition adopted different methods. It is our opinion, therefore, that some recognised system should be evolved and that the judges in the district and final competitions will adopt it, thus giving those interested a fair idea of the standard reached by the various teams.

The rules for the competition state that each team will be allowed the bells for ten minutes, in which time they should, on an average, ring about 260 changes or rows. Therefore, it is possible for any team through clipping, clashing or gaps to accrue over 2,000 faults. If a bell leads badly or the tenor keeps clashing or making gaps throughout the test the team can accrue 260 faults.

The whole essence of good ringing is good rhythm, whether it be fast or slow, with an open handstroke lead. One bell leaving agap or clipping will upset the rhythm and should lose one mark for each faulty pull. The judges might distinguish between clashing, clipping and gaps and deduct a whole mark for a clash, half a mark for a clip and a quarter of a mark for a gap.

Should such a system be adopted it would be necessary for the judges to break down their efforts to each individual stroke.

This, we believe, is the fairest way of judging a competition, especially if the standard of some or all of the teams is high or at about the same level.

It would be helpful to the teams if they and the judges came to a clear understanding. The judges should emphasise to the teams that the open lead, clean changing and good rhythm will be looked for. In the past the open lead has caused uncertainty amongst some of the competing teams. Nevertheless, the Murphy Cup has been won on more than one occasion by teams ringing 'Cartwheel' (we are not disputing the results). These teams made up for the closed leads with perfect rhythm. Whereas teams ringing with open leads had incurred so many rhythm faults as to cancel the 'Cartwheel' faults of the winners. We must not be construed as trying to prove that open leads cause bad rhythm, in fact, the reverse is the case. If those teams which ring so well with closed leads will try open leads they will realise that there is a better finish to their ringing, especially in change ringing, whether it be Plain Hunt, Plain Course or touches.

[We should like the views of other judges of competitions.—Ed.]

LATE NOTICE

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Tonbridge District.—The meeting at Hadlow which was to have been held on April 4th is postponed until April 11th. A further notice will appear in due course.

2260

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 2s. 6d. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

BIRTH

THOMPSETT. — To William and Vivien Thompson, on Feb. 25th, 1953, a son (Julian).

DEATHS

DAWSON.—At Whips Cross Hospital, Leytonstone, after long illness, on February 26th, 1953, George Dawson, aged 79 years.

PITMAN, S. E.—On Feb. 18th, 1953, at Port Talbot General Hospital, Evelyn, the beloved wife of A. J. Pitman. R.I.P.

SYMONDS.—On Feb. 23rd, 1953, following a very short illness, William H. Symonds, in his 88th year, after 50 years' faithful service at Hereford Cathedral.

2223

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. STANFORTH have now left the familiar Wayside and their new address is 126a, London Road, Leicester.

2233

PUBLICATIONS

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH', by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

MISCELLANEOUS

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MEETINGS

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Combined practice at Crondall (6) on Saturday, March 7th, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.—G. S. Joyce, Dis. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD. — Southern District. — Meeting at Guildford, March 7th. Ringing, St. Mary's, 3 p.m., and in the evening. Service 4.30. Tea, Y.W.C.A. Club, 5. Names to Miss W. Oliver, 36, North Place, Guildford.

LADIES' GUILD.—West Midland District.—Meeting at Bedworth on March 7th. Bells (8) at 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea.

SALISBURY GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Practice meeting at Martin March 7th. Bells (6) 2.15, also Damerham (6) in evening.

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Bulwell (8). Saturday, March 7th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Teas 5 p.m., light or substantial, at cafe close by. Come and enjoy these rehung bells.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD BIRMINGHAM.—Annual Henry Johnson Dinner, March 7th. Ringing arrangements: Friday, March 6th.

2146

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Erddington Abbey (8) 7.30 p.m.-9 p.m.; Saturday, March 7th, St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral (8) 1 p.m.; Bishop Ryder's (8) 2 p.m.; St. Martin's (12) 2.30 p.m.; Cathedral (12) 4.15 p.m.; Aston (12) 3.30 p.m. 2204

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION—Northern.—Practice meeting, West Hoathly (6), Saturday, March 7th, 3 p.m. 2198

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON SOCIETY.—Annual dinner, March 7th, 6.30 p.m., at The Rising Sun, Tottenham Court Road. Ringing at St. Catherine's, Feltham, 11.30 a.m.; St. Mary's, Twickenham, 2 p.m.; All Hallows', Twickenham, 3.15 p.m.—Miss H. Shaw, Secretary, 24, Wedderburn Road, Hampstead N.W.3.

BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Thrybergh, near Rotherham, March 14th, at 3 p.m. Those requiring teas must notify the Rev. G. K. Dixon, The Rectory, Thrybergh, near Rotherham, not later than March 11th. Park Lane trolley buses leave Rotherham every few minutes.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec. 2258

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bridgewater Branch.—Practice meeting at Chedzoy, March 14th, 6.30 p.m. Quarterly at Spaxton on May 2nd.—R. Short. 2243

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—Meeting at Henlow, March 14th, Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Vicar's Clubroom 5 p.m.—L. H. Bywaters, Sec. 2210

BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Kirk Ella on March 14th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in the Memorial Hall 5. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, March 11th, to Miss V. Allen, 41, Elms Drive, Kirk Ella. 2218

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—Meeting at Daresbury, Saturday, March 14th. Service 4.30. Special method, Lincolnshire Surprise. Names for tea to H. Worrall, 5, Causeway Avenue, Warrington. 2231

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—Monthly meeting, Old Whittington (6), Saturday, March 14th, 3 p.m. Bring own food. Cups of tea available. 2242

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—Practice, Ide (6), near Exeter, Saturday, March 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea at cafe nearby; more ringing after. All ringers welcome.—F. Wreford, Hon. Sec. 2239

DUNHAM-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.—Dedication of rehing ring of five (John Taylor and Co.) by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Southwell on Saturday, March 14th, at 3 p.m. Tea provided. North Notts meeting afterwards. Brumpton's bus from Anchor Inn, Retford, at 1.35 and 4.45 p.m. Lincolnshire bus at 3 p.m. from East Retford Church.—H. Drnman. 2231

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at St. James', Benwell, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells from 3.30 p.m. Names for tea by Thursday, March 12th, to G. Carse, 51, Lanercost Drive, Fenham, Newcastle 5. 2226

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Annual. East Grinstead, March 14th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. followed by business in Small Parish Hall. Names to Miss K. Shepherd, 34, Cantelupe Road, East Grinstead.—C. A. Bassett. 2194

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Meeting, Willingham, March 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. 2259

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. Meeting, Feering (8), March 14th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Numbers for tea to J. C. Newman London Road, Feering, Colchester. 2188

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.E. District.—Meeting, Hythe, Colchester, Saturday, March 14th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15. Names for tea to me by March 10th.—J. H. Gould, Dis. Sec., Fir Tree Cottages, Great Bromley. 2184

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—Meeting at Newport (6) on Saturday, March 14th, at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. at the Cottage Pantry. Names, please, to G. Blake, Dis. Sec., Teesta, Jack's Hatch, Epping Upland, Essex. 2181

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Tewkesbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Ashchurch, March 14th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names for tea, please, before March 10th. All welcome.—J. Beech, Hon. Sec., 6, Abbey Terrace, Tewkesbury. Tel. 3244. 2202

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—Meeting, Bishop's Cleeve, March 14th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—P. Baker, 40, St. Michael's Avenue, Bishop's Cleeve. 2241

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—Meeting at Brockworth (6), March 14th, 3 p.m. Bring own food. Cups of tea provided. Numbers to secretary by March 11th.—Larner, 37, Green Lane, Hucclecote, Glos. 2225

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Highworth (8), March 14th. Tea.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon. 2219

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Standon (6 bells) on Saturday, March 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock.—John Kemp, Dis. Sec. 2240

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Apsley End (6), Saturday, March 14th, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. D. Cartwright, Manor Croft, Manor Street, Berkhamsted, by March 11th.—P. A. Martin. 2249

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Tenterden, March 14th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Mr. T. Cullingworth, 95a, High Street, Ashford, Kent. 2199

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—By-meeting, Chatham, Saturday, March 14th. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, March 11th.—Cyril S. Jarrett, 1, Blenheim Avenue, Chatham. 2205

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The annual meeting will be held at Warminster on March 14th. Bells (8) 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting, Minster Cafe, 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. Parfrey, 28, Corston, Bath. 2238

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness & Lake District Branch.—Annual meeting at Broughton-in-Furness on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. Names for tea to F. Langtree, Laurel Bank, Broughton-in-Furness.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec. 2255

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at Sacred Heart Church, Blackpool, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells 4 to 6 p.m.—J. H. Foster. 2254

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—Meeting at St. Helens Parish Church (10), Saturday, March 14th. Bells 3.45. Service 5. Tea 5.30. All names to Mr. A. Wallace, 11, Whitefield Road, St. Helens.—J. M. Preston, Branch Sec. 2257

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—Meeting at Tarleton, Saturday, March 14th. Bring own food. No. 327 bus from Chorley 1.26 p.m., change Lydiat Lane: 106 bus from Standish via Eccleston, 1.30 p.m.: 101 bus from Preston, 2 p.m.—L. Walmsley. 2234

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting at St. James', East Crompton, March 14th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Meat tea. Names, please, to T. Ogden, 119, Smallbrook Road, Shaw, Oldham.—F. Pritchard. 2227

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Loughborough District.—Kegworth, March 14th. Bells (8) 3.15 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, Bondgate Cafe, 5. Names to C. W. Hall, Charnwood Heath, Coalville, by March 11th.—C. W. Hall. 2247

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, March 14th. Ringing, St. Leonard's, Streatham, 3-4.30. Own tea. St. Stephen's, Clapham Park, 6-7.30. Business, Clapham Park, 7.30.—J. H. Lott, Hon. Sec. 2232

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION & LONDON GUILD.—N. and E. District.—Meeting at St. Mary Magdalene's, Holloway Road (5 minutes Holloway Road tube station), on Saturday, March 14th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business.—T. J. Lock. 2248

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Meeting, St. Paul's, Burton (10), Saturday, March 14th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea by March 11th to Mr. B. G. Key, 54, Rolleston Road, Burton. 2253

NORTH DORSET RINGERS.—Guild meeting at Hazelbury Bryan, March 14th. Visitors welcome. Write Rev. Wm. Uphill, Stour Provost Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset. 2216

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Long Crendon, Saturday, March 14th. Bells (8) 2.45. Service 4. Tea 4.45.—E. F. Gibbard, 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks. 2252

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual meeting at Ranmoor on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (10) at 3 p.m. Very important business, good attendance requested. Names for tea without fail to Mr. F. B. Ditcher, 19, High Storrs Drive, Sheffield 11.—J. E. Turley, Hon. Sec. 2220

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Saturday, March 14th, at Walton-on-Thames. Bells (8) 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting Church Hall 5 p.m. Oatlands Park (8) also available after meeting. Names for tea, by March 13th, to R. Lathbury, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames.—W. F. Oatway, Hon. Gen. Sec. 2197

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Practice meeting, Felpham (6), March 14th, 2.30. Tea 4.30. Names for tea, please, to W. L. Weller, Sunnyside, Itchingfield, Horsham. 2222

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Christchurch District.—Quarterly meeting at Fordingbridge (8) on Saturday, March 14th. Tea in Fordingbridge followed by meeting. Ringwood bells (8) after tea.—A. V. Davis, 116, Alma Road, Bournemouth. 2224

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Bi-quarterly meeting at Malvern Link, Saturday, March 14th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Tuesday, March 10th, to E. F. Cubberley, Park Cottages, Kempsey, near Worcester. 2256

HARTEST, SUFFOLK.—Dedication by the Lord Bishop (Dr. Brook) of the one recast and all rehung bells on Sunday, March 15th, at 3 p.m. For tea notify L. D. Mills, Colchester Road, Bures, not later than March 9th. 2221

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—J. W. Parker commemoration meeting, St. Ignatius', Sunderland, March 21st. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to F. Ainsley, 30, Aysgarth Avenue, Sunderland, by March 19th.—D. A. Bayles. 2229

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Annual meeting at Boston, Saturday, March 21st. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea, Memorial Hall, at 5 p.m. Names for tea to me by Monday, March 16th.—W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston. 2244

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Heston supper, Church Hall, 6 for 6.30 p.m., March 21st. Tickets 5/- each. Heston bells available from 5 p.m. Tickets available until previous Monday from Miss J. S. Bailey (assistant secretary), J. B. Sansom (Heston) and F. W. Goodfellow, Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath. All ringers and friends welcome. 2250

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Culworth Branch.—Meeting, Boddington, on Saturday, March 21st. Names by Tuesday previous of those requiring tea.—A. E. R. Walker, Eydon, Rugby. 2246

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Newark District.—Meeting at North Muskham, Saturday, March 21st, 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to reach me by Tuesday prior.—P. N. White, 131, London Road, New Balderton, Newark. 2217

(Continued on next page)

NOTICES—Continued

SURREY ASSOCIATION — Southern District. — Quarterly meeting, Charlwood, March 21st. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. Bus 426 leaves Horley Police Station 3.10. Notifications to A. J. Ede, Claremont Villas, Charlwood, by March 18th. 2235

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western District. — Annual quarterly meeting at Ossett on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (10) available from 3.15 p.m. Committee meeting 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for all who notify Mr. F. Bennett, Carlton House, Dale Street, Ossett, by Wednesday, March 18th. The hon. district secretary and three committee members are due to retire from office at this meeting, but are eligible for re-election. Any new nominations for these positions must reach me five days prior to the meeting. Members, please note these arrangements, as no circulars will be issued.—A. E. Marsh, Hon. District Sec. 2230

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION — Annual meeting at Canterbury, Easter Monday. Full particulars later.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Sec. 2214

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION. — Preliminary Notice.—Annual meeting and Jubilee Dinner will be held at Wrexham on Saturday, June 6th. Further arrangements will be announced later.—W. Cathrall, Hon. Sec., 19, Cunliffe Walk, Garden Village, Wrexham. 2208

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