



'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. 2212 Vol. XLIX.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 1953

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

4d.

RINGING IN HERTFORDSHIRE—I.

A review of events leading up to the formation of the County Association, by H. V. Frost (the Hon. General Secretary)

THE first ring of eight bells in the county came into existence in 1674 at the Church of All Saints in Hertford, where on Monday, December 21st, 1724, the Peal of Tripples (5,040 changes) was rung by a local band, this being the first great performance of change ringing in the county. This was recorded on a board on the old tower (destroyed by fire in 1891), but has been overlooked by Snowden (the historian) and, according to the late Mr. J. A. Trollope, was 'so evidently the false 5,040 from the 1703 "Campanologia."'

Two other instances of early rings of eight in the county are worthy of mention, Westmill and Bishop's Stortford. The former church contained eight bells about 1700, but were reduced to five again in 1838, while the latter contained eight in 1713, but we have no records concerning any peals being rung on either of these as rings of eight.

In 1729 at St. Peter's, St. Albans, the existing ring of six bells was recast, while later in the year two trebles were added, and on December 27th of that year the Society of College Youths from London opened them with a peal of Bob Major (5,040 changes), conducted by Benjamin Annable, and claimed it as 'the first whole peal that hath been rung in the County of Hertford.' The bells of St. Albans Abbey were augmented to eight in 1730 by the same founder (Richard Phelps), and they were rung from under the present ringing chamber from a gallery which was removed in 1833, and the bells were silent until 1871 when they were rehung.

Other early rings of eight were at Ware (1735), Aspenden (1736), Braughing (1745), Watford (1750), Hemel Hempstead (1758), Hitchin (1762), Rickmansworth (1765), St. Andrew's, Hertford (1782), Bishop's Hatfield (1786), Benington (1838), Great Berkhamsted (1839), Sawbridgeworth (1871), Barnet (1875), Baldock and Tring (1882).

Peals of Triples by local 'Youths' were rung at Braughing (1746), Aspenden (1764), St. Peter's, St. Albans (1767), Hitchin (1782), Hatfield (1790), Watford (1798), Rickmansworth (1805), Bishop's Stortford (1827), and local peals of Bob Major were rung at St. Albans Abbey (1765), All Saints', Hertford (1767-1782, including 7,056), Braughing, 1778 (10,080), 1779 (12,240), 1829 (6,160), Watford 1780, 1801 (6,160), and Treble Bob Major at St. Andrew's, Hertford, in 1782 (5,280) and 1783 (6,176), although the

first peal of Treble Bob in the county had been rung in 1763 by the Junior Society of College Youths at St. Peter's, St. Albans, where also were rung the first Hertfordshire peals of Grandsire Caters (1788), Treble Bob Royal (1788), Stedman Caters (1857) and Kent Royal (1867), but the first peal on ten bells in the county by a local band was rung at Bishop's Stortford in 1830, being a 6,156 of Grandsire Caters.

The Hertford College Youths rang many other peals, as did the Watford Union Youths, who also rang peals at Rickmansworth (1798), Harrow (1810) and Hillingdon (1826). The St. Albans College Youths also rang peals in 1810 at St. Peter's and Hatfield. The famous Benington band was formed by Squire Proctor soon after the bells were augmented to eight in 1838, and in 1849 a peal of Double Norwich was rung, also Kent in 1851, Superlative (5,376 and 6,048) in 1855, Stedman Triples in 1865, London (6,048) in 1870 and 5,600 Cambridge in 1873. All were the first in the methods in the county and the latter was the first true peal of Cambridge ever rung.

Although the old ringing societies were very exclusive, it is recorded that the Hertford College Youths paid a visit to St. Albans in 1769, and in the following year the St. Albans College Youths returned the compliment and rang in the Hertford steeples. In 1779 the Braughing Youths rang their famous peal of 12,240 Bob Major on May 10th and this peal was annually commemorated for well over a hundred years by a Ringing Day. It is a well-known fact that Squire Proctor's band attained for over fifty years a combination of quality that gave rise to the saying, 'Braughing bells and Benington ringers.' Squire Proctor did much to encourage ringing in his day, and with his band attended many 'Great Ringing Days' at Lavenham and Saffron Walden, also many openings of new rings or augmentations such as at St. Albans in 1868 with the College Youths and Cumberlands when the twelve at St. Peter's were opened and again in 1883 when they were reduced to ten again after alterations. The Benington ringers, many of whom wore the old smock coats, rang as a band, each man to his bell, in methods that very few other ringers had even heard before.

At this period, the early 1880's, various local gatherings of ringers were being held at holiday week-ends, notably at Hertford and Sawbridgeworth, when ringers would attend from St. Albans, Benington, Waltham Abbey, Saffron Walden and London for a day's ringing which included a dinner given by one or other of the patrons of

ringing. The Hertford College Youths under Herbert Baker and with the support of Canon Wigram, the Bishop's Stortford Society under Henry J. Tucker, the Sawbridgeworth Society under Mr. George Rochester and Benington under Squire Proctor were all very active and, all these places being on the eastern side of the county near to the Essex border, it is not surprising to find that with the formation of the Essex Association in 1879 these bands soon joined the new Association, although many of them already were members of either the College Youths or Cumberlands.

An attempt had been made by Henry Lewis and E. P. Debenham at St. Albans in 1876 to form a change ringing society, and the St. Albans Amalgamated Association came into being with a paid instructor from London (J. R. Haworth), but after five years it lapsed. Local peals were rung at Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth in 1881, Hertford in 1882 and ringing was revived at Hitchin with W. A. Tyler as instructor in 1883 and soon afterwards at Baldock. St. Albans made a fresh start in 1883 when N. N. Hills came from Canterbury to live in the town.

Several letters appeared in 'The Bell News' at this period on the desirability of an association for Hertfordshire, and resolutions were passed at Hertford and Sawbridgeworth gatherings towards such a project. Messrs. W. A. Alps (Waltham Abbey), W. A. Tyler (Hitchin) and N. N. Hills (St. Albans) were very much in favour of it, and an attempt was made to get the Essex Association to transform itself into a diocesan association so as to take in Hertfordshire. (At that time Essex was part of the St. Albans Diocese, which had been formed in 1877.) This arrangement, however, did not appeal to the Essex ringers, so the Hertfordshire men were left to their own devices.

St. Albans Cathedral Society was formed on January 1st, 1884, under the presidency of the Ven. Archdeacon W. J. Lawrance, with N. N. Hills as conductor, and in the following September at a meeting the desirability of forming a County Association for Hertfordshire was discussed, and the secretary (Mr. H. L. Waddington) was instructed to write to the change ringing societies in the county asking them to send representatives to a meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 29th, 1884, for the purpose of forming such an association. The meeting was duly convened at the Rectory, St. Albans, and ringers were present from St. Albans, Hertford, Sawbridgeworth, Bishop's Stortford, Ware, Baldock and Great Hallingbury (Essex). The Ven. Archdeacon W. J. Lawrance, Rector of St. Albans Abbey, presided. The Rev. W. Wigram (Hertford) proposed and Mr. N. N. Hills seconded that an association be formed, to be called 'The Hertford County Association of Change Ringers.' This was agreed to. The Rev. T. G. Gibbons (St. Albans) suggested that the Bishop (the Rt. Rev. T. L. Claughton) be asked to become the president. The Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance was elected as one of the vice-presidents and several other names were suggested. The committee was to be composed of the conductor of each band with one member elected by the said band. Mr. H. L. Waddington (St. Albans Abbey) was elected as treasurer, and the Rev. W. Wigram secretary, with Mr. H. Baker (Hertford) as his assistant. Meetings were to be held quarterly, one of them being the general meeting. The first quarterly meeting was fixed for January 21st, 1885, to be held at Hertford, when rules, etc., would be submitted by the committee. The thanks of the Association were tendered to the Archdeacon for presiding at this its inauguration.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Mon., August 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 54 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF 5280 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 25½ cwt.			
EDWARD JENKINS Treble	WALTER ALLMAN	7	
BASIL JONES 2	RICHARD E. PRICE	8	
SELWYN H. DEARDEN .. 3	JOHN H. CRAMPION	9	
C. KENNETH LEWIS 4	FRED E. COLLINS	10	
GEORGE E. FEARN 5	WILFRID F. MORETON ..	11	
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 6	WILFRED WILLIAMS	Tenor	

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

The conductor's 500th peal.

TEN BELL PEALS

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., August 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE TOWN HALL,
A PEAL OF 5000 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 42½ cwt.			
GEOFFREY PEARSON .. Treble	ALAN J. BROWN	6	
O. MICHAEL SLANEY .. 2	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON ..	7	
*ALLEN TWYMAN 3	DEREK OGDEN	8	
*JOHN A. SOMERS 4	R. GORDON CORBY	9	
ALAN PENDLEBURY 5	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD ..	Tenor	

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

* First peal on ten bells.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., August 4, 1953, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 34½ cwt.			
PAUL L. TAYLOR Treble	ERNEST W. RAWSON	6	
WINIFRED M. BURTON .. 2	*BRIAN G. WARWICK	7	
MRS. P. J. STANFORTH .. 3	J. FREDERICK MILNER ..	8	
MRS. H. J. POOLE 4	PETER J. STANFORTH ..	9	
NORMAN CHADDOCK 5	HAROLD J. POOLE	Tenor	

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 100th Surprise peal.

Rung in honour of the birthday of H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

WRINGTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat. August 8, 1953, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5003 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 37 cwt.			
HERBERT W. KNIGHT .. Treble	EDWARD J. CHIVERS	6	
GEORGE W. MASSEY 2	GEORGE PRESCOTT	7	
*MARJORIE LEGG 3	LEONARD DERRICK	8	
PERCY HULL 4	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ..	9	
THOMAS J. SOUTHAM .. 5	WILLIAM H. KINGCOTT ..	Tenor	

Composed by RICHARD F. DEAL. Conducted by GEORGE W. DEBENHAM.

* First peal on ten bells.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. S. Kingcott (Wrington) on the occasion of their silver wedding.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

CHEWTON MENDIP, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 27, 1953, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. in D.			
JACK MUSSELL Treble	HARRY MILLATT	5	
FRANK L. HARRIS 2	REGINALD W. REX	6	
JEAN M. HARRIS 3	A. PATRICK CANNON	7	
*WILLIAM A. THEOBALD .. 4	RONALD N. MARLOW	Tenor	

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by FRANK L. HARRIS.

EARDISLAND, HEREFORDSHIRE. THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 30, 1953, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Thurstans' Four-part.	Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb.
*MRS. E. CHANDLER Treble	LESLIE EVANS 5
†JOHN D. ROCK 2	AUSTIN T. WINGATE 6
†WILLIAM E. THOMPSETT .. 3	ARTHUR W. DAVIS 7
WILFRID F. MORETON .. 4	*SIDNEY DANIELS Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR W. DAVIS.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Stedman Triples. First peal as conductor. First peal of Triples on the bells.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Thurs., July 30, 1953, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 8½ cwt.

JOY WHITEHEAD (aged 11) Treble	MAVIS WHITEHEAD 5
ARTHUR CATTELL 2	W. HARRY DUNCOMBE 6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. 3	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD .. 7
ALAN CATTELL 4	THOMAS C. BELTON Tenor

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by ALAN CATTELL.
Home on leave peal for Wren Mavis Whitehead, daughter of the 7th ringer.

CONGRESBURY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 31, 1953, in 3 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 35 cwt. in C.

REGINALD W. REX Treble	HARRY-MILLATT 5
GEOFFREY K. DODD 2	FRANK B. LUFKIN 6
*BRIAN BLADON 3	RONALD N. MARLOW .. 7
WILLIAM A. THEOBALD .. 4	†A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by WILLIAM A. THEOBALD.
* 50th peal. † 300th tower for a peal. First peal in the method as conductor. The first peal of Superlative on the bells.

BOCKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., August 1, 1953, in 2 Hours and 59 minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt.

MRS. M. MOORE Treble	CECIL BARKER 5
EDWIN BUCK 2	*TERRY EARLE 6
*JUNE STARLING 3	*ALAN SYDER 7
JOHN LEEMING 4	RONALD SUCKLING Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by RONALD SUCKLING.
* First in the method.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., August 1, 1953, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

NORMAN HAYES Treble	ALICE M. REED 5
*BERYL PITTAWAY (13) .. 2	BETTY M. FAITHFULL .. 6
MOLLY DENBY 3	†MICHAEL LAKIN (14) .. 7
D. CECIL WILLIAMS .. 4	REGINALD A. REED Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by REGINALD A. REED.
* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method 'inside.'

Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to the Rev. W. F. Shail and Mrs. Shail.

ST. DAVID'S, PEMBROKESHIRE.

THE ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., August 1, 1953, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

IN THE CAMPANILE OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in D.

REGINALD G. HOOPER .. Treble	ROBERT E. COLES 5
JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. 2	DAVID J. KING 6
TREVOR M. RODERICK .. 3	PHILIP W. WEEKS 7
J. ARTHUR HOARE 4	ROGER O. FRY Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

The first peal in the method on the bells and for the Guild.
Rung as a golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Prescott, of Bath.

LYDD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Mon., August 3, 1953, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt.

FRANK W. PERRENS Treble	*JOHN R. COPPER 5
ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 2	ROBERT SWIFT 6
*MAISIE VANTOM 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. 7
*OLIVE M. BOULDING .. 4	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.
* First peal of Bob Major.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., August 7, 1953, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5184 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11½ cwt.

MICHAEL FULLER Treble	*F. ERIC ROBERTS 5
*GERALD BOWEN 2	†AUSTIN T. WINGATE .. 6
WILLIAM E. THOMPSETT .. 3	*LESLIE EVANS 7
†R. GEORGE MORRIS .. 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Composed by E. A. BARNETT. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.
* First peal of Surprise. † First peal in the method. The first peal in the method for the Guild.

STRATTON ST. MARGARET, WILTSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., August 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH,

A PEAL OF 5072 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8½ cwt.

CHARLES J. GARDNER .. Treble	W. BERTRAM KYNASTON .. 5
WALTER H. TRUEMAN .. 2	ANTHONY R. PEAKE 6
WILLIAM A. T. CARTER .. 3	BRIAN BLADON 7
*THOMAS F. STONE 4	B. ENID ROBERTS Tenor

Composed by ALBERT M. TYLER. Conducted by BRIAN BLADON.
* First on eight bells. First of Major as conductor.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5000 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in G.

WM. GEOFFREY HAIR .. Treble	WILLIAM H. CURSON .. 5
MRS. S. H. JONES 2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. 6
ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 3	SIDNEY H. JONES 7
HAROLD DENMAN 4	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS.

A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb.

JAMES A. MILNER Treble	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. 5
C. KENNETH LEWIS 2	JOHN WORTH 6
PETER LAFLIN 3	EDWARD JENKINS 7
BASIL JONES 4	JOHN E. BIBBY Tenor

Composed by ERNEST BENNETT. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
Rung in honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. W. Allman.



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OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Johnson's Variation of Middleton's. Tenor 23½ cwt.	
JOHN LLOYD Treble	REGINALD WOODYATT .. 5
GEORGE E. LARGE 2	THOMAS HEMMING .. 6
SIDNEY T. HOLT 3	HECTOR G. BIRD .. 7
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE .. 4	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. Tenor

Conducted by CLIFFORD SKIDMORE.

LLANFIFGAN, BRECONSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MEUGAN,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 19 lb.

F. ERIC ROBERTS Treble	JOHN D. ROCK 5
AUSTIN T. WINGATE .. 2	LESLIE EVANS 6
ARTHUR W. DAVIS 3	MICHAEL P. MORETON .. 7
*WILLIAM E. THOMPSETT 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal in the method.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5000 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt.

STANLEY E. BENNETT .. Treble	*GEORGE R. G. BUTLER .. 5
FRANK TAYLOR 2	HORACE BENNETT 6
*JOHN E. ALLEN 3	CYRIL WANDER 7
JOHN G. AMES 4	*MAURICE BENNETT Tenor

Composed by E. H. LEWIS.

Conducted by CYRIL WANDER.

* First peal in the method.

WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., August 10, 1953, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

*W. GEOFFREY HAIR .. Treble	ERNEST MORRIS 5
ROLAND BENISTON 2	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON .. 6
JOHN B. BENNETT 3	JOSEPH W. COTTON 7
ARTHUR E. ROWLEY .. 4	WILLIAM THORNLEY Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM THORNLEY.

* 50th peal. The fastest peal of Major on the bells.

A birthday compliment to Miss Margaret Morris.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

HAUGHTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wed., June 24, 1953, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 2 extents each of Norfolk, Plain Bob, April Day, Old, Hurdibras, Kennington, Leighford, Reverse Canterbury, Southrepps, St. Columb, Clifford Pleasure, Costessy, Little Aston, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Northrepps, Fortune, All Saints', Newington, St. George's, Marchington and Grandsire. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.

*CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL .. Treble	BRYAN E. CARSON 3
JOHN H. JOYNER 2	JOHN R. JOYNER 4

CLIVE M. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. JOYNER.

* First peal in 21 methods.

MAVESYN RIDWARE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tues., June 30, 1953, in 2 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 26 extents (10 callings) and 8 240's Morris's arrangement. Tenor 9 cwt.

*BERNARD J. TOWNSEND .. Treble	CLIVE M. SMITH 3
ANN BARR 2	HENRY O. BAKER 4

JOHN R. JOYNER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. JOYNER.

* First peal on five bells. This is the fastest peal ever rung on tower bells for the Society.

Rung on the back five after meeting short for Minor.

OLD COULSDON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., August 1, 1953, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 20 six-scores of Plain Bob (4 callings), one 240 Morris's arrangement, and 20 six-scores of Grandsire (10 callings). Tenor 10½ cwt.

*BARBARA J. MAYERS .. Treble	COLIN J. CHAMPION .. 3
ROYDON DAVIES 2	*GORDON P. T. PETERS .. 4

† WILLIAM F. OATWAY .. Tenor

Conducted by COLIN J. CHAMPION.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal in two methods. First peal of Doubles as conductor.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Major E. F. M. Sampson and Miss A. Read, both members of the local band. Also a farewell peal to Miss B. J. Mayers, who is shortly going abroad.

ROADE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., August 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being six extents each of Reverse St. Bartholomew, Northrepps, Fortune, Plain Bob, April Day, Old Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb.

*WALTER RICHARDSON .. Treble	JOHN HARROLD 3
ROGER OLD 2	ALAN C. COZENS 4

IVOR J. DICKIN Tenor

Conducted by IVOR J. DICKIN.

* First peal.

Rung in honour of St. Cecilia on the first anniversary of the installation of the new treble bell.

STEEPLE CLAYDON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., August 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 15 cwt.

*CHARLES W. GOUGH .. Treble	*FREDERICK VICKERS .. 4
FREDERICK C. CASE .. 2	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. 5
WILLIAM J. CHESTER .. 3	WILLIAM YATES Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM YATES.

* First peal of Surprise Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., August 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE COURT BOB MINOR

Being 7 extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

ALBERT SAUNDERS Tenor	PETER WOOD 4
TERRY EARLE 2	STANLEY BONES 5
ALAN SYDER 3	RONALD SUCKLING Tenor

Conducted by RONALD SUCKLING.

First peal in the method by all. on the bells and in the county. Rung in honour of the conductor's 12th wedding anniversary.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., August 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Court, Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

ALBERT SAUNDERS Treble	*ALAN R. SYDER 4
*JUNE S. STARLING 2	*JOHN R. LEEMING 5
PETER L. WOOD 3	*TERRY EARLE Tenor

Conducted by TERRY EARLE.

* First peal in seven methods. † 25th peal. Rung for the 18th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Earle, the conductor's parents.

WEARE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., August 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 9 six-scores each of Stedman and Reverse Canterbury, 12 of Plain Bob, 10 of Grandsire, and 240 of Morris's arrangement. Tenor 17½ cwt.

VICTOR G. ROBERTS .. Treble	MARJORIE LEGG 4
RONALD H. GARDENER .. 2	GEORGE PRESCOTT 5
GWILYN G. SALMON .. 3	WILLIAM A. PRESCOTT .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE PRESCOTT.

**BREEDON-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.**

On Wed., August 5, 1953, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND HARDULPH,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being extents of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Plain Bob and Oxford Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

WILLIAM H. CURSON Treble	HAROLD DENMAN 4
ERNEST MORRIS 2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON 5
JOHN A. UNDERWOOD 3	ROLAND BENISTON Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

**ALBURY, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Thurs., August 6, 1953, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents, with five different callings, all 5-6's at backstroke.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

A. PATRICK CANNON Treble	†E. JOHN WELLS 4
*JAMES F. DODSON 2	LEONARD STILWELL 5
†ROLAND W. MORANT 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON Tenor

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal on six bells. † First peal of Surprise Minor. First peal of Surprise Minor as conductor and on the bells.

**MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD**

On Thurs., August 6, 1953, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 30 methods in seven extents: (1) Plain, Double, Reverse, Fulbeck, Canterbury, Double Oxford, Thelwall, London, Lytham, St. Clement's, Childwall, College and Wavertree College; (2) Oxford, Sandal, Capel, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob; (3) Norbury, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk and College Exercise Treble Bob; (4) Cambridge and Primrose Surprise; (5) Walsingham Alliance and Little Bob; (6) Hereward, Oxford and Court; (7) Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt.

C. WILLIAM NUTT Treble	WILFRID F. MORETON 4
MICHAEL P. MORETON 2	JOHN D. ROCK 5
F. ERIC ROBERTS 3	LESLIE EVANS Tenor

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

First peal in 30 methods by all and for the Guild.

Rung for the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord.

DIPTFORD, DEVONSHIRE.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM J. HARVEY Treble	WILFRID C. BOUCHER 4
*GERALD A. UGLOW 2	ROBERT A. SOUTHWOOD 5
AUBREY L. BENNETT 3	†C. DAVID CLARK Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT A. SOUTHWOOD.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles 'inside.' † First peal. The conductor's first peal of Grandsire Doubles. First peal on the bells.

LLANDILO, CARMARTHENSHIRE.

THE ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. TEILO.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being twelve 120's of Plain Bob, eighteen 120's of Grandsire (10 callings) and six 240's of Pitman's and Morris's Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

*JOHN PRICE Treble	J. ARTHUR HOARE 4
EDMUND MORRIS 2	GWYN I. LEWIS 5
RALPH SCUDAMORE 3	ALFRED REYNOLDS Tenor

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

* First peal.

Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the treble.

OCKHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5520 DOUBLES

Being two extents each of Stedman, April Day, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and St. Simon's, 24 extents of Plain Bob, 10 extents of Grandsire and one each of Morris's and Pitman's 240's. Tenor 7 cwt. in A.

*MONICA E. COLLINS Treble	†ROLAND W. MORANT 3
†EILEEN M. TURNER 2	§GEORGE L. GROVER 4
†E. JOHN WELLS Tenor	

Conducted by E. JOHN WELLS.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal. ‡ First peal in six methods. § First peal of Doubles 'inside.' First peal in six methods on the bells. The greatest number of methods ever rung to a peal of Doubles for the Guild, and the longest peal of Doubles ever rung for the Guild.



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**BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS**

CROYDON



RAYNE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Court, Cambridge, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

ALBERT SAUNDERS .. Treble	RONALD SUCKLING .. . 4
JUNE STARLING .. . 2	PETER WOOD .. . 5
*TERRY EARLE .. . 3	*ALAN SYDER .. . Tenor

Conducted by ALAN SYDER.

* 25th peal together. First peal in seven methods as conductor.

WIDFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 Spliced Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, two 720's each of Oxford and Kent and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

JOHN SUCKLING .. Treble	LEONARD LADLEY .. . 4
*HAROLD J. HAZELL .. . 2	ARTHUR BULL .. . 5
JOHN W. PARSLOW .. . 3	BRUCE MCKIE .. . Tenor

Conducted by BRUCE MCKIE.

* 60th peal.

EAST FARLEIGH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., August 12, 1953, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being four extents of Single Oxford and three of Plain Bob, rung alternately.

Tenor 8 cwt.

*RICHARD HARRIS .. Treble	*STANLEY A. HAYZELDEN .. . 4
LUTHER J. HONESS .. . 2	PETER C. WRIGHT .. . 5
TOM SAUNDERS .. . 3	WILLIAM R. MANSEY .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER C. WRIGHT.

* First peal in more than one method.

STOWTING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., August 13, 1953, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*STEPHEN J. BOULDEN .. Treble	†JOHN R. COOPER .. . 4
†MAISIE VANTOM .. . 2	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT .. . 5
†OLIVE M. BOULDEN .. . 3	ROBERT SWIFT .. . Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT SWIFT.

* First peal away from a 'covering' bell. † First peal of Minor.
‡ First peal of Minor in the method.

HANDBELL PEALS

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 29, 1953, in 2 Hours and 26 Minutes.

AT 73, BRAITHWAITE GARDENS..

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Five-part.

Tenor size 15.

THOMAS W. SHEPPARD .. 1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER .. 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW 7-8

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

Umpire: WILLIAM WENHAM.

HOLYWOOD, CO. DOWN.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., August 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 24 Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,

Being seven different callings.

Tenor size 11 in G.

*JEAN STEWART .. . 1-2	†JOHN T. DUNWOODY .. 3-4
*WILLIAM HALL .. . 5-6	

Conducted by JOHN T. DUNWOODY.

* First peal of Minor 'in hand.' † 50th peal 'in hand.'

RINGERS' RULES (ANCIENT & MODERN)

By ERNEST MORRIS

(Continued from page 537)

'Here Bells Melodius move with Art Sublime
And various numbers Beat in Mood & Time
Let Clamour cease the cause of dire Mis-
chance
In Joyfull silence lead her mystic Dance
So Music raises her Majestic Strains
Whilst Notes Harmonious reach the distant
Plaines.'

These lines are over the tower arch of the
ringers' chamber of St. Sepulchre's, Northamp-
ton. (North, 'Church Bells of Northants,' page
350.)

TWO CHESHIRE TOWERS

As already shown, the old rules for ringers
in whatever form they took were all designed
for the betterment of the ringers themselves,
their art and the holy place they practised in.
Thus, these lines from All Saints', Daresbury,
Cheshire, were copied and sent to me by Mr.
E. H. Lewis, the president of the Central
Council:—

Dare not to come into this sacred Place,
All you good Ringers, but in awful Grace;
Ring not with Hatt, nor Spurs, nor Insolence;
Each one that does for ev'ry such Offence
Shall forfeit Hatt, or Spurs, or Twelvepence;
But who disturbs a Peal, the same Offender
Unto the Box his sixpence shall down Tender;
Rules such no doubt in ev'ry Church are us'd,
You, and your Bells, that may not be abus'd;

Peter Lowton } Wardens,; 1730
John Okell }

Multa rogare, rogata tenere, retenta docere;
Hoc tria Discipulum faciunt separate Magis-
trum;

From the same source I am indebted for the
following (St. Lawrence's, Frodsham):—

Rules for Ringers in Ge=
neral to be used in Frodsham Parish.
F—from faults observe you Ringers well,
R—ing true and don't o'eturn your Bell;
O—n each default by him that's made,
D—own sixpence surely shall be paid;
S—wear not in this most sacred place.
H—ere come not but with awful grace.
A—nd whoe'er rings with Spur or hat,
M—ust sixpence pay or forfeit that.

Edward Moss } Wardens
Samuel Buirchwood } 1776.

It will be seen that the initial letter of each
line reads downwards to form the name Frod-
sham.

DUNSTER

The following is at Dunster, Somerset (Bris-
coe, 'Curiosities of the Belfry,' page 30):—

'You that in ringing take delight,
Be pleased to draw near;
These articles you must observe,
If you mean to ring here.

And first, if any overturn
A bell, as that he may,
He forthwith for that only fault
In beer shall sixpence pay.

If anyone shall curse or swear
When come within the door,
He then shall forfeit for that fault
As mentioned before.

If anyone shall wear his hat
When he is ringing here,
He straightway then shall sixpence pay
In cyder or in beer.

If any one of these articles
Refuseth to obey,
Let him have nine strokes of the rope
And so depart away'

'NINE STROKES OF THE ROPE'

One wonders what our young learners of to-
day would say if a Ringing Master ordered
'nine strokes of the rope,' yet the above is not
the only instance where such a rule was en-
forced. These rules were at Old Clee, Lincs
(see North's 'Church Bells of Lincs,' page 359).

'Orders to be observed kept by ye Bell Ringers,
in ye town of Clee, in ye county of Lincoln,
from this 27th day of Novr. 1793, with ye con-
sent of the Rev. J. Stockdale, Vicar. Richard
Rowston, Churchwarden.

- 1 Any person yt shall ring a Bell with his hat upon his head, shall forfeit & pay 6d. to ye use of ye ringers.
- 2 Any person yt shall ring a Bell with his Spurs on, shall pay 6d. to use, &c.
- 3 Any person yt shall ring a Bell and break a Stay, shall make it good and forfeit 6d. for ye use &c.
- 4 Any person yt shall pull a bell off her stay, and cannot set her again, shall pay 6d. for ye use &c.
- 5 Any person leaving ye rope on ye floor forfeit 2d. &c.
- 6 Any person or persons who shall swear, lay wagers &c in ye ringing room, shall forfeit for every offence 3d. to ye use &c.
- 7 Any person yt shall read any of these Orders with his hat upon his head shall pay 6d. to ye use &c.

Clee: painted by Geo. Parker in the year 1793.
Repainted by W. Hobson, 1874.'

A 'coult,' or knotted rope, until recently hung in the chamber. This was 'in the good old times' brought to bear on the shoulders and backs of refractory ringers.

Many years ago—47 to be exact!—the writer was passing along the country lanes nearby this ancient church, and although a ringer of higher numbers and methods, I never heard a grander and more solemn peal than the three old bells of Clee, chiming slowly o'er the breeze.

(To be continued)

ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTS.—On Aug. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Edwin Bingley (first quarter, age 13) 1, J. Easley 2, Kathleen Glenister 3, F. S. Poole 4, D. K. Adkins (cond.) 5, L. Seabrook 6. Rung on the eve of the patronal festival of St. Lawrence.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On Aug. 2nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: H. Wingrove (cond.) 1, N. E. Smith 2, D. R. Fletcher 3, K. E. Fletcher 4, D. Lamb 5, M. Hatchett 6, J. Harrison 7, A. Bridges 8. Rung to celebrate the signing of the truce in Korea.

BODENHAM, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Aug. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles, with 10 different callings: Mrs. T. Rushton 1, R. Billings 2, T. Rushton 3, F. Preece 4, A. E. Rushton (cond.) 5, S. Palmer 6. First quarter for ringers of 1 and 6.

BURGHFIELD, BERKS.—On Aug. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Angela Cusden (first quarter) 1, I. Taylor 2, B. Cracknell 3, J. Harmsworth 4, J. Morley (cond.) 5, A. Tayler 6.

DODDERHILL, WORCS.—On Aug. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. O. Lewis 1, J. Lindon 2, D. J. Potter 3, J. Eaton 4, F. Potter 5, F. Pugh 6, W. H. Raxter (cond.) 7, F. Crump 8.

FULHAM, S.W.—On Aug. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Linsell 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, H. Ellis 3, E. Rawlins 4, C. Watts 5, J. Phillips (cond.) 6, H. Page 7, J. Allsop 8.

GUISELEY, YORKS.—On Aug. 7th, a quarter peal of Minor in three methods (Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and Bob Minor): Geoffrey Cooper 1, Miss Margaret S. Rhodes 2, Ernest H. Simpson (cond.) 3, Geoffrey Dixon 4, Percy Whitaker 5, William Dixon 6. First in three methods by all except conductor.

QUARTER PEALS

GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.—On Aug. 8th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Chaplin (first quarter) 1, A. W. Cole 2, Miss M. Shadrack 3, J. Gould 4, G. W. Moss 5, F. H. Erith (cond.) 6.

HALIFAX, YORKS.—At All Souls' Church, Haley Hill, on Aug. 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: G. F. Bryant 1, Miss P. Lord 2, Miss S. M. Taylor 3, J. F. Bryant 4, R. Beaumont 5, R. Mann 6, K. Palmer (first as cond.) 7, R. E. Moulds 8.

LAMBETH, S.E.—At St. Mary's Church on Aug. 2nd, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: J. A. Hales 1, T. H. Taffender 2, Mrs. A. M. Beauchamp 3, E. T. Beauchamp 4, N. G. Hollingworth (cond.) 5, N. R. Bailey 6, J. Bullock 7, C. W. Ottley 8.

LILLINGSTONE LOVELL, BUCKS.—On Aug. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Knibbs (first quarter) 1, T. E. Roberts 2, W. Yates (cond.) 3, F. C. Case 4, G. W. Holland 5.

LUBENHAM, LEICS.—On Aug. 8th, 1,260 Doubles (120 each of Stedman, All Saints', Old Bob, 240 each of Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob, April Day and 180 Grandsire): K. Perkins 1, A. Cozens 2, G. Roome 3, J. Harrold 4, I. Dickin (cond.) 5.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.—On July 28th, 2,520 Grandsire Triples: Anita Norris 1, Cedric Murphy (longest touch in method) 2, Molly Denby 3, Norman Hayes 4, Alice M. Reed 5, Betty M. Faithfull 6, Reginald A. Reed (cond.) 7, Charles Taylor 8. Rung by a local band in honour of the birth of a daughter to Dr. Margaret Shail and the Rev. W. F. Shail, Rector of North Stoneham.

MELLS, SOMERSET.—On July 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. P. Cannon 1, G. K. Dodd 2, R. Marlow 3, W. Theobald 4, H. Millatt 5, R. W. Rex 6, F. L. Harris (cond.) 7, J. Murrell 8.

NORTON, HERTS.—On Aug. 9th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss I. Werrett (first quarter, aged 12) 1, Miss P. Willes 2, H. E. Werrett 3, Miss A. Willes 4, R. M. Dixon 5, M. A. Collings (first of Minor as cond.) 6, Miss J. Sanderson cover-bell. First quarter in method by all.

READING, BERKS.—On Aug. 9th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: R. F. Diserens 1, B. C. Stirland 2, Miss A. B. Diserens 3, Miss E. W. Keyes (first of Surprise Major) 4, E. W. Colley 5, N. J. Smith (first of Yorkshire) 6, F. W. Lewis 7, N. J. Diserens (cond.) 8. Rung as a farewell to E. W. Colley, who is returning to Shrewsbury, having completed his National Service.

RUMNEY, MON.—On July 12th, 1,260 Doubles (600 Plain Bob, 660 Grandsire): Mrs. J. C. Reid (first quarter) 1, W. A. Jerrett 2, M. M. Reid 3, W. R. Speake 4, R. C. Lucas (cond.) 5, S. Shackell 6. Rung for the Confirmation service.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—On July 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Jack Dunn 1, Mrs. Florence Smith 2, Arthur D. Fellows 3, Robert Lees 4, Raymond Smith (cond.) 5, Albert L. Dunn 6, Derek H. Watson 7, Richard Cooper 8. A 'farewell' to the ringer of the treble, who is leaving for service abroad.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.—At the Church of St. James on Aug. 8th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. H. Reed 1, D. Sheldon 2, W. Slocombe 3, G. Coles 4, W. Priddle 5, H. Mockridge 6, W. G. Gigg (cond.) 7, P. Pengelly 8. Rung for the wedding of the Vicar's daughter, Miss B. Hirst.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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Kent. (Phone Bexleyheath 8689.)

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Mr. E. Nobles writes that the so-called
'Kingsthorpe controversy' caused no friend-
ships to be severed; in fact the whole affair
had been a 'friendly difference' and was buried
many weeks ago.

The news of the death of
Mr. A. R. Wilson, of Hobart,
Tasmania, will be received in
this country with deep regret. Mr. Wilson re-
tained the friendship of all the English ringers
who participated in 'The Great Adventure' in
1934. In the ringing chamber of Holy Trinity
Church, Hobart, he had a large collection of
ringing literature and photographs. Also in the
belfry was a small bell, dated 1858, which was
hung outside the house of Mr. Wilson's grand-
father to warn the police of attacks by bush-
rangers.

The peal at the Holy Sepulchre, Northamp-
ton, for the birthday of the Queen Mother was
the first peal of Bob Major by a Northampton
Branch band since 1939.

Participating in the peal of Stedman Triples
at All Saints', Leicester, on July 30th, were four
old boys of All Saints'—Messrs. Arthur and
Alan Cattell and Messrs. Walter P. and Edward
R. Whitehead.

Mr. E. J. Baker has resigned the captaincy of
Holy Trinity, Nailsea (Somerset), tower after
59 years as a member of the tower and 21 years
as captain. Mr. Baker still intends to con-
tinue ringing as long as he is able. Mr. L. Der-
rick has been appointed his successor and all
correspondence should be in future sent to him.

Congratulations to Mr. Wilfred Williams on
ringing his 500th peal. It was rung at Ashton-
under-Lyne for the Ancient Society of College
Youths on August 3rd, the method being York-
shire Surprise Maximus. The date coincided
with the 24th anniversary of the record peal
of Cambridge Surprise Maximus and it is in-
teresting to record that Mr. Edward Jenkins
rang the treble to both peals. All the band are
also members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The ringers of North Stone-
ham had hopes of ringing a
local band peal in honour of
the birth of a daughter to the Rector and Mrs.
W. F. Shail. The ringing was not up to stan-
dard and the conductor (Mr. R. A. Read) called
the bells round at half-way. This is the nearest
the local band have got to a peal. Augmented
by friends, the bells of North Stoneham, how-
ever, honoured the occasion on August 1st with
a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. Two juniors
of Winchester Cathedral band—Beryl Pittaway
(13) and Michael Lakin (14)—were in the com-
pany and a good report is given by the con-
ductor of their ringing.

Two peals were rung on the bells of All
Saints', Stisted, on August 3rd. One was for the
18th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. H.
J. Earle and the other for the 12th wedding an-
niversary of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Suckling.

His many friends in the Exercise will be
sorry to learn that Mr. T. Mark White, of
Guildford, has been ordered to bed for six
weeks. A few days before going to Guernsey
for his holiday he had trouble with his right
eye. A specialist has diagnosed this as an in-
fection of the optic nerve and the treatment pre-
scribed is complete rest and not using his eyes.

Mr. Arthur Prince has rung on every Royal
occasion from the Jubilee of Queen Victoria;
his first peal was rung at St. Mary's Church,
Handbridge, Chester, for the passing of Prince
Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh. To commemorate
King George V.'s restoration to health after his
severe illness, a peal of Stedman Triples was
rung by members of the Gloucester and Bristol
Diocesan Association at Marshfield, Glos. An
illuminated record of this peal was accepted by
King George V.

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WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

CONCERN OVER MEMBERSHIP DROP—POPULARITY OF GUILD BADGES—GEORGE WILLIAMS MEMORIAL BOOKCASE

THE 73rd annual meeting was held at Petersfield on July 25th and the glorious weather attracted over 80 ringers from all districts of the Guild. In addition, visiting ringers were present from Chichester, Penn, Buckland Newton, Guildford and Farnham.

At the business meeting, which was presided over by the Master (Mr. G. Pullinger), a welcome was extended to the visitors. The Master was supported by the hon. treasurer (Mr. W. Linter) and hon. secretary (Mr. F. W. Rogers).

The members stood in silence as a token of respect to Mr. G. Smith (Twyford), a former Guild auditor, who was interred the previous Monday.

The general secretary expressed his apology in having to postpone the date of the meeting, which, owing to unforeseen circumstances, could not be held at Petersfield on the agreed date of July 4th. The meeting accepted his reasons and endorsed his action in rearranging the date. Apologies for absence were read from the hon. auditor and librarian (Mr. A. York-Bramble), the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead and several members.

The balance sheets, as printed in the annual report, were explained in detail by the hon. treasurer, and comparisons made with the financial positions at the end of the previous three years. One thing that was causing concern, he said, was the serious drop in membership as shown in the joint report of the Guild officers, and it was hoped by current reports of the district secretaries that this position would be improved during the present year. The accounts were adopted with one dissentient.

THE REPORT

The joint report of the Master, hon. general secretary and hon. general treasurer stated: The year under review, from reports received from the various districts, indicates a very useful contribution has been made to strengthen our position and to further the art of change ringing. Our total membership, we regret to say, has decreased from the previous year in so far as paid-up subscriptions indicate. The honorary membership has increased from 84 to 89, but ringing membership has decreased from 665 to 592. It is too early to say whether this is due to withdrawal or falling into arrears with subscriptions. Of the two reasons offered we hope the latter is correct and that during the next year this will be remedied. From the district secretaries' reports it appears that interest is being maintained, and in some cases increased, especially with the increase of juvenile members.

Financially, during the year our balance was reduced from £295 to £249, but due to the decision to adopt a guild badge a sum of over £41 was paid for the manufacture and purchase of these. In fact, the first issue was exhausted in a very short time, and due to demands from the districts another repeat order had to be made. Therefore our position should be fully recovered in this direction, since the sale of badges continues to be steady. The printing of the annual report continues to be a costly job, but it was felt that members would prefer to receive a copy gratis rather than make a charge and risk the chance of unsold copies being left in the hands of the secretaries.

RESTORATIONS

Restoration work has been reported from some of the districts. Completed work reported includes Brading (8), Arreton (6) and Chale (6) in the Isle of Wight, Bramley (8) and Baughurst (increased to 6). Winchester College bells have been restored, but unfortunately the restoration of the tower will not permit of the bells being rung for about another two years.

We should like once more to appeal to all towers to maintain Sunday service ringing, at least for one service. We note with pride that the ringers at Liss rang for every service during the year, with only one exception. This is certainly a magnificent example to follow.

By the time this report is in the hands of the members the George Williams Memorial Bookcase will have been installed and dedicated in the belfry of St. Mary's, Southampton. This we hope will bear witness to all who visit there of the great work done for the Guild by our late beloved Master. The bookcase will contain the library acquired by the Guild both from our late Master and other recent additions. We would report that during the past year the library has benefited by the addition of 29 items of books and papers from the late Wilfred Andrews, of Winchester.

THE WAR MEMORIAL

The war memorial panels to be added to the existing panel in the belfry at Winchester Cathedral are being prepared and our best thanks are due to Mr. Lampard for his expert advice and guidance in respect of the scheme, which it is hoped will be completed during the next year.

The ringing activities during the year can best be judged by the report of the recorder of peals. During the year the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead has put in some considerable time in order to trace errors and omissions in the total list of peals rung by the Guild, and has compiled a complete and renumbered list which is now available for reference.

PEAL RECORDER'S REPORT

A further decrease in successful peal ringing is reported for 1952. During the year 30 tower-bell peals in 18 different towers and 17 handbell peals were rung.

These figures alone might not give a correct impression of the activities of the Guild, however, as the number of unsuccessful attempts was large, probably equal to the number rung.

The Guild paid homage to King George VI. in ringing five half-muffled peals. One of them, London Surprise Minor, at Titchfield, was the first of London on the bells, by all the band and conductor, Mr. T. Page.

The six at Arreton, I.O.W., were rung to their first peal with one of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Mr. L. Bailey. One hundred and twenty-two members took part in ringing peals, 16 of them ringing their first peal and 65 'stars' being gained for 'first in the method,' etc. Of the 14 who conducted tower-bell peals, Mr. J. H. Hunt leads with a total of seven. Of the handbell peals, Mr. Daniel T. Matkin conducted 14, including one of Spliced Royal in seven plain methods, being the greatest number yet rung to a peal of Royal.

Mr. C. H. Kippin, one of the Guild's representatives on the Central Council, presented a very interesting and comprehensive report of the Council meeting held at Bournemouth at Whitsun for which he received the special thanks of the meeting.

THE OFFICERS

It was with great regret that the members learned from the general secretary that the hon. auditor and hon. librarian (Mr. York-Bramble) had been compelled, owing to uncertainty of future residence, to relinquish these two offices. The hon. treasurer (Mr. Linter) expressed his desire to be freed from this office, owing to not being able to enjoy the best of health which prevented him from doing all that he would wish for the Guild.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Master, Mr. G. Pullinger; hon. secretary, Mr. F. W. Rogers; hon. treasurer, Mr. R. Reed; hon. auditor, Mr. R. M. Currie; hon. librarian, the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead; recorder of peals, Mr. N. Hayes; representatives on Central Council, the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead and Messrs. G. Pullinger, C. H. Kippin and F. W. Rogers.

A discussion took place on the proposal to print an abridged annual report owing to the high cost incurred in printing a full report as at present. Many were against reducing the size and suggested as an alternative that the subscriptions should be increased to cover such eventualities. Others felt that an abridged report every two years could be published and a full report with rules, etc., every third year. The matter was so indecisive that it was eventually agreed to defer any decision for a further twelve months.

It was agreed to transfer a sum of £55 from the Central Fund to the Special Purposes Fund to meet the expenses incurred by the George Williams Memorial and the Guild War Memorial panels.

ALTERATION OF RULES

The alteration of rules in the current annual report was adopted unanimously. The hon. secretary reported that there had been a good sale of the new Guild badge and some district secretaries had not sufficient to meet demands. He hoped the position would be adjusted by transfer from stocks held by the other district secretaries.

It was agreed to subscribe a sum of 10s. towards the cost of the Central Council's Roll of Honour to be placed in St. Paul's Cathedral, and to pay the increased affiliation fee of £1 for each representative to the Central Council.

A grant of 5 guineas each was voted towards the restoration of the bells at Freshwater, I.O.W., and Preston Candover.

MRS. MARSHALLSAY CONGRATULATED

The meeting, on the proposition of the Master, expressed its congratulations to Mrs. M. Marshallsay (Bournemouth) in ringing 500 peals, and also to Mr. D. T. Matkin for the many handbell performances he had conducted for the Guild. The Master reminded the meeting that next year the Guild (including the former Winchester Diocesan Guild) had been in existence 75 years. It was eventually agreed, after several places had been proposed, to hold the next annual meeting at Winchester on Saturday, July 3rd, 1954, the arrangements to be left in the hands of the Guild officers and Mr. J. A. C. King (Winchester).

Votes of thanks were accorded to all who had contributed to the success of the meeting and the incumbents for the use of their bells.

The Guild service was held in St. Peter's Church, conducted by the Vicar, after which tea was partaken of in the Church Hall.

Ringing continued during the evening at Petersfield (8), East Meon (8), Privett (8), Liss (8 and 6), Steep (6) and Buriton (6).

LEICESTER WEDDING

Mr. E. Alan Jacques — Miss Hazel M. Hunt

The morning of Saturday, August 8th, dawned bright and glorious, and proved to be a great 'send-off' to the wedding day of Mr. E. Alan Jacques, the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Jacques, of Woodhouse, and Miss Hazel M. Hunt, the eldest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Hunt, of Leicester.

A large congregation gathered in the Church of St. Peter, Highfields, Leicester, for the ceremony, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon A. W. Eaton. The hymns sung were 'The King of Love my Shepherd is' and 'Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us.'

The bride, wearing a dress of satin brocade with a full-length train and carrying a shower bouquet of pink carnations, was given away by her 'ringing father,' Mr. Harold J. Poole. She was attended by two bridesmaids, who were dressed in light blue striped silk dresses and carrying shower bouquets of mixed sweet peas. The chief bridesmaid was sister of the bride. A further connection with the Ringing Exercise was the best man, namely, Mr. John R. Smith, also of the Cathedral band.

After the ceremony many guests attended the reception held in the Waterloo Hall. Singing, talking and handbell ringing followed, interspersed with Alan and Hazel, as the centre of attraction, being 'badgered' for the place where they were spending their honeymoon.

Soon we were to say farewell to the happy couple as they left for their unknown destination. A good 'send-off' was given to them by many 'youthful ringers.'

During the evening a peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major was rung at the Church of St. Mary de Castro, due to the fact that there is only one bell at St. Peter's Church. The peal was conducted by Mr. Harold J. Poole.

Alan (better known, particularly to his Irish tour friends, as the kid from Wood'us), who is serving with the Leicester City Police Force, is a very enthusiastic ringer and has figured in most of the Maximus methods rung at Leicester Cathedral. He has obeyed the unwritten rule that the ringer must introduce his partner to the Exercise and, following on from this, Hazel is progressing in the art very well.

The honeymoon is being spent in Great Yarmouth.

(Contributed)

OBITUARY

MR. A. R. WILSON, TASMANIA

We regret to record the death of Mr. A. R. (Ray) Wilson, of Holy Trinity, Hobart, on June 11th. He had but recently come from hospital, where successful operations on his eyes would soon have enabled him to resume his usual activities, but a heart attack proved fatal. His age was 62 and he was devoted to the tower from an early age, and was secretary and tower-keeper for over 40 years.

He acquired, over the years, a mass of literature and photographs relating to all aspects of the Exercise, and it is probable that this collection will be suitably housed in the tower with an inscribed plaque setting forth the particulars.

Mr. Wilson made arrangements for the visit of English ringers to Tasmania in 1934 and the late Mr. W. H. Fussell handed him a suitably engraved silver bell inkstand to mark the tourists' gratitude for all he did to make the visit so enjoyable. On that occasion two albums of photographs of English cathedrals and churches were presented to the ringers of Hobart as a tangible expression of the affection and goodwill of the ringers in the old country.

As a last tribute a half-muffled touch of Bob Doubles was rung by his Trinity friends.

S. W. S.

ELUSIVE SEARCH FOR PEALS IN SOMERSET

OUR CORRESPONDENT'S FUNERAL PEN

IN writing this account of a supposed peal tour in Somerset I am in an unusual position.

For usually ringers only record their successes, their good striking, their true and 'compleat' peals, their insurmountable achievements. (What a great deal we hear about these.) Little is heard, however, of their failures, their bad striking, their untrue and 'incompleat' peals.

I have the opportunity of recording for all time a week of practically unrelieved failure, of dismal and appalling losses.

But are we downhearted?—No! As a matter of fact we enjoyed ourselves immensely. Who could fail to do so in Somerset, that most glorious of counties, amongst the finest of bells and with the best of companions? After all, anyone can ring a peal nowadays—they are far too common—but how many can lose them with light-hearted indifference? We can—I think!

Here follows the sorry tale. Perhaps, Mr. Editor, you might consider surrounding it with a black line in respect for its funeral aspect.

July 27th. Chewton Mendip (8). Tenor 24 cwt.

Unaware of the horrors ahead we blithely rang a peal of Yorkshire on these famous bells. The peal itself was all right but it lacked that 'final polish.'

As we emerged from the tower a thunderstorm descended on our heads. It was symbolic of what was to come.

Blagdon (8). Tenor 19½ cwt.

During the afternoon New Cambridge soon collapsed. I'm sure that the tenor ringer must have grazed his knees on the floor during his antics!

Anyway—who really enjoys ringing two peals in a day? That is our excuse for this one.

July 28th. St. Stephen's, Bristol (10). Tenor 21 cwt.

Rather a poor show for Cambridge Royal, which mercifully broke down about half way.

One of the non-participants who was standing outside is said to have retreated hastily from the vicinity of the tower in case he should be connected with the noise, and imprisoned!

July 29th. St. Cuthbert's, Wells (8). Tenor 28 cwt.

Before commencing to ring we spent rather a long time in adjusting the ropes, which caused some jangling of single bells.

Outside the tower a very well-known ringer snorted indignantly:—'When we rang peals we simply entered the belfry, raised the bells and rang the peal: a ringer should be able to ring with any length of rope.'

With crimson faces we hung our heads in shame.

The actual attempt for Yorkshire contained some good patches of ringing, unfortunately we suddenly hit a bad patch and didn't survive.

July 30th. Mells (8). Tenor 26 cwt.

These are a grand old ring of bells which we desecrated by three or four courses of atrocious Double Norwich. Some solace was gained by ringing a quarter of Stedman and more by a retreat to the nearby hostelry.

Trowbridge (12). Tenor 24 cwt.

During the afternoon the striking of Cambridge Royal on the back ten was really good. Perhaps we were heartened by the presence of

Mr. Gilbert Harding, who kindly stood in this attempt. But it couldn't last—after about 1½ hours someone made a trip and we all fell into it like rabbits into a hole.

July 31st. Congresbury (8). Tenor 35 cwt.
Fortune smiled briefly upon us at Congresbury, the peal of Superlative achieved being quite a good one. As usual, Cannon rang the tenor well and performed his 20 handpresses at the conclusion (were they a trifle shaky?) but as much credit should go to some of the other ringers who had no easy task.

August 1st. Ditcheat (8). Tenor 24 cwt.

During many peals the conductor threatens to call 'Stand' unless the ringing improves (I wonder how many really mean it?—our lady conductor in this attempt did).

It was not, you know, as bad as it sounds. I've reversed the usual process and made everything sound much worse than it was. I can only hope that it will not cause your ever serious correspondents to lift their pens in protest.

Inserted amongst peal attempts were visits to many fine Somerset towers which included Chew Magna, Backwell, Long Ashton, Wedmore, Cheddar, Wells Cathedral, Piblow, Pilton, Shepton Mallet, Evercreech, Yatton, Wrington, Frome and Glastonbury. They were all enjoyed but to describe our visits would be a repetition of something which has been done many times before.

Our most sincere thanks are tendered to all the incumbents who so generously gave us the use of their bells and to the many gentlemen who met us at the various towers. Everywhere there was never-failing hospitality and courtesy.

We enjoyed ourselves, so who cares about the lost peals? And yet, as I write, a terrible suspicion is beginning to assail me! I have heard nothing of any of the party since their return to their homes. I wonder with evergrowing dread if they have all cut their throats. I know three have.

I, personally, have not the courage for such a course and am, after these experiences, just giving up ringing.

Before me lies a letter containing an invitation to stand in a peal on September 5th. I shall refuse! I pick up my pen to do so. I pause. I ponder; after all it's a good band, a fine, heavy ring of bells, London the method: oh to see my name again in real print! I waver, I hesitate, I dither! Shall I? Just once more . . . ?
F. L. H.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Peals.—Uplyme 5s., Brentford 5s., Rougham 3s., Willenhall 5s., Whiston 2s., North Stoneham 3s., Old Coudson 2s. 6d., Widford 3s., Ockham 3s., Spalding 4s., Stratton St. Margaret 2s., Haughton 5s., Wrington 5s., Llanfagan 4s.

Quarter peals.—Whitfield 2s. 6d., Oxenden 2s. 6d., Stourbridge 2s., Halifax 2s., Burghfield 2s. 6d., Dodderhill 4s., Taunton 2s., Fulham 2s., Guiseley 1s., Bodenham 3.

Personal.—D. J. P. 2s.

The peal at Blackhill, Co. Durham, on July 1st (see page 479, 'Ringing World') was rung in 2 hours 52 minutes, and not as printed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COUNCIL 'YES MEN' TO IRREGULAR METHODS

Dear Sir,—Having read in 'The Ringing World' of July 31st your version of the Methods Committee's report on Minor Methods, I turned avidly to the correspondence columns on August 7th to read what the Exercise at large, and Minor ringers in particular, thought of it and was dumbfounded to find not a single voice of protest. It appears that the days of healthy opposition are past and we have verily become a nation of 'yes men.'

Your Press report bore the heading 'The Discussion' and soon showed that such was a complete misnomer. It consisted of the proposer's and seconder's speeches with some support from Mr. Roberts. Mr. Barker (of the Oxford Guild, which raised the question) interposed a question and the matter ended in the resolution being 'carried by a large majority.' Unless a wily chairman took a hasty vote to suppress expected opposition or the Editor 'blue-pencilled' the opposition speeches, it would appear that the Council members have lost all their fighting spirit and become Mr. Felstead's other sheep or were too apathetic to criticise such unconvincing 'arguments.' Perhaps their stomachs ruled their heads and it was near meal time!

According to Mr. Felstead the Methods Committee 'could not point to any particular reason for disallowing them (irregular methods).' It was an accumulation of small points.' I can hardly accept a mere 'points decision' as a convincing verdict for the Methods Committee; yet they secured a large majority supporting vote. We are not told how many abstentions there were!!

Mr. Lewis's 'arguments' were little more convincing. Is it really such a 'serious defect' that the (so-called) irregular methods have a different plain course for seconds- and sixths-place methods? His only other argument was that more irregular than regular methods turn up 6-5's at backstroke, but an examination of his figures reveals that less than 20 per cent., or only one, in five, more do so—another very 'wishy-washy' argument for their abolition.

Not one other reason could be produced yet the Council allowed itself to be fooled into accepting by a large majority a resolution based on such feeble arguments. Could not a few six-bell ringers on the Council have voiced their disgust?—Yours sincerely,

W. BIRMINGHAM.

Slough.

P.S.—In Major where 5,000's can be obtained with the tenors together and so many regular methods are available, there may be some case for adopting only regular methods, but I fail to see why, when the full extent of changes has to be rung, as in Minor, such an arbitrary rule has to be introduced.—W. B.

Note.—The Editor did not 'blue-pencil' the opposition speeches: his function is to present a factual report of the proceedings. Letters in defence of irregular methods appeared in our last issue.

NORTHAMPTON RINGS TO 'HIS GLORY'

Dear Sir,—Mr. Morris has gone off completely at a tangent, and I deplore the picture he has painted regarding the Sunday service ringing in Northampton. Tremendous work has been done, particularly in Northampton, to fill our towers to enable regular Sunday service ringing to 'His glory,' our main function.

The picture that Mr. Morris has painted is completely untrue and I will take this opportunity to invite Mr. Morris to Northampton to see for himself, or anyone for that matter. —Yours sincerely,

E. NOBLES.

Hon. Sec., Northampton Branch.
Peterborough Diocesan Guild.

GREAT BOWDEN

Dear Sir,—On page 536 of 'The Ringing World' Mr. Ernest Morris writes that 'another Leicester tower not heard of much these days is Great Bowden.'

Although only a minor point in his article, this is an insult to the hard work of Mr. Frank Arnold and his enthusiastic young band of ringers.

Great Bowden has been mentioned more times in 'The Ringing World' in the past ten weeks than any other of Leicestershire's 34 five-bell towers.—Yours, etc.,

C. DUNHAM.

Lubenham,

Market Harborough.

Note.—We feel certain that Mr. Ernest Morris, when he wrote the article many months ago, never intended to cast a reflection on Mr. Frank Arnold and his enthusiastic young band at Great Bowden. It will give him infinite pleasure to hear of such progress, and, possibly, when the band are anxious to score a peal, an invitation to him would be accepted if possible. —Ed.

'CAMPANOLOGIA'

Dear Sir,—I have had lent to me an interesting volume entitled 'Campanologia.' The title page reads, 'New Campanologia or a Key to the Art of Ringing, with considerable additions. Dedicated to the lovers of the art in general, being the result of many years' study, diligent application and constant practice. By John William Jones, John Reeves and Thomas Blakemore.'

There follow three Latin inscriptions with much decoration, then 'London, printed for R. L. Kirby, No. 32, Paternoster Row. Price 4s.' On the last page (283) appears, 'Ipswich, printed by J. Raw.' There is no indication of the year the book was printed.

In Snowdon's 'Grandsire' (1905) are several quotations, touches and peals which undoubtedly are taken from this 'Campanologia,' but which the author states are from 'Clavis Campanologia,' 1788. There is little doubt that the two volumes, if not the same, have much in common. The date 1788 is quite likely, as the latest dated entry is a peal of Stedman Caters in 1787. There is a note that this volume was presented to a W. Champion, of Hobart Town, 1847, which was the year Holy Trinity bells were hung.

Could you, Sir, or a reader, solve the problems: (1) Are there two volumes or one volume with two titles? (2) Is 'Clavis' substituted for 'Key'?—Thanking you in anticipation.—Yours faithfully,

S. W. SMITH.

Hobart, Tasmania.

Note.—Mr. A. C. Hazelden, librarian to the Guildford Diocesan Guild, writes: 'The book Mr. Smith refers to is the second edition of "Clavis Campanologia." The first edition was dated 1788. The second edition, though undated, is said to have been issued in 1796. In it the Latin title "Clavis" was replaced by the English word "key," nevertheless the books have always been known among ringers as "Clavis." There were not two books, but succeeding editions with a slight change of title.'

MINOR FIVES

Dear Sir,—I wonder why no mention has been made under this heading of the minor five at Fen Ditton, Cambridgeshire; unless they have been increased to six since my leaving Cambridge in 1937.

Enfield.

H. J. HAZELL.

IS EVERDON A MINOR FIVE?

A Challenge in aid of Restoration Funds

Dear Sir,—I am no betting man but am prepared to make an offer to Mr. W. A. Stote:—I will give £1 to the Coventry Diocesan Guild Bell Restoration Fund on the undertaking by him to give £1 to the same for the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, whichever of us is proved to be wrong on this issue re Everdon (Northants).

Although these bells have been totally unringable for the past 15-20 years I know them quite well and have rung upon them four times—the first time as long ago as 1926—and I am by no means the only Northants ringer who knows them as a minor five.

It would seem that Mr. Stote (like a few others upon this subject) needs to go back to school and learn tonic sol-fa with the old modulator in front of him. It is news to me, as an old choir boy and one who had music lessons for three years, that bells sounding the notes lah, soh, fah, me, ray (like Everdon) could be in a major key, or that doh, te, lah, soh, fah (like Wappenham) could be the 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 of an octave.

There have been one or two visitors to our tower at Weston Favell who have tried to insist that ours are not a minor five but a first five of eight, although they definitely sound lah, soh, fah, me, ray, and are generally known as a minor five.

If both Mr. Stote and Mr. Barnett will refer to my previous letter they will see that I used the adverb (possibly) to my description of Everton and Roston (Beds) as minor fives, having not rung either myself but being informed by two Bedfordshire ringers (one a past District secretary and friend of Mr. Stote) that this was so. Whether Everton is in Beds. Hunts or Cambs surely is beside the point and matters very little under the circumstances. The church is not at Tetworth, which is shown on maps as being one to two miles away to the east of Everton. Ringing meetings at this place are always under the auspices of the Bedfordshire Association, however; once, I believe, I remember a joint Beds and Hunts meeting there.—Yours sincerely,

P. AMOS.

Weston Favell,
Northants.

Mr. Frank B. Lufkin's 300 Peals

Last June Mr. Frank B. Lufkin, of Prittlewell, Essex, rang his 300th peal. Of his peals he has conducted 185. His list is as follows:—

Doubles.—One method 3 (conducted 2), two methods 1 (1).

Minor.—One method 13 (11), two methods 4 (3), three methods 12 (11), four methods 13 (12), five methods 7 (7), six methods 2 (2), seven methods 8 (7), eight methods 1 (1), nine methods 1.

Triples.—Grandsire 14 (9), Stedman 4 (2).

Major.—Plain Bob 33 (24), Double Dorwich Court Bob 17 (8), Pershore Bob 1, Little Oxford Bob 1 (1), Kent Treble Bob 30 (26), Oxford Treble Bob 8 (5), Mixed Oxford and Kent 3 (3), Cam 1 (1).

Surprise Major.—Cambridge 18 (7), New Cambridge 1 (1), Painswick 1, Lincolnshire 3, Ipswich 2, Yorkshire 8 (1), Pudsey 1, Ashted 1 (1), Chiltern 1, Boveney 1 (1), Norfolk 1, Superlative 4, Belgrave 2, Bristol 4, London 5, Withyham 1, Rutland 1, Spliced in six methods 1.

Caters.—Grandsire 6 (6), Stedman 7 (3).

Royal.—Plain Bob 15 (13), Kent Treble Bob 10 (7), Oxford Treble Bob 2 (2), Cam 1, Cambridge Surprise 8 (3), New Cambridge Surprise 1 (1), Albanian 1 (1), Yorkshire 2, Belgrave 1, Prittlewell 1, Little Bob 2 (1), Erith Little Bob 1.

Cinques.—Stedman 5.

Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob 1 (1).

Handbells.—Minor, Plain Bob 3.

Total—300 (conducted 185).

THE STORY OF NEWPORT, SHROPSHIRE, BELLS

Mr. W. A. Farmer, whose series of articles on Shropshire bells in *'The Shropshire Magazine'* have aroused much interest, has a particularly interesting story to tell concerning the bells of Newport Parish Church and ringers associated with the tower. We acknowledge our indebtedness to *'The Shropshire Magazine'* for this article.

THE origin of place names is an interesting study, and what appears to be so obvious is often far from the truth. 'Port' in Newport has nothing to do with ships, the name being originally New Borough.

Until Norman times it was part of the Manor of Edgmond, but the Normans much appreciated the fish ponds which were where Newport now stands. Bois Marais or Beaumaris, 'the wood in the marsh,' is a name which exists to-day. The inhabitants gave assistance with men and money to Henry I., who offered a charter in return. Newport became a separate parish in 1221, and must have been of some size as it was administered by a High Steward and burgesses.

Richard, 'Priest of New Borough,' was the first at the Norman Church, which was the property of Shrewsbury Abbey. Thomas Draper, who accumulated a fortune in trade in London, returned to his native town, and among other benefactions purchased the church and manorial rights for parishioners in 1442.

A condition was the establishment of a college in connection with the church, and this existed, together with a chapel on the east end of the north aisle, dedicated to St. Mary, until the Dissolution by Henry VIII.

MUCH RESTORED CHURCH

Numerous restorations have left little of the original building, but there seems to have been a tower before the present massive structure, built during the fourteenth century.

During most extensive alterations or restorations in the last century, much that was valuable, interesting and beautiful disappeared from the church, but it is pleasing to be able to write that what concerned the tower resulted in improvements. A gallery and organ blocked the tower arch inside the church, and these were removed so that the fine tracery of the west window can be seen. The belfry floor was lowered some 12ft., and is now on a level with a small cell, at one time occupied by a hermit. In 1910, a considerable amount of new stone was quarried at Edgmond and used to reface the exterior of the tower.

The story of the bells in this tower is rather involved, and starts with the Valor Ecclesiasticus or inventory of Queen Mary. This is dated 1549 for Newport and records '11J grete belleis and two small bellys.' English had but recently come into general use for writing, and spelling was very varied and picturesque. However, the meaning is generally clear, although there are exceptions. Readers may make what they wish of the following, dated 1662: 'Ye bels of Newport new made to the gallery this month.'

Perhaps some or all were recast, as in the following year appears, 'Loft built for ringing or a belfree.' Reference to bells or ringers is scanty, but what evidence there is suggests that a ringing peal was in use, as in 1671 the sum of five shillings was given 'for ever,' for ringing on August 21st to commemorate William Adams, the town's other great benefactor.

UNLUCKY RINGER

On May 12th, 1701, it is recorded John Bellringer was killed by the second bell. It seems a little too apt that his name should be Bell-

ringer, but we may not doubt that a man was so killed. Church bells when properly rung swing through a complete circle, and return by the same path. This swing is occasioned and controlled by the rope below, and the rate of striking is altered when the ringer holds the bell suspended at the point of balance. The bell may be rested against a wooden stay, although careless or inexperienced handling easily breaks this. At the time of the accident to which I have referred, such stays were not used, and no doubt the bell went right over instead of returning. If the luckless John held on to the rope, instead of letting go, as he should in such circumstances, he would be drawn up ten or twenty feet into the air.

Many men have survived such an occurrence, the danger being that the roof may not be of sufficient height and a fatal blow on the head may result. Of course, a fall will certainly be unpleasant, and more or less injurious. Fortunately this is a rare occurrence, only two other such fatalities having occurred in Shropshire, so far as I am aware. These were at Much Wenlock and the Abbey, Shrewsbury.

LAW OF DEODAND

In the case of the bell at Newport, it was declared forfeit to the Lord of the Manor, Lord Newport. This was under a very ancient law, finally repealed in 1846. Apparently any object or animal which caused the death of a human being was spoken of as a 'deodand' and was forfeit to the King. Instances are recorded from all parts of England, but there is some mystery about the whole procedure, as it seems impossible that it was ever generally observed. Nor have I heard how transference to the Lord of the Manor was made, although in feudal times he exercised judgment of death over most of his tenants. The only instance that I have seen from Shropshire is that of 1796, when Samuel Cork was killed at Middleton Scriven by the kick of a horse, which was declared a deodand. Perhaps readers can supply others.

In the year 1718 the bells were sent to Gloucester to be recast, and from the circumstances it seems likely that there were then six in use. The evidence for this is that there is no mention made of rehanging when they were returned, but a few years afterwards, in 1774, £60 was paid for a new frame. The recasting cost £66, and transport to Bridgnorth, whence carriage was by boat to Gloucester, seven and sixpence only.

Entries in the churchwardens' records are few, but apparently the fifth bell was returned to Gloucester in 1748, and another went there in 1795, while one was returned in 1797. It is unlikely that this was the same bell. Either the ringers were very careless with these bells or were very unfortunate, as few occasions have been noted when bells from this famous foundry have given trouble.

All the bells were recast by Mears, of London, in 1812, and a ring of eight took their place. These did duty until last year, when rehanging became necessary. It was then found that the second and sixth had slight cracks in the crown, due to the action of the iron bolts cast into the bell metal. They were recast by Messrs. John Taylor, of Loughborough, who hung the whole in the frame of 1812, but with the latest type of ball bearing.

GOOD QUALITY RING

Musically I should describe the ring as of good average quality, the weight of the tenor being about average for eight bells, as it weighs 13 cwt. Personally, I regret that the remaining bells were not tuned by modern methods when the two new ones were introduced, as the

contrast is noticeable to the discerning ear, but it is satisfactory to know that the ring is now in first-class order.

The inscriptions, which do not reproduce the originals, are now as follows:

Treble.—Rev. Charles Buckridge, D.D., gave this bell, 1812. T. Mears.

2. The Subscription Bell—promoted by Tho. Baddeley. Recast John Taylor, Loughborough, 1952.

3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.—Thomas Mears of London, Fecit, 1812, with Taylor's name in addition on the sixth.

Tenor.—The Parish recast these eight bells, 1812. John Cooper, John Challenor, Churchwardens.

Records speak of an 'apprentice bell' at 5 a.m. in summer and six in winter, and the curfew was rung from October to March until comparatively recent years. Ringing has for long presented some difficulty as the ancient mechanism of the chimes, placed in the middle of the belfry floor, obscured one ringer and his rope from another.

The chimes have not been heard for about forty years, and the floor is now clear of obstruction.

PEALS OF GRANDSIRE

Despite this difficulty, the famous Samuel Lawrence and his band from Shifnal rang a full peal of 5,040 Grandsire Triples when the bells were installed in 1812. The feat was not repeated, however, until 1919, when a complete band from Coalbrookdale rang a similar peal. Many attempts have been made in recent years, and Kent Major was rung in 1920. Since then, the bells had become difficult to ring as bearings were worn, but one or two peals were rung by visiting bands. A peal of Plain Bob Major was rung this year, since rehanging, by the Shropshire Association of Church Bell-Ringers.

The local ringers, although meticulous on ringing on Sundays and on special occasions such as New Year's Eve, have not attempted any of these notable performances. Change ringing is practised, and indeed regularly employed on all occasions, although restricted to five bells.

The originator was something of a character. Joseph Rowley. Born at Pattingham, he went at an early age to Sheffield, and, in the employ of the famous firm of John Brown, saved sufficient money to enable him to retire when 53 years of age. He went to live at Outwoods, some three miles from Newport. From then until his death in 1947 at the age of 88, he walked twice each Sunday to Newport church to ring. During his stay in Yorkshire he had become a proficient change ringer, and lost no time in teaching Grandsire Triples to his colleagues at Newport.

After the first world war, four Talbots, all brothers, Ernest Wickstead, Dennis Cross, Charles Barlow and he regularly rang Grandsire Triples, but a series of incidents depleted this band, and perhaps on account of the obstruction mentioned, it has never completely recovered.

We may with confidence look forward, now that the bells are again in good order, to hearing that Triples are once again rung at Newport. Meanwhile Mr. Tom Talbot, with 34 years' service in the tower, sees that service ringing is of the best. The eight bells are generally rung, with five bells constantly changing in Grandsire Doubles.

Our story would not be complete without mention of Mr. George Lowe, now 78 years of age, who regularly cycles from Gnosall twice each Sunday to ring at Newport. Mr. L. Watson, who began at Lilleshall and greatly extended his knowledge of change ringing while at Bristol University, is at present living in Newport and attends regularly to help.

OUTINGS

NAILSEA, SOMERSET

The Nailsea ringers, wives and friends, with fellow ringers from Backwell and Wraxall visited three counties on their annual outing on July 25th.

Following an early start, Lyneham, in Wiltshire, was reached on time and this poor-toned six was soon set ringing to a variety of methods. Repeating the feat at the first tower on last year's outing a rope broke, this being spliced en route and returned to the church on the way home.

Passing by way of Swindon and Faringdon with a halt for sandwiches on the way, Oxford was reached at 1.30 and the glorious six at the University Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin (tenor 28 cwt.) were raised in peal and put to good use for an hour. Some of the best ringing of the day was heard from this 13th century tower and graceful 14th century spire nearly 200 feet high. Apart from the Cathedral this church is considered to be the finest of the 40-odd churches and chapels in the city.

Ifley, with a pure Norman church, massive central tower and a good, light six, was next visited and the party were joined by some of the local ringers. A wooden supporting pillar in the middle of the rope circle made rope-sight a little awkward for one or two of the bells, but the visit here was very enjoyable.

Back through Oxford and out to Wolvercote, a mixed ring with a tenor only 6 cwt. 26 lb. The long draught and light bells combined to make ringing a little difficult, but when the party got used to the bells some good striking was heard. The church is modern with a 15th century tower and a very much older font.

Tea in Oxford, kindly arranged by Mr. V. Bennett, was voted a very good meal and after half an hour to wander around, the return journey was started. A call was made at Stanford-in-the-Vale, just over the border into Berkshire, for ringing on the heavy-going six, given in 'The Book' as 14 cwt. but locally reputed to be 19½ cwt. After one or two touches the reason for the discrepancy was soon apparent!

There was the usual call for liquid fortification on the way home and Clifford had turned up trumps with the cider jar, although this year unable to be present himself.

Sincere thanks are due to the various incumbents and to the people who met, welcomed and rang with the party at the towers. M. J. H.

CHRIST CHURCH, CREWE

The morning of August 8th was bright and fair as a party of ringers, wives and friends from Christ Church, Crewe, started out on their annual trip—this year to North Wales. They were accompanied by ringers and friends from the neighbouring towers of Acton, Wistaston and Holmes Chapel. The addition of ringers from these towers was most welcome since three of the Crewe ringers were unable to join the party.

Ringing began on the much-admired ten bells at Wrexham, where some of the best courses of the day were rung. Other ringing took place at Bangor, Llandudno and at the beautiful marble church of Bodewyddan. Many thanks to the members of these towers who were responsible for making all the necessary arrangements.

The day ended with an hour in Holywell, where, after the police sergeant had been assured that the party consisted of 'church people,' everyone found something to his or her liking. All tastes were catered for, whether for ringing or sightseeing, and everyone agreed that it had been a most enjoyable and successful outing.

I. R. N.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World'
August 22nd, 1913

MEMORIAL BELLS IN CORNWALL
VICAR'S REMARKABLE RECORD

At Gulval Parish Church on Friday week, a large number of parishioners and others gathered to witness the dedication of an augmented peal of bells and a tower clock in memory of the late Vicar, the Rev. W. W. Wingfield, who was in charge of the parish from 1839 to 1912.

[Mr. Wingfield, born before the battle of Waterloo, lived in six reigns and was Vicar of Gulval under seven Bishops. The writer knows one instance only of a longer incumbency than this 73 years at Gulval—the Rev. Bartholomew Edwards was Rector of Ashill, Norfolk, for 76 years until his death in 1889, a few days before reaching his 100th birthday.]

Ladies' Guild and Sheffield District
Society Hold Joint Meeting

Many members of the Ladies' Guild were present at St. Mary's, Handsworth, on Aug. 1st for this joint meeting with the Sheffield and District Society. The beautiful ring of eight in the 700-years-old tower was raised at 3 p.m. and rung throughout the afternoon to various methods.

A short service was held at 4.30 conducted by the Rector of Handsworth (the Rev. H. Ferraby, M.A.) and his address on the co-ordination of mind, muscle and spirit in bell-ringing was much appreciated.

Tea served in the schoolroom was very successfully arranged by Mrs. D. E. Kelly, who is well known as the secretary of the Ladies Guild (Yorkshire District), and her assistants included other lady members of the local band. About 35 sat down to tea, including the Rector, and visitors were present from Cheshire, Derby, Leeds and Mansfield with a good representation of ladies from all towers in the Sheffield and Rotherham area.

The business meeting which followed was presided over by Mr. H. O. Chaddock, the president of the Sheffield and District Society, and amongst various items on the agenda was a revision of the rules for the annual silver cup contest.

A business meeting for the Ladies' Guild also took place, organised by Mrs. Kelly, and afterwards a return was made to the tower.

Methods rung included London, Yorkshire, Cambridge, Superlative and Duffield with a well-struck touch of Bob Major entirely by the ladies. A very successful meeting from every point of view. J. E. T.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL

Tuesday, August 4th, was the day chosen by Sheffield Cathedral ringers for their outing, a start being made at 7.30 a.m. for the long run to Whitby by motor coach. After lunch the 199 steps to St. Mary's Church were climbed and an hour's ringing on the recast Taylor's ten was enjoyed by the ringers and watched by many holiday makers.

A delightful run followed to Scarborough, St. Mary's Church being reached at 3.45 p.m. A great improvement was noted in these returned and rehung bells and the redecorated belfry was much admired. The ringing occupied a pleasant hour. All were ready for the excellent tea at the Mayfield, Seamer.

It was a long trip to Howden through Yorkshire's broad acres looking particularly attractive with the shades of colour from green to gold at the beginning of harvest. The bells of the Minster here must be one of the finest octaves in the county and the hour went all too quickly. Sheffield was reached at 10.40 and the outing was voted as one of the best. Thanks were extended to brother ringers at the towers visited for their hospitality. H. C.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Ellesmere a Most Successful Meeting

The secretary of the Shropshire Association, when he appealed for support for the August meeting at Ellesmere, little expected the response which was shown.

It is estimated that more than 70 ringers attended, so much in excess of the numbers advised for tea that many sought cafes in the town.

The weather was brilliant on August 8th and ringers awaiting their turn in the tower admired the view of the mere from the churchyard.

The bells were cast by various members of the Rudhall family and have recently been rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. They now go 'like tops' but there was much speculation as to whether the sixth was sharper than the fifth was flat and some professed to other differences. However, once out of rounds only the most critical ear could detect anything amiss and the striking was very good in methods from Grandsire to London.

The Ringing Master, Mr. A. Pritchard, had a very busy time from early until late, arranging touches to suit all requirements. He had a short rest during the service, when the Vicar (the Rev. G. Stanley Lloyd) recounted the history of the church from Saxon times.

Local ringers, their wives and the Mothers' Union had provided a most substantial tea, to which those who had sent in names did full justice.

Mr. T. R. Butler conducted a short touch of Stedman Triples on handbells and, when late arrivals had made their way to the tower, tapped a course on the piano.

It is thought that this was the most successful meeting the Association has ever held, apart from annual meetings which occur in Shrewsbury.

Towers recorded as being represented are as follows, but it is unlikely that the list is complete as many ringers came for just one touch and then disappeared to admire the scenery for which the district is famous: St. Chad's and St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, St. Mary's Within and St. Mary's Without, Chester, Wellington, Claverley, Wolstanton, Berrington, Walsall, Hodnet, Market Drayton, Crewe, Wrexham, Newcastle-under-Lyme, St. Nicolas, Guildford, St. Luke's, Wolverhampton, and Lichfield Cathedral.

Mr. Dennis H. Millward's First 100
Peals

Mr. Dennis H. B. Millward has an interesting list for his first 100 peals. They have been rung in 32 towers for three Associations. The list includes eight 'firsts' for the Guild and nine 'first peals in the method.' His record is appended:—

Doubles.—Three methods 1.

Minor.—Plain Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 1. Cambridge 2, three methods 2, four methods 1, six methods 1, seven methods 2.

Triples.—Grandsire 11, Stedman 6, Erin 1, London Bob 1, Hereward Bob 1, Double Grandsire 1, Reverse Grandsire 1, College 1, Oxford Bob 2.

Major.—Plain Bob 13, Double Norwich 7, Little Bob 3, Kent Treble Bob 3, one each of the following: Spliced Plain/Little, Oxford Treble Bob, Little Oxford, St. Clement's, Marlborough, Winchester, Gainsborough Little Bob, Loughborough, Cheltenham, Colville, Painswick College, Chesterfield, Buckley Imperial, Daresbury Imperial, Grosvenor Imperial, Liscard Imperial, Westminster Imperial, St. Valentine Imperial, Malpas Imperial, Bebington Imperial, Cholmondeley.

Surprise Major.—Superlative 1, Lincolnshire 1, Cambridge 3.

Caters.—Stedman 2, Grandsire 3, Double Norwich 1.

Royal.—Plain Bob 3, Little Bob 1.

Cinques.—Grandsire 1.

RINGING WEEK-END IN S.W. WALES

On Friday, July 31st, a party of ringers and their wives, drawn from seven towers on both sides of the border, gathered in Haverfordwest for a ringing week-end in South-West Wales.

Proceedings opened the following day with a visit to St. David's Cathedral. The Dean, himself a ringer, met the party and extended a very warm welcome. The bells are a magnificent Mears octave of 1928, with a tenor of 24 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in D, and are hung in a campanile situated about 100 yards from the Cathedral proper. The ringing settled down to a fairly brisk pace and a fine peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, the first in the method on the bells and for the St. David's Guild, was brought round in 3 hours and 15 minutes.

After dinner, and after the blisters had been deflated and plasters applied, the band attempted a quarter peal of Stedman Triples at St. Mary's Church, Haverfordwest, but without success. The sallies here were so low that the bells could be hung with the ringers kneeling or sitting on chairs. The bells, an old six from the Bridgewater foundry (tenor 19 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in E flat), with two later trebles, are hung on ball bearings, but the 'go' leaves a lot to be desired. Courses of Cambridge Surprise and Double Norwich Major ended the tower-bell ringing for the day, while some spirited Grand-sire and Stedman Triples were rung on handbells later, at the hotel.

The following day, Sunday, the band rang a service touch of Stedman Triples and attended Matins at St. Mary's Church, whilst the rest of the day was spent bathing, boating, or resting at Broadhaven, a little coastal beauty spot near Haverfordwest.

August Monday found the party at Tenby, where Stedman Triples went west after over two hours' ringing, once again a case of 'easy rung, easy lost'! However, it was a very contented and happy band which finally set out homewards; in the case of the Bristol and Bath boys, a journey of 180 miles or more. The band is indebted to Miss J. S. Evans and Mr. D. J. King, both of Chepstow, for all the arrangements they made to make the visit so enjoyable and memorable.

5,280 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

By WILLIAM THORNLEY

23456 1 5 6

42635	—
26435	—
24635	S
46235	—
63245	— 3
34265	— 3
64235	S
43265	— 3
23645	— 2

Twice repeat. Reduced to 5,056 by calling one single at 6 in place of BSB when 3rd is fifths place bell, in any one part. Rung at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, on Wednesday, July 8th, 1953, conducted by the composer.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On Aug. 13th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260. Grandsire Triples: H. Cox 1, J. Tomsett 2, R. Charge 3, P. N. Devenish 4, S. Howard 5, J. Chapman 6, F. E. Corfield (cond.) 7, F. W. Wicks 8. Rung to celebrate the 72nd birthday of H. Cox and J. Chapman, also a birthday compliment to the conductor.

MR. WILFRED WILLIAMS' 500 PEALS

Mr. Wilfred Williams has travelled extensively for his 500 peals, which have been rung in 266 towers in 40 counties for 30 associations, guilds or societies. He has conducted 182 peals (177 on tower bells and five on handbells). His list is appended:—

TOWER BELLS

Doubles.—Grandsire 2.

Minor.—Plain Bob 8 (cond. 3), Kent Treble Bob 1 (1), two methods 1 (1), three methods 2 (2), four methods 1 (1), seven Surprise 1, Cambridge Surprise 2, London Surprise 1.

Triples.—Grandsire 14 (7), Stedman 24 (14), Erin 1.

Major.—Plain Bob 9 (1), Double Norwich Court Bob 21 (5), Forward 1, Erith Little Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 7 (2), Oxford Treble Bob 1, Spliced Kent and Oxford 1.

Surprise Major.—London 46 (16), Bristol 43 (14), Cambridge 58 (15), Superlative 21 (6), Yorkshire 21 (11), Pudsey 2 (1), New Cambridge 4, Lincolnshire 4 (2), Rutland 1, Wembley 1 (1), New Gloucester 1, Berkeley 1, Premier 1.

Spliced Surprise Major.—Two methods 1, four methods 10 (9), five methods 2 (1), six methods 2, eight methods 1.

Caters.—Grandsire 7, Stedman 18 (8).

Royal.—Plain Bob 2, Double Norwich 3, Kent Treble Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise 46 (20), Yorkshire Surprise 13 (3), London Surprise 1, Pudsey Surprise 1, Spliced Cambridge and Yorkshire 2 (2).

Cinquies.—Stedman 35 (12).

Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise 18 (14), Yorkshire Surprise 6 (4).

Total 473 (177).

HANDBELLS

Triples.—Grandsire (includes Holt's Original non-conducted) 4 (3), Stedman 1.

Caters.—Grandsire 2 (1), Stedman 4.

Cinquies.—Stedman (includes one non-conducted) 5.

Major.—Plain Bob 3 (1), Little Bob 1, Double Norwich 5, Oxford Treble Bob 1.

Royal.—Plain Bob 1.

Total 27 (5).

DORCHESTER RINGERS' VISIT TO LYNTON AND LYNMOUTH

Ringers of St. Peter's, Dorchester, Dorset, and their friends were delighted to discover during their annual outing on August Bank Holiday that Lynmouth is making a wonderful recovery from the disaster which befel it through floods last year.

The party, 38 in number, including the Rector (Canon A. Wilkinson Markby), after leaving Dorset, passed through Honiton and South Molton, where they stopped for lunch, before going on to Lynton via Blackmoor Gate and the lovely Valley of the Rocks. The afternoon was spent at Lynmouth, where everyone had an excellent tea at the Bath Hotel. The little seaside resort was packed with visitors, and while it was obvious the place had received a severe hammering, it was all so shipshape and clean that it was difficult to realise death had stalked it that unforgettable night.

Leaving by way of the famous Countisbury Hill, from which glorious views were had of the rugged coastline and Wales, a beautiful evening drive over the Devon moors brought the party to Minehead. Here the ringers had their only 'touches' of the day—an hour on the fine 10 of SS. Michael and Andrew's. To the incumbent and local band they extend their grateful thanks. Home was reached at midnight via Taunton and Crewkerne, and another 'annual' had been enjoyed by all in weather which could not have been better.

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.

DEATH

DUTTON.—On Aug. 11th, 1953, at the Manor Hospital, Walsall, Edith Hannah Dutton, aged 83 years, mother of Tommy, of St. Matthew's band, Walsall. May she rest in peace.—From her loving and devoted son, Tommy. 3033

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. Donald G. Clift after Sept. 4th is 89, Blenheim Road, Harrow, Middlesex. 3005

HANDBELLS WANTED

HANDBELLS.—Wanted to complete set. Sizes 6 in E, 7 in D, 12 in F.—N. G. Hollingworth, 146, Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey. 2999

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

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

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

MEETINGS

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Monthly meeting at Repton (8) on Aug. 22nd. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. 2994

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Ottershaw on Saturday, August 22nd. (Please note change of date and place of meeting.) Bells from 3 p.m. Tea at the Otter at 5 p.m. Very important business to discuss and all members are asked to attend.—W. Simmonds, Hon. Sec. 2967

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Little Munden on Saturday, Aug. 22nd. Bells from 3 p.m. Service and tea.—John Kemp, Dis. Sec. 2995

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Meeting Cookham, Saturday, Aug. 22nd, 4 p.m. Tea at Vicarage.—Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 3002

SURREY ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and **KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (Tonbridge District).—Joint meeting at Limsfield Chart, August 22nd. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Buses: 464 from Westerham, 2.20; 465 from Edenbridge, 3.21; 410 from Westerham (change at Limsfield). Names for tea to L. Tidy, Windyridge, The Chart, Limsfield.—C. Champion, R. Whitehead, Dis. Secs. 2968

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Owlesbury, August 22nd. Bells (6) 2. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Village Hall. Names to R. F. Brewer, Dean, Sparsholt, Winchester. 2960

SALISBURY GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—Meeting, Abbotsbury, Thursday, Aug. 27th. Bells 2.30. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Ringing resumed 7.30 until 9. Names by Aug. 24th to J. H. Hayne, West Street, Abbotsbury, Weymouth. 2986

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held at Croydon Parish Church, Saturday, Aug. 29th, at 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. F. E. Collins, 17 Hamilton Road, Thornton Heath, by the 25th.—A. B. Peck. 3004

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester and Crewkerne.—Combined meeting, Shepton Beauchamp, Saturday, Aug. 29th. Please notify early for tea to J. T. Locke, School Street, Drayton. 2997

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Branch.—Practice meeting, East Brent, Saturday, Aug. 29th. Bells (6) 5 p.m.—E. C. Wickham. 3015

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Biggleswade District) and the **HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION** (Northern District).—A joint meeting will be held at Biggleswade on Saturday, Aug. 29th. Bells (8) 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—L. H. Bywaters and E. C. Buck, District Secs. 2982

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Marbury, Aug. 29th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. T. P. Barlow, Marbury, near Whitchurch, Shropshire, by Aug. 26th.—W. Kerr, Hon. Sec. 3030

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Whitby on Saturday, Aug. 29th, at 3 p.m. Tea will be available for all who come, and the bells (10) available from 3-5 and 6-8 p.m.—F. Cox. 3023

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak and Chesterfield Districts.—Joint meeting at Ashover, Aug. 29th, 3 p.m. Own tea arrangements. All welcome.—H. E. Taylor, A. B. Cooper, Secs. 2994

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—Meeting, Brampford Speke, Saturday, Aug. 29th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Upton Pyne (6) available after tea. Names by Aug. 26th.—F. Wreford, 24, Normandy Road, Exeter. 2984

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Campsall (8) on Aug. 29th. Bells 3 p.m. No tea provided. 3007

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—South Shields, Saturday, Aug. 29th, 2.30. Names for tea to Mrs. Nancy Lea, 9, St. Vincent Street, South Shields, by Aug. 27th.—W. F. Sheraton. 3013

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Meeting, Hurworth, Saturday, Aug. 29th, 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify, by Thursday, Aug. 27th. Dennis R. Airey, 20, Westbrook Villas, Darlington. 3032

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Monthly meeting, Denby, Saturday, Aug. 29th. Cups of tea provided.—B. A. Sollis, Hon. Sec. 3025

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge and Hunts Districts.—Joint meeting at Bourn, Saturday, Aug. 29th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. L. Martin, H. S. Peacock, Dis. Secs. 3018

FOUR GUILDS FESTIVAL.—The annual gathering of the Ladies' Guild (Southern District), Guildford Guild (Farnham District), Winchester and Portsmouth Guild (Basingstoke District) and Oxford Guild (Sonning Deanery) will be held at Wokingham on Aug. 29th. Service in St. Paul's Church 4.30. Tea in Parish Room 5.15 (notify for tea by Aug. 24th). Ringing 2.30-3.30 at Finchampstead and Sandhurst; 3.30-4.30, St. Paul's; 6.30-9 at Wargrave, Twyford, Waltham St. Lawrence and St. Paul's.—B. C. Castle, The Briars, Westfield Road, Winkers, Wokingham. 2990

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ludlow and Church Stretton District.—Quarterly meeting, Cleobury Mortimer, Aug. 29th. Bells (6) 3 p.m.—G. Rendle, Hon. Sec. 3014

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Monthly meeting at Coalpit Heath, Saturday, Aug. 29th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15. Names for tea by Tuesday, Aug. 25th, to W. F. Scudamore, No. 6, Sandringham Avenue, Downend, Bristol. 3021

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Meeting at Beckenham, Aug. 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Victoria to Beckenham Junction or Charing Cross to Clock House, thence 227 bus.—A. Salter, Dis. Sec., 1, Roestock Gardens, Colney Heath, St. Albans. 2988

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, Aug. 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Business meeting 6. Tea 5 p.m. free. Names for tea by J. Leatherbarrow, 43, Wigshaw Lane, Culcheth, near Warrington, by Tuesday, Aug. 25th.—Joseph Thornley, Assistant Sec. 3008

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting, Collingham, Saturday, Aug. 29th. Bells 2.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Names to Miss M. Barker, Harewood Road, Collingham, by Wednesday, Aug. 26th. Members, please note this is last day for subscriptions to the H. Lofthouse Testamental Fund.—J. Slack, Hon. Sec., 47, Sunroyd Hill, Horbury, Wakefield. 3009

MARKSBURY, NEAR BATH.—Annual ringers' service, Saturday, Aug. 29th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea essential.—W. A. Prescott, Timsbury, near Bath. 2998

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Wells, Aug. 29th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 followed by business meeting.—C. Tovell, Hon. Sec., 18, New Road, Gaywood, King's Lynn. 3031

DEVON GUILD.—Aylesbeare Branch.—Meeting, Topsham, Sept. 5th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names by Sept. 2nd to B. Pidgeon, Bakery, East Budleigh. 3028

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Coseley, Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea by Sept. 1st to R. A. Peakman, Hon. Sec., 47, High Street, Kingswinford. 3010

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Crusader meeting.—Great Wakering, Sept. 5th (note change of venue). Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Early notice of names for tea to Mrs. C. Woodgate, 1, Burgess Cottages, Little Wakering, will be appreciated. 3011

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Great Gaddesden (6), Saturday, Sept. 5th, at 3 p.m. Names for tea by Sept. 2nd to Mrs. Robinson, 7, Gade Valley Cottages, Great Gaddesden, near Hemel Hempstead.—P. A. Martin. 3019

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—By-meeting at Brasted (6), Sept. 5th, at 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names for tea to Mr. F. Budgen, Darenton, Rectory Lane, Brasted, near Sevenoaks, by Sept. 2nd. 3035

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Monmouth Branch.—Meeting at Monmouth, Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea by Sept. 1st to Mr. L. Jones 75, Monnow Street, Monmouth.—J. S. Evans, Branch Sec. 3026

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Cotgrave (note change of venue), Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Moderate charge for those only who notify by Thursday, Sept. 3rd. Mr. A. E. Hoodless, Church Lane, Cotgrave, Notts. 3027

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Meeting at Ashbury, Sept. 5th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Names for tea essential, please, by Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, to M. J. Pryor, 59, Marlborough Gardens, Faringdon. 3022

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting at Emberton, Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells 2.30. Service 3.30 p.m. For tea please notify Mr. F. J. Mynard, near Tower, Emberton, Olney, Bucks, by Sept. 1st.—R. H. Howson. 3017

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—Meeting, Neath (St. Thomas'), Saturday, Sept. 5th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business to follow.—J. A. Hoare, 6, Gendros Crescent, Swansea. 3006

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Payhembury on Sept. 12th. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business after. Names for tea to the Rev. J. Charnley, Payhembury, Honiton, not later than Sept. 5th.—J. Arbury, Hon. Sec. 2989

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual dinner and half-yearly meeting, Saturday, Sept. 12th, at Liverpool. The dinner will be held at Reece's Parker Street Restaurant at 6 p.m. Tickets, adults 15s., juveniles (under 18 years) 10s., available from F. Dunkerley, Standard Mill, Rochdale, and branch secretaries. Tower available: St. Nicholas' 2 p.m. to 4.15 p.m. Service at St. Nicholas' 4.15 p.m. 3012

NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.—Annual meeting, Grantham, Saturday, Sept. 19th, at Spitalgate Police Headquarters. 3 p.m., followed by dinner at George Hotel 6.15 p.m., and social evening. Ringing from 10 a.m. Details later. Tickets for dinner 11s. 6d. each from secretary.—C. H. F. Knight, 51, Oadby Road, Wigston Magna, Leicester. 2985

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual dinner at the White Lion Hotel, Underbank, Stockport, Oct. 10th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (price 12s. 6d.) obtainable from C. K. Lewis, 6, Princes Road, Altrincham, before Oct. 3rd. Will applicants on behalf of parties please give the names of the members of their party. Ringing arrangements later. 3029

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary.—Annual dinner at the Guildhall, Worcester, on Saturday, Oct. 24th. Accommodation for 200. Tickets (7s. 6d. each) obtainable from branch secretaries or J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Sedgeberrow, Evesham. 3020

WHITBY, YORKS.—On Aug. 9th, 1.260 Stedman Triples: Miss M. Shearsmith (Pudsey) 1, H. Short 2, A. B. Sullivan (Pudsey) 3, R. V. Appleby (Newark-on-Trent) 4, D. Elwick (first in method) 5, J. R. Waller 6, S. R. Elwick (cond.) 7, H. Waters 8. First quarter 1 and 3. Ring for evensong held in St. Hilda's Abbey ruins.

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