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ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

THERE are many people in this country who would not be able to answer the question: What is Advent?

In fact, as likely as not, they would not be sure whether it was animal, vegetable or mineral. It is, of course, the Church's name for the season immediately preceding Christmas, roughly speaking four weeks. There are four Sundays in Advent, the first being the Sunday nearest to St. Andrew's Day, November 30th, and the last being the Sunday before Christmas. The Church exhorts us in Advent to prepare for Christmas in much the same way that Lent is a time of preparation for Easter. It is for this reason that in many churches we find there are no flowers during this season, and that the vestments are violet in colour.

What about Christmas, then? What is Christmas to a great majority of people? It is something like this. It is a popular festival which has suffered much from being secularised and commercialised. Weeks before Christmas the shops start decorating in a festive manner, and for children Father Christmas arrives at the big stores. We are warned that there are only so many shopping days to Christmas! We are exhorted to buy this, that and the other as Christmas gifts for our children, relations and friends! We buy Christmas cards and presents to send to our friends and relations, and then we worry in case we have forgotten someone to whom we ought to have sent and who may be hurt or offended. We hope that the recipients will like and enjoy our Christmas presents. The time shortens to a week, a few days, then Christmas Eve and that last minute rush; a hectic day with tempers often becoming rather frayed and short. In the evening our own decorations to put up, the Christmas tree to see to, friends dropping in for a chat and a drink or a party to go to. Then perhaps, to round it all off, to the Parish Church for the midnight service. A rush, but just in time. 'O come, all ye faithful. . . . A large congregation, a moving, simple and impressive service. Home again, a cup of tea or a drink and so to bed—thank goodness there's no need to get up early in the morning. Or if there is no midnight service, then to bed late. Awake early in the morning because of the children and a general rush to get to church. Christmas dinner and jollifications for the rest of the day and so another Christmas Day passes—it is over, a sigh of relief. That, roughly, is what Christmas is for so many.

What should Christmas be? Not such a thoughtless rush. It is, of necessity, a rush indeed for many, but need we forget what we are celebrating? If we are going to a midnight service, then a time of quiet thought beforehand is vital, so that we may put our minds on holy things. If we are going to church early on Christmas Day, then we must try to be there in good time. This great festival is the birthday of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Christmas indeed should be a time of rejoicing and of goodwill, but it is more than a pity to anticipate it to such a degree as is so generally done. If we start our festivities before Christmas Day, then, when the day comes, it all falls rather flat and the general feeling is one of disappointment, frustration and 'It's not like it used to be' frame of mind.

What has all this to do with ringers? Well, quite a lot. At Christmas, as at other times of rejoicing, most people expect and, indeed, would be most disappointed if there were no church bells ringing out their joyful message. Ringers have an obligation as well as a pleasure in this matter; an obligation to be certain that the ringing is the best of which they are capable and an example to set in remembering that they are ringing to call others to worship, and what greater joy than, having called those others to worship, they finish ringing and join in that act of worship themselves. Peace and goodwill are, or should be, the dominant thoughts and acts of Christmas time. What a golden opportunity for forgetting those little differences of opinion that may have occurred in the ringing chamber; what a chance to swallow our pride and return to the band.

On Christmas Day we commemorate the birth of Christ at Bethlehem; essentially a family event, and so it must be necessarily a family festival. We live in a world torn and wracked by the evil machinations of men. We may feel that there is little we can do which will affect the troubles of the world, but there may be much we can do to help to spread a feeling of peace and goodwill among our own families and friends. We may feel that there is little we can do to counteract the secularisation and commercialisation of Christmas; but who thought, after the Ascension of our Lord, that that little band of followers would ever convert the world? The very name Christians was given in derision to the followers of Christ. By our regularity at our bell-ringing and, even more so, by church attendance, we shall set an example which may well encourage all sorts of apparently unlikely people to stop and consider their own ways of life.

[Continued next page.]

Finally, may Christmas Day this year be kept, not only by large numbers of churchpeople worshipping together, but also be heralded by the joyful sound of bells ringing forth from towers in cities, towns, villages and hamlets throughout the land. Better by far to ring 'rounds' than not to ring at all because of the shortage of good change ringers. Better by far to ring only some of the bells, if a full band cannot be raised, than not to ring at all. By our very ringing at Christmas we shall show that not only do we rejoice at this great festival, but that we are determined to keep alive this great, ancient and essentially English art of church bell-ringing. M.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5016 GRANDSIRE CINQUES

Tenor 33 cwt. 21 lb.

CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. Treble	†BARNABAS G. KEY .. 7
*WILLIAM J. LEACH .. 2	FRANCIS BROTHERTON .. 8
ERNEST STITCH .. 3	GORDON HARRISON .. 9
HERBERT KNIGHT .. 4	†SAMUEL BIRCH .. 10
MAURICE G. TURNER .. 5	*HARRY GRIFFITHS .. 11
†W. GEORGE PAGE .. 6	HOWARD HOWELL .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.

* 50th peal together. † First peal of Grandsire Cinques.

A compliment to the ringer of the 4th upon attaining the age of 81 years.

CANTERBURY, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST.

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 30 cwt. in C.

MRS. T. H. FRANCIS .. Treble	*ARTHUR G. MASON .. 7
THOMAS H. FRANCIS .. 2	FRANK E. HAWTHORNE .. 8
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. 3	A. RONALD LING .. 9
MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS .. 4	ALFRED J. HOUSE .. 10
EDWARD J. BEER .. 5	FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. 11
GEORGE J. BUTCHER .. 6	HARRY PARKES .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

* 50th peal in the method. First peal of Stedman Cinques as conductor.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE BELL TOWER,

A PEAL OF 5037 GRANDSIRE CINQUES

Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

GEORGE E. LARGE .. Treble	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT .. 2	*THOMAS HEMMING .. 8
MRS. J. THOMAS .. 3	*NORMAN GOODMAN .. 9
*CLIFFORD SKIDMORE .. 4	CYRIL TANSSELL .. 10
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON .. 5	THOMAS W. LEWIS .. 11
GERALD C. HEMMING .. 6	REGINALD WOODYATT .. Tenor

Composed by MORRIS J. MORRIS. Conducted by CLIFFORD SKIDMORE.

* First peal of Grandsire Cinques. First peal on twelve bells as conductor.

Annual peal for the Association.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 24 cwt.

GEOFFREY PAUL .. Treble	WALTER TOMLINSON .. 7
CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. 2	HAROLD MARCON .. 8
JOHN FREEMAN .. 3	HERBERT LOWMAN .. 9
SYDNEY A. CHAMBERS .. 4	H. LESLIE PASK .. 10
RAYMOND F. SMITH .. 5	HAROLD WALKER .. 11
JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 6	JOHN WALDEN .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

Rung to mark the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the ring of 12 bells at the Cathedral, which took place on December 15th, 1928.

SOUTHWARK, S.E.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF 5115 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 48 cwt.

SELWYN H. DEARDEN .. Treble	CYRIL E. LEWINGTON .. 7
JOHN CHILCOTT .. 2	JOHN S. MASON .. 8
WILLIAM HIBBERT .. 3	JOHN HILL .. 9
JOHN PHILLIPS .. 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION .. 10
ALFRED B. PECK .. 5	MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT .. 11
BRIAN D. THRELFALL .. 6	WILFRED WILLIAMS .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CHILCOTT.

TEN BELL PEALS

DERBY.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Nov. 28, 1953, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5029 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in E.

*JOHN M. JELLEY .. Treble	SAMPSON WALKLATE .. 6
BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 2	*ERNEST J. JELLEY .. 7
WINIFRED M. BURTON .. 3	HAROLD TAYLOR .. 8
JOHN R. SMITH .. 4	PHILIP H. WHITAKER .. 9
ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 5	†KENNETH TUNNICLIFF .. Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal.

Rung for the Feast of St. Andrew, A. & M., patron saint of this church.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

LONDON COUNTY ASSN. & N. SOUTHWARK DIO. GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 ALBANIAN SURPRISE ROYAL

Composer's Circuits B.X. Tenor 16½ cwt. in E.

MRS. KATHLEEN F. J. PARR Treble	SQUIRE CROFT .. 6
MRS. OLIVE L. ROGERS .. 2	VICTOR GRIFFIN .. 7
JOHN R. MAYNE .. 3	FRANCIS D. BISHOP .. 8
WILFRID G. WILSON .. 4	THOMAS W. SHEPPARD .. 9
THOMAS E. DAVIES .. 5	HAROLD W. ROGERS .. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by HAROLD W. ROGERS.

First peal in the method by all, for the Association, and in the county of Middlesex.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, COUNTY DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 3 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 21 cwt. 11 lb. in E flat.

CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. Treble	†THOMAS M. COX .. 6
PAUL L. TAYLOR .. 2	DENIS A. BAYLES .. 7
*J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. 3	PETER W. B. SEMMENS .. 8
JOHN D. ROCK .. 4	WILFRID F. MORETON .. 9
†JOHN C. POLLARD .. 5	E. PETER ROCK .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal on ten bells. † 50th peal and first peal of Grandsire Caters. First peal on the bells.

Rung as a thanksgiving to Almighty God for the final restoration of the church and in commemoration of the Coronation of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II., in honour of which the bells were restored.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Thurs., Dec. 10, 1953, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5040 BELGRAVE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*MRS. H. J. POOLE .. Treble	†PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 6
HAROLD J. POOLE .. 2	†BRYAN S. COPE .. 7
ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 3	†JOHN A. ACRES .. 8
PETER J. STANFORTH .. 4	TERENCE A. THORNER .. 9
†S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 5	HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 400th peal. † First peal in the method. ‡ 50th peal this year.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Granta Variation.

Tenor 35 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

CLEMENT GLENN Treble	*ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 6
J. KENNETH WAGSTAFF .. 2	*PHILIP H. SPECK .. 7
*GEORGE H. CLIFT .. 3	*HAROLD TAYLOR .. 8
*FRANCIS R. LOWE .. 4	*DENIS R. CARLISLE .. 9
*†JACK BAILEY .. 5	*†ALFRED MOULD .. Tenor

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

* First peal of Granta. † 100th peal together.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5079 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

FRANK W. PERRENS .. Treble	PAUL K. WILLIAMSON .. 6
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 2	DAVID A. CARPENTER .. 7
LEONARD TREVOR .. 3	PETER BORDER .. 8
FRANK E. PERVIN .. 4	HUBERT E. ASHLEY .. 9
*PERCY STONE .. 5	*GEORGE GARDNER .. Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

* First peal on ten bells.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5057 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 24 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. in D.

*S. ARTHUR READ .. Treble	WILLIAM R. BAXTER .. 6
MRS. DORA EVANS .. 2	ERIC NAYLOR .. 7
ELIZABETH BROWN .. 3	GILBERT H. HARDING .. 8
JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. 4	ROGER O. FRY .. 9
WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT .. 5	DAVID J. KING .. Tenor

Composed by MORRIS J. MORRIS.

Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

* First peal on ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BURNHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb. in F sharp.

ALAN D. RIVERS .. Treble	MICHAEL HATCHETT .. 5
RONALD I. SHEPHERD .. 2	REGINALD W. REX .. 6
E. DENIS POOLE .. 3	GEORGE GILBERT .. 7
*AUDREY L. J. SMALLBONE .. 4	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

* First peal.

Rung in conjunction with St. Peter's Christmas Sale.

GLOUCESTER.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CRYPT,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation).

Tenor 14 cwt.

FREDERICK BLOWEN .. Treble	MICHAEL C. F. COLLETT .. 5
IVOR WHITING .. 2	WILLIAM J. DIXON .. 6
FREDERICK W. SODEN .. 3	LESLIE BARRY .. 7
BRIAN W. HALL .. 4	JOHN WHITING .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

Birthday compliment to ringer of the 3rd.

THAME, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt.

*ROBERT ARNOTT .. Treble	ALFRED R. T. GREENOUGH .. 5
*FREDERICK S. SMITH .. 2	HARRY C. JONES .. 6
HARRY W. BADGER .. 3	*BERNARD C. COLLINS .. 7
ERNEST G. GARRARD .. 4	ROBERT B. BLOND .. Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by ROBERT B. BLOND.

* First peal of Major.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

CEDRIC MURPHY .. Treble	BERYL PITTAWAY .. 5
NORMAN HAYES .. 2	BETTY M. FAITHFULL .. 6
MOLLY DENBY .. 3	REGINALD A. REED .. 7
CHARLES TAYLOR .. 4	*PETER SANDERS .. Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD.

Conducted by REGINALD A. REED.

* First peal. This is the first peal of Plain Bob Triples on the bells, and by all the band. 25th peal as conductor.

Especially arranged and rung for the Patronal Festival of St. Nicholas.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 6, 1953, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5120 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

JOHN D. ROCK .. Treble	THOMAS J. LOCK .. 5
*FRANK C. PRICE .. 2	*WILLIAM WENBAN .. 6
W. NORMAN PARK .. 3	RICHARD E. PRICE .. 7
ALICK CUTLER .. 4	RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

* First peal in the method.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

L. MICHAEL CALLOW .. Treble	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. 5
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 2	*GEORGE GARDNER .. 6
FRANK W. PERRENS .. 3	PAUL K. WILLIAMSON .. 7
JOHN W. T. TAYLOR .. 4	PETER BORDER .. Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

* First peal in the method.

Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Robin Guy, a member of the Allesley band, and Elizabeth Roe.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Six-part (No. 13).

Tenor 28 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb.

GEORGE L. ROOBOTTOM .. Treble	PERCIVAL W. GRICE .. 5
*DOROTHY T. GARDINER .. 2	†EDWARD J. WHITE .. 6
JOSEPH W. COTTON .. 3	BARNABAS G. KEY .. 7
HAROLD E. HARRISON .. 4	LEONARD CHAMBERLAIN .. Tenor

Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.

* 50th peal. † First peal of Oxford Bob 'inside.'

Rung as a compliment to Mr. W. G. Soar, of Ticknall, who was married on December 5th.



CHURCH & TURRET CLOCKS

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SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in F.

*WINIFRED M. BURTON .. Treble	†JOHN M. JELLEY 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE 2	ARTHUR E. BODYCOTE 6
GLENYS R. BODYCOTE 3	ERNEST J. JELLEY 7
†BRIAN G. WARWICK 4	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
* 150th peal. † 250th peal. † First peal in the method 'inside.'

An 85th birthday compliment to John E. Clarke; also rung on the 30th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Jelley, who were married at St. Thomas' Church on December 8th, 1923.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Dec. 9, 1953, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE 2	JOHN A. ACRES 6
WINIFRED M. BURTON 3	ERNEST J. JELLEY 7
*JOHN M. JELLEY 4	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by HAROLD J. POOLE. Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

WYE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 9, 1953, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. GREGORY AND MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 20 cwt. in D.
MARK W. MARSHALL .. Treble	WILLIAM C. MARSHALL .. 5
MAISIE VANTOM 2	WILFRED W. RING 6
JOHN R. COOPER 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. 7
ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 4	*WILLIAM CURTISS Tenor

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal.

MAULDEN, BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Dec. 10, 1953, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 HITCHIN SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

CHARLES HENRY HARDING Treble	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 5
*DEREK JONES 2	*LEWIS H. BYWATERS .. 6
*DENNIS KNOX 3	*BRYAN PATTISON 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. Tenor

Arranged by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method for the Association.

WASHINGBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 11, 1953, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb.

BETTY BROWN Treble	H. LESLIE PASK 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. 2	JOHN WALDEN 6
SYDNEY A. CHAMBERS .. 3	HAROLD MARCON 7
JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 4	JOHN FREEMAN Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. * Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.
Rung to mark the 25th anniversary of the first peal of London Surprise Major for the Guild, which was rung at this church on December 8th, 1928. The ringers of 2, 6 and 7 took part in the original peal.

CAERPHILLY, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation).	Tenor 13 cwt. in F.
*JENNIFER M. STEPHENS .. Treble	THOMAS YEOMANS 5
DILLYS I. HULBERT 2	*TREVOR T. LEWIS 6
†A. RYAN PRICE 3	WILLIAM DARE 7
PERCY JONES 4	JEAN POWELL Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM DARE.

* First peal. † 25th peal.

A birthday compliment to Mr. Percy Jones, leader at this tower; also an 88th birthday compliment to Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, Mon.

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, HANDBRIDGE,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.

J. BENJAMIN BUDD .. Treble	*WILLIAM A. FARMER .. 5
JOHN W. GRIFFITHS 2	†DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD 6
F. HECTOR BENNETT 3	R. GORDON CORBY 7
PERCY SWINDLEY 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

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

A birthday compliment to Mr. S. Jones, of Eccleston.

GUISELEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr.

*ERNEST H. SIMPSON .. Treble	GEOFFREY DIXON 5
†JEFFREY P. COOPER 2	ARTHUR C. WALSH 6
MARGARET S. RHODES .. 3	ALLAN WEAR 7
PERCY WHITAKER 4	WILLIAM DIXON Tenor

Composed by H. TUCKER. Conducted by WILLIAM DIXON.

* 150th peal for Association. † First peal. First peal as conductor.

Rung as a welcome to the new Rector, the Rev. John Francis Wrangham Hardy.

PENKRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb.

EDMUND MALIN .. Treble	CLIVE M. SMITH 5
JOAN BERESFORD 2	ROY K. MOWFORTH 6
J. DENNIS HOLDEN 3	GEORGE E. OLIVER 7
RICHARD J. WARRILOW .. 4	ROY BASTONE Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

JAMES W. FORDER .. Treble	FREDK. C. GUNTON 5
ARTHUR G. BASON 2	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 6
STANLEY W. COPPING .. 3	WILLIAM J. FLATT 7
CHARLES BAILEY 4	GEORGE W. PIPE Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

THATCHAM, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. 13 lb. in F.

REGINALD W. REX .. Treble	*FRANK LEWIS 5
GEOFFREY K. DODD 2	C.S.M. PHIL H. TOCOCK 6
ROBERT E. TURNER 3	HAROLD REED 7
*EDWARD D. COLLEY 4	GEORGE GILBERT Tenor

Composed by JOHN THORP. Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob.

WROTHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 20 cwt. 10 lb.

GEOFFREY W. ASHDOWN Treble	REGINALD L. SILLS .. 5
*GEORGE F. CANTRILL .. 2	*E. S. JOHN HATCHER .. 6
*JOHN L. MORRIS 3	*JOHN R. COOPER 7
LUTHER J. HONESS 4	*BENJAMIN F. BAKER .. Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER. Conducted by REGINALD L. SILLS.

* First peal in the method.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

NORTHBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Dec. 4, 1953, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,**A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR**

Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob and four extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

JOHN F. PENFOLD Treble	*FREDERICK W. LAWRENCE .. 4
JANET R. WELLS 2	†PETER J. RYE 5
FREDERICK A. RYE 3	GEORGE E. RUCK Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. RUCK.

*First peal in two Minor methods away from the treble. †First peal in two Minor methods. The fastest peal on the bells.

Rung as a farewell peal to the conductor, who is leaving the district to do his National Service in the R.A.F.; also to P. J. Rye, who is returning to Germany.

BISHAMPTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Single Oxford Bob and four extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

*MARTYN HAWKES Treble	HAROLD WILLET 4
ARTHUR JOPP 2	FREDERICK HAWKES 5
ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY .. 3	CHARLES J. CAMM Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES J. CAMM.

*First peal on six bells.

MARSTON BIGOTT, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

RONALD G. BECK Treble	*MISS E. OVEREND 4
*ERNEST BRAY 2	GEORGE W. MASSEY 5
DAVID HOARE 3	EDWARD J. CHIVERS .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID HOARE.

*First peal.

TATTERSHALL, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Eastern Branch.)

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Double Oxford Bob, St. Clement's Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, London Surprise and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb.

*ERIC FLINTHAM Treble	FRED BISHOP 4
RHODA BROWN 2	JOHN R. YOUNG 5
†ARTHUR YOUNG 3	†ALBERT E. FLATTERS .. Tenor

Conducted by RHODA BROWN.

*First peal in seven methods. †50th peal together. First peal as conductor in seven methods.

A farewell peal for the Rev. S. E. Allso, who is leaving for the parish of All Saints, East Finchley.

TRYSULL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Dec. 5, 1953, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 11 cwt. 17 lb.

ALAN ELSMORE Treble	*DEREK K. KNOWLES .. 4
*ERIC E. SPEAKE 2	†KENNETH W. KNOWLES .. 5
*DEREK J. TRANTER 3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

*First peal of Surprise Minor. †First peal of Surprise.

MONKS-ELEIGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sun., Dec. 6, 1953, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's Kent Treble Bob and three 720's Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

DAVID BRAND Treble	JOHN S. WYBREW 4
ALAN G. FEVER 2	KENNETH G. BROWN .. 5
ROBERT E. LESTER 3	RONALD W. STEWARD .. Tenor

Conducted by KENNETH G. BROWN.



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BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



PETERCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., Dec. 6, 1953, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Tenor 10 cwt.

*CLIVE PROSSER Treble	LESLIE H. COLCOMBE .. 4
THOMAS J. GUNDY 2	SYDNEY BOWYER 5
REGINALD G. POWELL 3	*MAURICE WALTERS .. Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD G. POWELL.

* First peal.

WINTERTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, London and Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Double and Single Oxford.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

BRIAN CUTHBERT Treble	C. AUBREY HARRISON .. 4
RONALD CHAFER 2	HARRY HALL 5
JACK BRAY 3	GEORGE W. MOODY .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

PACKWOOD, WARWICKSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Tues., Dec. 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (10 callings). Tenor 7½ cwt.

A. CHARLES MORRIS .. Treble	*THOMAS GWILT 4
*RICHARD G. MORRIS .. 2	ROBERT E. TALLIS .. 5
ERIC E. WIMLETT 3	REUBEN HOUGHTON .. Tenor

Conducted by A. CHARLES MORRIS.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles. First peal as conductor.

ALDERTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 9, 1953, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 14 extents each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb.

SIDNEY HALL Treble	GEORGE WEBB 3
WILLIAM A. YATES 2	*ALBERT H. HINTON .. 4

GEORGE ATKINS Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE ATKINS.

* First peal of Doubles in three methods. First peal as conductor.
Rung for the homecoming of Albert H. Hinton from the Forces.

KINGSWOOD, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Dec. 9, 1953, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise, one 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

GEORGE OLIVER Treble	EDWARD G. L. COWARD .. 4
COLIN J. CHAMPION 2	A. PATRICK CANNON .. 5
ROLAND W. MORANT 3	ALBERT HARMAN Tenor

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

Arranged and rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of P.O. Martin Jackson, R.A.F., a member of the local band, who was killed whilst flying on November 19th.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Dec. 10, 1953, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob, and four 720's of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 6 cwt. in B.

A. PATRICK CANNON .. Treble	ROLAND W. MORANT .. 4
*MARGARET E. BROWN .. 2	GEORGE OLIVER 5
COLIN J. CHAMPION 3	EDWARD G. L. COWARD .. Tenor

Conducted by COLIN J. CHAMPION.

* First peal 'inside.'

Rung as the quarterly peal for the Southern District of the above Association.

EAST FARLEIGH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being six extents each of April Day and All Saints, eight extents of Bob Doubles and ten extents and six 240's of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 8 cwt.

L. MAYNARD Treble	†R. HARRIS 4
A. E. WEBB 2	S. A. HAYZELDEN .. 5
*W. HARRIS 3	*S. H. HAYZELDEN .. Tenor

Conducted by S. A. HAYZELDEN.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal in four methods by local band.

Rung to celebrate the birth of Roy Hayzelden, son of conductor, on November 21st.

TICKNALL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being four extents each of St. Simon's Bob, St. Martin's, St. Nicholas', Winchendon Place Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob, Southrepps, Grandsire, three of April Day, and 11 of Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

MRS. T. J. MARRIOTT .. Treble	MRS. S. H. JONES 4
AUDREY S. NOBLE 2	PETER MARRIOTT 5
T. J. MARRIOTT 3	RHODA HEMMINGS .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER MARRIOTT.

First peal in nine methods by all the band. First peal as conductor.
Rung for the wedding of Walter G. Soar (tower captain) and Winifred Hodgkinson.

BUNWELL, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Dec. 13, 1953, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Cambridge and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

KENNETH W. MUTTOCK .. Treble	C. FRANK J. ARNOLD .. 4
C. FRANK W. PHILLIPPO .. 2	T. CHARLES BROWNE .. 5
W. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 3	GEORGE W. PIPE Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

50th peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS

OXFORD.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Thurs., Dec. 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 6 Minutes,
IN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 11 in G.

*IAN G. PIDOUX 1—2	ROBIN G. TURNER .. 3—4
DEREK G. GOODMAN .. 5—6	

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

* First peal.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 8, 1953, in 1 Hour and 38 Minutes,
AT 53, LEYS ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Reverse and Double Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor size 8 in C.

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

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

* First peal in more than one method. † First handbell peal in more than one method. The first handbell peal in more than one method for the Guild.

Rung for the wedding of Miss Elizabeth Roe and Mr. Robin Guy.

HORSHAM ST. FAITH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Dec. 9, 1953, in 2 Hours and 24 Minutes,
AT 26, BRABAZON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 1—2	BERT GOGLE 5—6
NOLAN GOLDEN 3—4	ARTHUR G. BASON .. 7—8

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Bob Triples: S. Bonnett 1, R. Castledine (first 'inside') 2, Miss P. Hutton 3, D. Sutcliffe 4, C. Harwood 5, J. Dear 6, E. Buck (cond.) 7, L. Hughes 8.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On Nov. 29th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: H. Wingrove (cond.) 1, Dorothy Fletcher 2, Imogen Darell-Waters (first quarter of Major) 3, J. Harrison 4, D. Lamb 5, R. Buckland 6, W. Edwards 7, A. Bridges 8. Also on Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Wingrove (cond.) 1, Dorothy Fletcher 2, Imogen Darell-Waters (first quarter of Triples) 3, J. Harrison 4, R. Buckland 5, W. Edwards 6, A. Bridges 7, S. Hatfield 8. Rung for the Confirmation service.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Rowley (cond.) 1, Mrs. J. Cleaver 2, Mrs. C. W. Woolley 3, T. Clark 4, P. Parslow 5, W. Wenban 6, J. Rootes 7, J. Cleaver 8. Rung for Evensong.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,264 Bob Major: Miss E. Pearson 1, W. Wall, sen., 2, W. Wall, jun., 3, Miss B. Fairer 4, V. Forshaw 5, R. Stuart 6, N. M. Newby (cond.) 7, T. Metcalfe 8. Rung for Confirmation services.

EAST ILSLEY, BERKS.—On Dec. 6th, 480 Grandsire Doubles: J. Roussell 1, Kathleen Hibbert 2, Patricia Hibbert 3 (all aged 11 years), C. J. Hibbert 4, W. Hibbert 5, R. Wells 6; and 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Roussell 1, June East 2, Eileen Wilson 3, E. Sneller 4, Joan White 5, C. J. Hibbert 6, W. Hibbert (cond.) 7, R. Wells 8.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.—On Dec. 6th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: M. Day (first quarter) 1, B. Elvin 2, Miss S. Barker 3, Miss E. Bracey 4, H. Tooke 5, R. Loft 6, C. Moore 7, W. Clover (cond.) 8.

KEMPSTON, BEDS.—On Dec. 7th, 1,256 Little Bob Major: Miss P. Gray 1, R. Freeman 2, E. Gilbert 3, P. Inskip 4, W. Izzard 5, H. Gilbert 6, L. Turner 7, M. Stephens (cond.) 8. First quarter in the method by all the band and on the bells. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mr. F. G. Bonfield, organist at the church for 52 years.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.—On Nov. 24th, 1,953 Stedman Caters (a date touch): T. Grice 1, L. Mannering 2, F. Hogan 3, F. Macey 4, G. Cantrill 5, L. Head 6, F. Lecson 7, R. Rich 8, B. Baker 9, F. Thwaites 10.

QUARTER PEALS

MARDEN, KENT.—On Nov. 25th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: T. E. Sone 1, Jill Haffenden (first in method 'inside') 2, P. Carter 3, Betty M. Vidler 4, R. E. Lambert 5, R. T. Lambert 6, B. F. Baker 7, T. Cullingworth (cond.) 8.

NORTHWRAM, HALIFAX, YORKS.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Hancock 1, W. G. Turner 2, J. Greenwood 3, F. Jagger 4, C. F. Sutcliffe 5, G. Turner 6, J. Pearson (cond.) 7, L. Healy 8. A farewell to the Rev. John F. Walker prior to being inducted Vicar of Gawthorpe.

NORTON, HERTS.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: Juliet Merrill (16) 1, Ivy Werrett (12, first 'inside') 2, Pamela Willes (16) 3, R. M. Dixon (14) 4, Angela Willes (16) 5, J. F. Collings (16) 6, M. A. Collings (17, cond.) 7, Jean Sanderson (16) cover-bell. Average age of band 15 years 9 months. Believed to be the first quarter in Hertfordshire by local Sunday service band under 17 years of age. Rung for Advent Sunday and Confirmation service at St. Thomas' Church.

PINNER, MIDDLEX.—On Nov. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Gorrings 1, W. N. Genna (cond.) 2, Miss S. Clayton (first of Triples) 3, D. Burton 4, H. Punt 5, R. W. Wilkinson 6, E. W. Thurlow 7, H. Stratford 8. A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. G. Pidwell on their golden wedding anniversary, to Mr. and Mrs. H. Stratford on their silver wedding anniversary, and to Mr. and Mrs. H. Punt on the birth of a son.

POPLAR, E.—At All Saints' Church on Advent Sunday, 1,257 Stedman Caters: J. A. Hales 1, T. H. Taffender (cond.) 2, Mrs. S. Bullock 3, C. R. Smith 4, A. C. Chaplin 5, G. Bryant 6, C. W. Ottley 7, L. W. Bullock 8, J. Bullock 9, F. W. Blewer 10. Rung for Evensong. First quarter peal on the bells since the rededication (after extensive bomb damage) by the Lord Bishop of London on October 23rd, 1953. A quarter peal came to grief on that night owing to the tenor clapper breaking.

ST. AUSTELL, CORNWALL.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. A. Wratten 1, H. Harper 2, D. Burnett 3, Patricia D. Prowse 4, C. W. Jose 5, A. H. Eplett 6, A. Carveth (cond.) 7, C. K. Brewer 8.

WANDSWORTH, S.W.—On Dec. 6th, at Holy Trinity Church, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: H. M. Page 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, H. Belcher 3, H. Ellis 4, W. Rawlings 5, R. Charge 6, R. Sanders 7, J. Phillips (cond.) 8. Rung for evening service, also as a birthday compliment to Mrs. L. H. Ford, wife of the tower warden and a great friend of the ringers. Mr. and Mrs. Ford most kindly entertained the ringers and a few of their friends after divine service.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Dec. 8th, 1,280 Wembley Surprise Major: A. Dix 1, J. Schofield 2, R. Rowley 3, S. Hoare 4, D. Adkins 5, W. Wenban 6, G. Seaman 7, J. Mayne (cond.) 8. First in method for all except 4 and 8.

WENHASTON, SUFFOLK.—On Nov. 23rd, 1,440 Treble Bob Minor (720 each of Oxford and Kent): J. Thurlow 1, Miss M. Thompson 2, R. S. Payne 3, R. J. Darch 4, C. J. Gibson 5, J. W. Blythe (cond.) 6. Also by the same company, 1,260 Minor (720 St. Clements and 540 Plain Bob), conducted by J. W. Blythe. First 720 St. Clement's by all except the conductor.

WETHERDEN, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 13th, 1,320 Plain Bob Minor: K. G. Brown (cond.) 1, R. E. Lester 2, A. G. Fevry 3, G. E. Catton 4, J. Wybrew 5, D. Brand 6.

WIMBLEDON, SURREY.—On Dec. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. P. Devenish (first of Triples) 1, J. Tomsett 2, J. Chapman 3, H. Cox 4, F. E. Hawthorne 5, P. Devenish 6, F. E. Corfield (cond.) 7, F. W. Wicks 8. Rung for Confirmation service.

WITHAM, ESSEX.—On Dec. 5th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: W. S. Butler 1, Miss W. Mellin 2, Miss M. Edwards 3, W. H. P. Mellin 4, J. Warner 5, D. Portway 6, C. Burton 7, E. W. Bright (cond.) 8. First in the method for 2 and 3. Also 1,260 Minor (720 Kent Treble Bob and 540 Plain Bob): Miss W. Mellin 1, W. H. P. Mellin 2, B. Rice 3, J. Warner 4, E. W. Bright 5, T. Earle (cond.) 6. Rung on the eve of the festival of St. Nicolas, before and after evening service.

WOOLWICH, S.E.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss C. Wakefield (first of Minor) 1, A. W. Beard 2, A. Grove, sen., 3, T. Culver 4, D. W. Beard (cond.) 5, B. W. Aldridge 6. Rung for morning service and good wishes to A. Grove, jun., on his departure for National Service; also a birthday compliment to J. Crickmore, now in Switzerland. Both are members of the local band.

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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SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

The prompt payment of your postal sub-
scription greatly facilitates the clerical work of
'The Ringing World' staff. Remittances should
be sent without delay to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Grey-
stones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall.

Forty years ago, on Dec.
19th, 1913, Mr. Fredk. J.
Bailey and his father (now
82) rang together in the son's first peal at
Whitchurch, Glamorgan. They still ring to-
gether regularly for Sunday services at the same
tower.

Congratulations to Mrs. H. J. Poole, of
Leicester, who rang her 400th peal on Decem-
ber 10th.

Service ringers at Hughenden rang a non-
conducted quarter-peal of Grandsire on Dec.
13th. This was the first time a silent quarter
peal has been attempted at this church.

The Editor acknowledges with sincere grati-
tude a handsome calendar from his ringing
friends at Horbury, Yorkshire, with a photo-
graph of Whitby Harbour.

Mr. Frank Absalom, Ringing Master of the
South Oxon Branch of the Oxford Diocesan
Guild, is in hospital. The band which rang
in the peal at Thame on December 5th wish
him a speedy recovery. This is the second peal
at Thame this year that Mr. Absalom has had
to forgo through illness.

May we remind our peal ringing readers that
this is the last issue in 1953. The Editor would
like to receive personal records of those who
rang 40 or more peals during 1953. Please
give the following details: Name, town, totals
of peals on tower bells and peals on handbells,
and the respective number of peals conducted.

The work of recasting the present ring of
eight bells and providing a new steel frame at
St. John's Church, Farnworth, near Bolton,
Lancs, has been given to the Loughborough
foundry. The contract for the new clock
movement and repairs to a ringing machine
has been granted to William Potts, of Leeds.
Work is to commence early in the New Year.

BELFRY GOSSIP

December 5th was an im-
portant day in ringing his-
tory in the North of Eng-
land when the first peal on the bells of Stock-
ton-on-Tees Parish Church was rung. The
ringers would like to record their appreciation
of the act of the Vicar of Stockton in enter-
taining them to dinner after the peal. After-
wards one of the band travelled 140 miles home
in his 1926 Bentley—complete with deerstalker
hat. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle would certainly
have found fresh inspiration had he been pre-
sent. 'Elementary, my dear Watson,' remarked
the conductor.

Meeting short for practice at Cannock on
December 10th, it was decided to ring a quarter
peal of Doubles. By coincidence it was found
that every ringer's surname started with 'B.'

St. Mary's Cathedral band, Sydney, wish to
extend Christmas greetings to all ringers at
home, and especially to all old friends of
Australian ringing.

The peal of 5,000 Stedman Caters by W. T.
Elson, which was published in our issue of
December 11th, was first rung on June 27th at
All Saints' Church, Isleworth, under the aus-
pices of the London County Association. The
peal was conducted by Harold W. Rogers.

Writing from Sydney, N.S.W., Miss Joan
Hills informs us that she and Miss Margaret
Winter are coming home next year. They
wonder whether there are any more young
ringers who have an ambition to ring in
'foreign parts,' and would like to come out
and join forces with a really grand crowd of
lads. They can both, from personal experience,
assure any would-be travellers of the welcome
which awaits them in any of the Australian
towers.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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Etc.

'TWENTY QUESTIONS'

Do You Know Your Ringing History?

Those of you who find 'Kewsett' rather too difficult after Christmas dinner may like to try something easier. At least, some people may find them easier; one ringer on whom I tried them confessed that he could answer one only, and that was because he had verified the answer for me. But I feel that half marks is the lowest at which anyone should feel even moderately satisfied! Here, then, are the questions:

E. A. B.

QUESTIONS

SECTION I.—RINGERS.

1. What ringers have (a) rung, (b) conducted 1,000 or more peals?
2. Who was the first to ring 100 peals, and when was this accomplished?
3. Who 'had taken much delight in ringing, but my conscience beginning to be tender, I thought such practice was but vain, and therefore forced myself to leave it. . . .?'
4. What four brothers rang handbells peals of:
 - (a) Superlative.
 - (b) London Surprise Major?
5. Who first rang over 100 peals in a year, and when?

SECTION II.—COMPOSERS AND COMPOSITIONS.

6. When and by whom was the liability to internal falseness of Treble Bob methods discovered?
7.
 - (a) By whom was the first peal of Superlative with reversed course-ends obtained?
 - (b) When and where was it first rung?
8. Who (in modern spelling) found Caters and Cinques 'in such a rude and chaos-like state, as may be easier conceived than described, but . . . threw them into the harmonious titmums, where they still continue, and most likely ever will remain'?

9. What composer was described as 'that arch-pirate' (J. A. Trollope) and 'unfortunate in the similarity of all his compositions in Grandire Triples to those of well-known composers' (J. W. Snowdon)?

10. By whom were the longest peals of Kent or Oxford Treble Bob composed (a) with the tenors together, (b) of any kind (excluding Spliced), and what are their lengths?

SECTION III.—PEALS AND PEAL ATTEMPTS.

11. What have been the longest (a) successful, (b) unsuccessful single-handed attempts for a peal?
12. What is the longest false peal to have been rung?
13. The heaviest tenor rung single-handed to peals of Maximus is at St. Paul's Cathedral. By whom has this been performed and what were the methods?
14. What was the first handbell peal (with the bells 'retained in hand')?
15. What were the first
 - (a) tower-bell
 - (b) handbell
 peals rung out of the British Isles?
16. What was the first Surprise peal on handbells and who was the conductor?
17. Where and when was the first known muffled peal?
18. When and by whom was the first 'name' peal?
19. What and when was the first peal by clergymen?
20. When were the first peals of:
 - (a) Surprise Royal.
 - (b) Surprise Maximus, and what were the methods?

The Editor offers prizes of book tokens for the most complete set of answers received by January 11th. Please address your envelope: 'Twenty Questions,' 'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Onslow Street, Guildford.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

Mitcham's Restored Ring

The restored ring of eight bells (tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.) was open after a period of 10 years to members of the North-Western District of the Surrey Association on November 28th. The meeting was extremely popular, as 19 towers in the district were represented. Ringing was under the direction of the Master (Mr. F. E. Collins).

The Vicar (the Rev. J. Thorold) conducted the service, and gave an address. This was followed by tea and a business meeting in the Fortescue Schools. The meal was excellently prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Howard.

The following nominations for district officers were received: Master, F. E. Collins; hon. secretary, W. Parrott; hon. treasurer, H. Pitstow; hon. auditor, Mr. Layton; committee, R. Lathbury. A. J. Adams, E. J. Lindley, C. Parks, G. Peters.

A collection for the bell fund amounted to 28s. 6d. Mr. Collins closed the meeting with a vote of thanks to all who had contributed to its success. Further ringing was held at Christ Church.

A LINCOLN ANNIVERSARY

The peal of Stedman Cinques at Lincoln Cathedral on December 12th marked the 25th anniversary of the dedication and opening of the ring of twelve bells which took place on December 15th, 1928. The band was made up of present and past members of the Lincoln Cathedral Company of Ringers.

The band in this peal and also that at Washborough on Dec. 1st wish to associate with them the name of Mr. J. A. Freeman, Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, who arranged both peals and, prior to his going into hospital, had intended to take part in them.

Mr. Freeman conducted the first peal of London Surprise by the Lincoln Guild, and has been Master of the Lincoln Cathedral Company for 24 of the 25 years during which the twelve bells have been installed.

A THOUGHT FOR 1954

The best support for 'The Ringing World' is by becoming a postal subscriber. Enrol to-day by sending a remittance to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall.

Rates: One year £1 2s. 6d.; six months 11s. 8d.; three months 6s.

DEDICATION

FRESHWATER, ISLE OF WIGHT

The bells rang out joyously from the belfry of All Saints' Church, Freshwater, Isle of Wight, when a service of thanksgiving for their restoration was held on December 5th.

The address was given by the Archdeacon of the Island (the Ven. A. Cory), the lesson was read by the Ringing Master (Mr. W. Upton), and Mr. Ives was at the organ. The Canon described bell ringing as an English art, and urged its true connection with worship.

The service was followed by tea in the Red Lion Inn, which was attended by the vice-president of the Isle of Wight Bell Ringers' Guild (Dr. Williamson). Mr. P. Cannon represented Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, who carried out the work of restoring the bells. There were 28 bellringers present, representing Ryde, Newport, Carisbrooke, Godshill, Arreton and Dorking.

The ringing was continued in the evening, a feature being a quarter peal in honour of the Rector (the Rev. R. P. Dodd, M.C., R.D.) being appointed an Honorary Canon of Portsmouth Cathedral. The programme consisted of touches, including Double Court, Stedman Bob Minor, All Saints Doubles, Grandire Doubles and Cambridge, rung by the visitors and local ringers.

A quarter peal of 1,260 Grandire Doubles was rung by the following: F. A. Green 1, C. Dennis (conductor) 2, H. Long (first quarter peal) 3, L. Bailey 4, J. Check 5, C. A. Saunders 6. All partaking in ringing expressed appreciation of the ease of ringing and the fine tone of the bells.

SOLIHULL PARISH CHURCH

Spire Restoration Completed

Repairs to the spire of the Parish Church of St. Alphege, Solihull, are now completed. A year or two ago the stone work was found to be badly cracked, and although it was not considered necessary to forbid the ringing of the bells, the length of time for which they could be rung was somewhat limited. Closer examination of the spire revealed that the decay was greater than had been supposed, and the resultant work entailed taking down and rebuilding some 30 feet of spire and the rebuilding of the four pinnacles. In the process of the work the weather vane was repaired and regilded. It is interesting to note that the last spire work was carried out in the 1911 Coronation period, the photographs of which show the tower at that time clothed in scaffolding.

On December 12th a Service of Thanksgiving for the completion of the present restoration was attended by a very large congregation, which included the Chairman of the Urban District Council, the Education Officer, and the civic rulers of the town. The sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Birmingham, the Right Reverend J. L. Wilson, who was thus visiting Solihull for the first time.

After the service a band chosen from St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham rang an excellent peal of Stedman Caters, conducted by Albert Walker, who was celebrating on this day the 55th anniversary of his wedding. The peal was arranged and rung at the special request of the Rector and churchwardens as a part of the thanksgiving for the successful conclusion of the work on the church. The Rector, the Rev. H. Hartley, visited the belfry after the peal to thank the band and to congratulate them on the excellence of the striking. E. C. S.

OBITUARY

MR. ALFRED ROBERTS

We regret to have to record the passing on Dec. 9th, after a long and painful illness, of Mr. Alfred Roberts, a member of the St. Paul's, Stalybridge, Cheshire, band. He had served his church faithfully as a ringer for 53 years, and his place will be hard to fill. Up to February this year he was rarely absent from service ringing and practice, and was a regular attendee at the meetings of the Stockport, Bowdon and Mottram Branch of the Chester Guild, and his pleasant and unassuming personality will be sadly missed.

He was carried to his last rest on December 12th by members of the local band, when the service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Basil Hamer). After the committal a course of the method he loved so well, Grandsire Triples, was rung 'in hand' by Tom Wilde, Mrs. C. K. Lewis, C. Kenneth Lewis and A. R. Elkins.

Mr. Roberts' peal total was small compared with present day standards, but it was spread out over 42 years. His first peal was rung in January, 1911, at Holy Trinity Church, Stalybridge, conducted by Ben Thorpe, and Mr. T. Wilde took part in it. His last peal was rung to celebrate the completion of 50 years' service ringing at St. Paul's by himself and his friend, Mr. Charles Wood, and also as a farewell to Canon B. B. Slater, who retired after 25 years' service as Vicar. It is worth recording that his tower has always been a good supporter of the Chester Guild, and has had a good supply of ringers. We shall never know how much this was due to Alf. Roberts, who, in his own quiet way, went about securing the future ringing of his tower. C. K. L.

NORTH STONEHAM'S
PATRONAL FESTIVAL

The ringers of St. Nicholas', North Stoneham, Hants, took a prominent part in the patronal festival. On December 5th a peal of Bob Triples was rung. It had been hoped that this would be rung by the local band, but at the last minute there was an absentee, and Beryl Pittaway, who is only 14, stood in and rang her first peal of Bob Triples.

The ringers' supper and annual meeting followed, attended by 17 persons, including the Rector (the Rev. F. W. Shail), the curate and a churchwarden. Four members of the band were unable to be present. A pleasant evening was spent.

Evensong on December 6th was attended by the Mayor and Aldermen of Eastleigh, in which borough St. Nicholas' Church stands. During his sermon the Rector gave a comprehensive survey of the history of the church, and announced the opening of a fund to raise £200 to repair the one-handed clock in the church, which is thought to be unique in the Diocese.

The festival social on December 11th was run by three ringers, and the proceeds, amounting to about £3 5s., are to go to the Bell Restoration Fund. All the social songs were sung by Anita Norris, another ringer.

The final and, perhaps, crowning event in the festival week was a play, called 'The First Santa Claus,' which was performed by children of the Sunday School, with the curate, Rev. S. C. Wincott, as Bishop Nicholas of Myra (and Santa Claus), and produced by Mrs. A. M. Reed, another ringer. This took place after Evensong on Sunday, December 13th, before a packed church.

CHURCH BELLS — AS HEARD BY THE POETS

BY J. M. STEPHENS

Article upon article has been written on the music of the bells, but how often do we stop to consider the poetry of the bells? Just as the lover of bells obtains great enjoyment on hearing a well-struck touch or peal, so can he gain satisfaction from reading good poetry. Bell poetry falls into three main categories. There is first the trivial rhyming couplet that so often adorns a belfry wall; secondly, the somewhat amateurish effort of the local poet who does, however, know his subject; and thirdly, the highly inspired work of recognised poets, and it is this class that forms the basis of this article. The novice bellringer is told that he will never finish learning the Art, and this statement might easily be extended to the searcher for poetry connected with the Exercise. The serious collector will continually meet with new gems, and so for this reason the extracts that follow are in no way to be taken as exhaustive.

Bells have manifold uses, and we find that the bells sound different according to the occasion. Thus Milton, in 'L'Allegro,' writes:

'When the merry bells ring round.'

Macaulay, in 'The Armada':

'Right sharp and quick the bells all night rang out from Bristol towers,' while Poe, in his poem 'The Bells,' compares in onomatopoeic fashion the sound of wedding bells, alarum bells and funeral bells.

Frequently our interest is heightened by the poet's mention of a specific church in city, town or village, and we are enabled to compare our present-day opinion of a particular ring with that of the poet. Oxford is perhaps better favoured in this respect than any other place, but this is hardly surprising in view of its multitudinous spires and pinnacles. Richard, Bishop Corbet, in the early part of the seventeenth century, tells us of the recasting of Great Tom of Christ Church in the words:

'... for to-day

Is young Tom's resurrection from the clay.'

In the same poem we have passing references to other great bells,

'... the base vast thundering Clock of Westminster,

Grave Tom of Lincoln and huge Excester.'

Another poet, James Hurdis (1763-1801), in 'The Curate,' reminiscences on his undergraduate days, and he relates how, standing on the banks of the Isis, he has heard

'... the merry Christ Church bells rejoice.'

We read, too, of

'Distinguished Magdalen ... to hear thy silvery Wolsey tones so sweet,' and 'Wykeham's peal along the meadow ran.'

The nineteenth century gives us

'Towering city and branching between towers; Cuckoo-echoing, bell-swarmed, lark-charmed

written by G. M. Hopkins, and Lionel Johnson's 'Oxford,' which recalls

'... the chime of full, sad bells.'

This affinity for Oxford does not remain with the lesser poets. William Cowper, writing of the Oxford of 1789, gives us the gem

'Nor less thy varying bells, which hardly sound
In pensive chime, or ring in lively round,
Or toll in the slow Curfew's solemn roar.'

Cowper does not confine his remarks to Oxford bells, however. In his poem 'The Task' he gives the reader a picture of the River Ouse at Olney. Here the river winds its way through the luscious water-meadows, past the elms, and by the Church with its distinctive steps. The poet phrases it thus:

'... square tow'r,

Tall spire, from which the sound of cheerful bells

Just undulates upon the listening ear.'

Travelling now to the uplands of south-east Cambridgeshire we find the small village of Balsham is honoured with a complete poem of twelve lines in praise of its bells.

'Sweet waft their rounds those tuneful brothers five.'

writes Kenrick Prescott in 1770, and continues 'At eve the swains stir up the pleasing sounds.'

Another complete bell poem is 'Bredon Hill,' from 'A Shropshire Lad,' by A. E. Housman.

'In summer-time on Bredon

The bells they sound so clear ...'

From this poem we see that Housman was much attracted by the sound of church bells, and further reading shows us that he could differentiate between good and bad striking: 'When the bells juggle in the tower' (Additional Poems IX.) and 'The bells rang, ringing no tune' (New Year's Eve).

Of the contemporary poets we must look to that king of 'church-crawlers,' John Betjeman. 'Lord's Day bells from Bingham's Melcome, Iwerne Minster,

Shroton, Plush ... mellow in the evening hush.'

and

'The pealing out across the estuary

The Padstow bells rang up for practice-night

are two of such passages that abound in his poems. One more, however, must be quoted.

'Ringers in an oil-lit belfry ...

Smoothly practising a plain course ...

and later in the same poem

'And an undersong ...

... was the mathematical pattern of a plain course on the bells.'

12244553311

21425435132

34152341523

43513214254

55331122445

But, good as this is, the zenith of bell poetry is surely given to us by Robert Bridges, who, just forty years ago, wrote his poem 'Noel: Christmas Eve, 1913.' In the opening lines he relates of his night walk while

'Distant music reached me

peals of bells aringing:

The constellation ran, ...'

The greatest moment for ringers is the vivid description in the third verse. We cannot read these lines without immediately being transported to the ringing chamber and taking part in the act of praise of 'our country folk.'

'With arms lifted to clutch the rattling ropes that race

Into the dark above and the mad romping din.'

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MUFFLED RINGING IN 1817

Dear Sir,—As no one else has answered Mr Cloke's inquiry as to when half-muffled ringing was first practised, I thought I would send along what I believe is the first mention of muffled ringing of any kind. I have been taking all the ringing journals since about 1888 and have no recollection of muffled ringing being mentioned prior to this at Bromley in 1817. The peal tablet was lost in the blitz of April 16th, 1941, with most of our other possessions, but, fortunately, between the wars, a 'History of Bromley' was written and we lent the author the tablet to have an engraving made of it, and it can now be seen in the public library. A brief description of the tablet is also in Morris's 'History of Change Ringing.' Yours, etc.,

ISAAC EMERY.

Bromley.

The peal board read as follows:—

RANG AT ST. PETER'S, BROMLEY

On the 15th of January, 1817, by the Society of Bromley Youths, a complete peal of Grand-sire Triples, which is 5,040 Changes with the bells muffled, in Commemoration of Wm. Chapman deceased, being a Ringer in the Parish of Bromley 45 years and rang upwards of 60 peals, this Dumb Peal was completed in 3 hours and 6 mines.

Thos. Giles	1st	Wm. King	5th
Rd. Chapman	2nd	Jno. Allen	6th
Wm. Sanger	3rd	Wm. Fuller	7th
Ge. Stone	4th	Jno. Green	8th

Being the first Dumb Peal in this Kind ever rung in this Kingdom and Conducted by J. Allen. C. T. G.

THE DEANERY CHURCH, BOCKING

Dear Sir,—Many ringers have had the pleasure of ringing on the fine octave at the Deanery Church, Bocking. These bells have for the past 22 years been available at any time. Holy Week excepted. The parish has spent a great deal of money on restoration and repairs since the war, and we had thought our troubles were at an end, but a few weeks ago masonry began to fall from the pinnacles at the top of the tower, and a crack was found. Ringing has been restricted, and we may have to stop ringing altogether. This would be tragic, as for the first time since the 1914 war we have a change ringing band capable of ringing the eight bells.

A start has been made to raise the money needed for repairs, and a bazaar, held last Saturday, contributed £250 to the fund. The churchwardens asked me if ringers would help. I replied that my knowledge of the brotherhood of ringers left no doubt in my mind that they would, and splendidly. All donations sent to me will be gratefully acknowledged. We pray that God will grant to us at Bocking speedy repairs to our tower.—Yours, etc.,

RONALD SUCKLING.

27. Coldnailhurst Avenue,
Braintree, Essex.

GRID ANALYSIS

Dear Sir,—Recent correspondence in your columns between very learned gentlemen is, we suggest, getting beyond the interest and intelligence of 99.9 per cent. of the ringing fraternity.

Could not those specialists in Grid Analysis carry on their discussion by post, or through the medium of the Third Programme?—Yours sincerely,

C. E. JEFFRIES,
C. H. HARDING,
B. F. SIMS,
M. J. LOCKEY.

SUFFOLK GUILD PROBLEMS

Dear Sir,—I was surprised and a bit misled by my namesake's letter. He seems concerned about the few who would be unable to attend the annual meeting on a Saturday. Surely whatever occupation a person may have, he can be freed for once a year. Mr. Mills admits that many now go to football, etc., and don't attend the meeting. Isn't this why it's high time it should be held on a Saturday. We are now living in a world of sport, and who wants to be confined to ringing, etc., all day on a Bank Holiday when so many other attractions are available to one's self, wife and family?

As regards the suggested 1s. 6d. rise in subscription, if some 20 members of Bures and district are too mean to pay 4s. a year to keep the flag flying, maybe their Christianity will still keep them ringing their well-struck courses for God's services.

One final word: Mr. Mills mentions 'First peals,' etc., should be printed only. No, sir, we don't want this, but a better and bigger report as in the past. I hope the few who want the peal levy realise that it must make a lot of work for our worthy secretary, as well as for the conductors.—Yours sincerely,

L. G. BRETT.

RINGING IN HERTFORDSHIRE

Dear Sir,—As a result of the articles which you were kind enough to publish in full, greater interest in the Herts Association is being taken throughout the county, and I have received many letters giving further information, also gifts of books for the library and orders for the proposed reprint in booklet form!

The letter published recently is very misleading, and has been answered by Mrs. A. M. Fergusson, who, as librarian, gave your correspondent the information he required from the volumes of 'The Bell News,' which have been in the library at St. Peter's, St. Albans, since 1926-27, when he donated them. The late Mr. G. W. Cartmel gave full acknowledgment at the time.

In fairness to our present librarian (Mr. C. F. Saver), may I state that he has also carried out his duties in a thorough manner, including the preservation and repair of many of the books, and that, with the help of a sub-committee, all the books have been checked, and a new list will shortly be circulated to all affiliated towers. It has also been found that the Association possesses two copies of the 1677 'Campanalogia,' by Fabian Stedman, although it was stated in 1946 and in subsequent years that the book of this title was missing.—Yours faithfully,

H. V. FROST.

Gen. Hon. Sec., Herts County Association.
St. Albans.

UMPIRES FOR STEDMAN SEXTUPLES

Dear Sir,—As conductor of the peal of Stedman Sextuples rung at Leicester on November 29th, I regret very much indeed that the umpires' names were omitted from the peal report. My apology is due to each of them, and I sincerely tender same. The persons concerned were Joseph S. Carter, of Wigston Magna, and Ernest Morris, of Leicester, the bells being checked throughout the peal.

Apart from being associated with the event, quite a few would suggest there is little satisfaction in umpiring a handbell peal, and I feel very sorry indeed that full credit should not have been included with the report. On behalf of all the band, I would like, through the medium of 'The Ringing World,' to express to each of them our full appreciation and grateful thanks.—Yours truly,

Leicester. HAROLD POOLE.

MATHEMATICAL APPROACH TO EXTENDED GRANDSIRE

Dear Sir,—Having perused the letters of Messrs. Moreton and Twyman with interest, I felt a slight regret that neither had considered adapting the well known thesis of Herr Taubenhaus, which will give still more comprehensive results, viz.:—

$$\text{Coefficient of Performance} = \frac{T_1}{T_1 - T_2}$$

where T_1 is the higher absolute temperature and T_2 the lower.

Now, by substituting known values and embodying the result in Herr Taubenhaus' equation we have

$$\text{Coefficient of Performance} = \text{Nix}_{\infty} \times o \times \phi + \phi \text{ Log}_e r.$$

where o is the object of the attempt and ϕ an abstract function.

It will now be found that by introducing Mr. Twyman's equation with the foregoing and again substituting known values we have the means of determining the combined age of the band, their Ph value and RPM., together with the acidity of the tea or beer they may reasonably be expected to consume after the performance.

The above is, of course, capable of a little more elaboration and may be adapted to all individual needs by the use of extended functions and similar devices, but I thought the general idea might be acceptable. Its resources appear to be limitless.—Yours helpfully,

BERNARD C. ASHFORD.

Stourbridge, Worcestershire.

N.B.—Herr Taubenhaus was also a very well known international chess player.

AMERICANS' INTEREST IN CHANGE RINGING

Dear Sir,—Having read the first paragraph on page 788, in 'The Ringing World' of the 4th inst., re the statement made by the Rev. C. G. Pearson, who preached at a Guildford district meeting, I am prompted to send you a copy of a letter written to our Vicar on Aug. 29th, 1947.

'One Sunday evening during the war I went to unlock the belfry door when two American soldiers asked me what time Matins were held. I told them the service began at 6.30, and as it was about 5.45 p.m., I asked them if they would like to come up to the belfry and wait. They were delighted to do so and, when we were almost ready, they almost begged us to let them give us a hand with the ringing, but admitted they had no previous experience.' —Yours faithfully,

J. B. WOODLEY.

Basingstoke.

NOTE.—The letter was written by Mr. George Williams, of Charleston, South Carolina, who wrote about his visit to a church while stationed at Barton Stacey with the 95th Division. He was invited into the ringing chamber, and saw the ringers at work. He adds:

'I can still remember that experience: the sight of the recorded peals on the walls and the ringers moving up and down and the sallies leaping and falling, the smell of the old wood and stone, the sound of muffled changes assailing our ears, and the feel of that hard bench are all vivid to me.'

Readers will remember Mr. George Williams wrote to 'The Ringing World' telling how, in his own church at St. Michael's, Charleston, he played Grandsire Triples on the carillon there.—Editor.

LETTERS—Continued

CALLING INTO ROUNDS

Dear Sir,—The leading article on 'Calling into Rounds' in your issue of December 11th by E. C. S. was very interesting to me.

Snowdon's Treatise on Grandsire contains a quick and easy way of calling Triples into rounds.

With Stedman Triples the following is a good way of bringing the bells home: After getting 4-6 behind and the 7th in 4-5 up coming out quick, then:

If 5th is in treble's place call bob at 3.

If 5th is in 2nds place call bobs at 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13.

If 5th is in 3rds place call bobs at 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13.

Should the bells now be out of course call a single at either 5 or 10, another way call bobs at 6, 7, 12, which produce rounds at handstroke.

In my estimation it is a great pity that Dr. Carpenter's list of going off and homing courses of Stedman Caters was omitted from the second edition of Snowdon's 'Stedman.' These were very useful for short service touches, also a guide for calling into rounds.

May I suggest that the Central Council publish these in pamphlet form to be included in their list of publications?

GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Ipswich.

FOOTNOTES

Dear Sir, — With reference to Mr. M. G. Morton's letter published in your issue of December 11th, 1953, I would like to advance the opposite point of view, and to uphold the things which he finds amusing and seeks to decry.

A general survey of the notes which appear at the foot of peals would not lead one to suppose that there had been any problem involved, and I venture to suggest that no thought or discussion is needed in the vast majority of cases, and that the conductor, before ever the peal starts, knows what footnotes will appear if the peal is successful.

As a conductor who takes some trouble to integrate his peals with the life and worship of the Church, I would like to observe that I have been much encouraged to see the growth of footnotes of this description in recent years. Every good churchman knows his saints' days; he does not have to take 'infinite trouble to wade through the Kalendrar.' Of course, all ringers derive pleasure from their peals, but is that pleasure not enhanced and shared if the object of the peal is to join in the worship of the Church by the observance of a saint's day? The incumbent is on the side of the ringers right from the start, and if the conductor sends him an account of the peal afterwards it will usually be published in the parish magazine. Some incumbents will even give notice of the attempt to their congregations. The whole parish then understands and shares in the pleasure of the ringing.

Let us then have our footnotes which show that the peal has been arranged for a purpose. Let us also remember that we are members of the Church of Christ, and that our bells send forth the Christian message. If our personal motives can be subordinated to the spiritual life of the Church, of which we are a part, then we have secured a far greater reward. I see in this theme a great opportunity for ringers generally to draw closer to the Church, and I look forward to reading more and more footnotes to peals indicative of the fact that the bells are being put to their proper use, namely, the worship of God.—Yours sincerely,

ALAN R. PINK.

Kennington, Oxford.

THE BELLS OF HORSELL, SURREY

About a mile from busy Woking is the smaller and quieter Horsell. When the railway people issued their first time table Woking Station was named 'Horsell for Woking'! The embattled tower of St. Mary's Church dates from about the close of the 14th century, and contains a ring of six bells, tenor diameter 39 inches, or about 10 cwt. In 1552, when the Royal Inventory was taken, Horsell had 'iii belles in the staple,' and at a later date the number was increased to four.

On October 23rd, 1741, the four old bells were taken down and recast into the present ring of six by Robert Catlin, a founder who had, about two years earlier, succeeded to the business of Samuel Knight at the Holborn foundry, London. The first time they were rung was on October 23rd, 1741, and the inscription on the 5th tells us that 'Robert Catlin cast and hung us all A.D. 1741.'

Catlin cast a considerable number of bells for Surrey between 1740 and 1751, but Horsell retains the only complete six by him in the county.

The way to the ringing chamber is by way of a ladder fastened to a wall in the base of the tower, there you pass through a trap door, which is usually closed during ringing.

The first peal on the bells was rung on December 11th, 1909, consisting of Minor in four methods, booked to the Winchester Diocesan Guild, who operated a considerable part of Surrey prior to 1927. The writer rang the tenor to this peal, and was somewhat startled shortly afterwards to find that the Horsell Guild claimed peals in 1888/9, at least that is what a Surrey paper states in January, 1889. The account reads: 'The Horsell Guild of Church Bell Ringers rang out the old and rang in the new year in three merry peals on New Year's Eve. They completed peals of Grandsire Triples and Stedman Triples, and to usher in the New Year they rang a peal of Stedman's Bob Doubles.' There is no record of these peals in the tower and, in view of the fact that Triples cannot be rung on six bells, the account cannot be taken too seriously, for in those days there was no Central Council, and our Guilds and Associations had not been established many years.

In 1911, when 'The Ringing World' was founded a mile away from Horsell, it was considered right and proper that a peal of Minor should be rung on the nearest ring of bells, and a successful peal was rung on May 20th. Horsell bells, cast as a complete six in 1741, still call the faithful to worship and remind listeners of higher things.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

CHRISTMAS POSTS

Although the postal copies of the last issue of 'The Ringing World' were delivered to Guildford Post Office at the usual time the unprecedented rush of the Christmas post resulted in a serious hold-up. We apologise to our readers who have been inconvenienced, and assure them that the circumstances were outside our control.

YORKSHIRE SURPRISE AT HERSHAM

Dear Sir,—The footnote to the peal of Yorkshire Surprise rung at Hersham, Surrey, on Nov. 25th, 1953, records that it was the first in the method on the bells. May I point out a peal in this method was rung in the tower on July 30th, 1938, conducted by the undersigned, and was then recorded as being the first peal in the method on the bells.—Yours sincerely,

ALAN R. PINK.

Kennington, Oxford.

MR. T. E. SONE'S 500 PEALS

With a peal at Quex Park, Mr. T. E. Sone, of Paddock Wood, Kent, rang his 500th peal. These have been rung with 468 ringers in 124 towers for 20 Associations. He has conducted 217 different (136 one-part) compositions by 64 composers. His peals are as follows:

Doubles, Grandsire 2 (conducted 2).

Minor, in two, three and four methods 6 (1), in seven methods 2 (1), Cambridge 3 (1).

Triples, Grandsire 61 (45 Holt's Original five times round 'circle' and 1 non-conducted), Stedman 13 (2), Spliced Grandsire and Bob Major 1 (1).

Major, Plain Bob 23 (10), Canterbury Pleasure 1 (1), Spliced Canterbury and Plain Bob, every lead, 1 (1), St. Clement's College 1, Double Norwich 89 (63), Dartford Little Bob 1 (1), Kent Treble Bob 97 (84), Oxford Treble Bob 11 (11), Spliced Oxford and Kent 1 (1), Ilkerton Treble Bob 1, Worcester Treble Bob 1 (1), Liversedge Treble Bob 1 (1), Cam Treble Bob 1, Double Oxford 1.

Major Surprise, Superlative 41 (22), Cambridge 35 (13), New Cambridge 1, Pudsey 2, Painswick 3, Ashted 8 (5), Yorkshire 24 (8), Rotherfield 1, Rutland 3, Lincolnshire 2, Aldenham 1, Ipswich 1, Apsley 2 (1), Warwickshire 1 (1), Bristol 1, London 1, Spliced Cambridge Surprise and Yorkshire 2.

Caters, Grandsire 11 (11), Erin 1 (1), Stedman 6 (1), Double Norwich 1 (1).

Royal, Plain Bob 8 (5), Canterbury Pleasure 1 (1), Kent Treble Bob 18 (16), Cambridge Surprise 1.

Cinques, Grandsire 1 (1), Stedman 1.

Maximus, Kent Treble Bob 3 (2), Plain Bob 1 (1).

Total: 500 (31).

This list does not include two found to be false compositions.

FORTY YEARS AGO

From 'The Ringing World' of Dec. 26th, 1913

THE BOSTON GUILD

RINGING ACKNOWLEDGED BY U.S.A. PRESIDENT

The most recent activities of the Boston (U.S.A.) Guild are chronicled by Dr. A. H. Nichols, who writes: The past week has been one of unusual activity for Boston ringers, they having rung by invitation at four different towers, while their performances have received noteworthy recognition.

On Sunday, November 23rd, they met at the Perkins Institute, Watertown, to ring at the hour of morning service. . . .

At the request of His Honour the Mayor of Boston, Christ Church bells were pealed for one hour on November 25th in celebration of the marriage of the younger daughter of President Wilson at Washington. On the following day the President acknowledged by telegram this thoughtful compliment.

On Wednesday evening, November 26th, the ringers went to Hingham to ring for a conjoint service of different parishes on the eve of Thanksgiving (Day). . . .

Thanksgiving Day, November 27th, was spent at Groton School. . . . The ringers were welcomed by Messrs. Sturgis and Abbott, of the school staff, who later manned the treble and tenor ropes in various touches. . . . In the afternoon an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by P. J. Allfrey. The striking was admirable for an hour and ten minutes (in which time 1,700 changes were rung), when a slip resulted from failure to hear a bob call. . . . The enjoyable day was brought to a close by a well-struck course of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in which the heavy-going tenor was rung by Richard Newton. . . .

RINGERS' RULES (ANCIENT & MODERN)

By ERNEST MORRIS

(Continued from page 802)

The foregoing is a good example of the code of Rules followed by many local companies before the advent of Guilds and Associations as we now know them. They follow in spirit the older rules which as we have already seen were in 'verse,' of which the next is a good specimen. It is dated 1774 and posted up at St. Keyne, Cornwall:—

'Aloud let silence first proclaimed be.
And by consent let's make it our decree,
And fix such laws in our Society,
Which, being observed, will keep sobriety.
Who swears or curses in an angry mood,
Quarrels or strikes, although he draw no blood.

Who wears a hat or spur, o'erturns a bell,
Or by unskilful handling mars a peal,
He shall pay sixpence for each single crime,
'Twill make him cautious at another time.
And if the Sexton's fault it chance to be,
We'll lay on him a double penalty.
A blessing let us crave on church and King,
And peacefully let us begin to ring.'

The poor Sexton has to pay double! In the next I quote, however, he is better looked after!!

These lines are from Redbourn:—

'All that intend to take these ropes in hand,
To ring, mark well these lines and understand,

Which if with care you read will plainly see
What fines and forfeits are the Sexton's fee:—
He that doth break a stay, or turn a bell,
The forfeit is a groat, it's known full well;
And carelessly to ring with spur or hat,
The forfeit is a groat—beware of that:
And they that fight or quarrel, swear or curse,
Must pay two pots, turn out, or else do worse;

And for unlocking of the steeple door,
And for sweeping of the belfry floor,
And to buy oil you know is very dear,
And for your own attendance given here,
If you will well observe such rules as these
You're welcome for to ring here when you please.

Pray remember the Sexton, Jos. Brown.
May, 1764.'

The following version is at Leigh, Staffs:—

'If that to ring you do come here,
You must ring well with hand and ear;
And if a bell you overthrow,
Fourpence is due before you go;
And if you ring in spur or hat,
Two pots of ale are due for that;
And for a pledge to make it sure,
Your hat shall be the forfeit sure.
Our laws are old, they are not new,
Therefore the clerk must have his due.'

DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCS.

'Rules of this Tower

If you come here to ring a bell,
With hand and ear you must ring well;
Should you your bell overthrow,
Twelve pence you pay before you go.
If we for you the changes ring,
You must to us one shilling bring:
And sixpence too, without demur,
If you appear in hat and spur;
And if above you choose to go,
You sixpence pay or stay below.'

Beautifully neat work is shown in a code of thirteen rules, framed and hanging in a prominent part of the chamber. It is the work of Mr. Nicholas Newby, illuminator, Dalton. Conspicuous are the words:—

'Ring out the false,
Ring in the true.

Who rings a bell, let him look well
To hand and head and heart;
The hand for work, the head for wit,
The heart for worship's part.

'I was glad when they said unto me; let us
go into the House of the Lord.' (Psalm cxii.
verse 1.)

'A day in Thy courts is better than a thousand.' (Psalm lxxvii. verse 10.)

Below the code of rules are given the names of the patrons:—Rev. James M. Morgan, Edward Wadham, Esq., September, 1886. President—Rev. S. A. Adams; Vice-president and conductor, Thomas Watson; Treasurer, T. R. Jackson; Secretary, James Spencer.

At Thurleigh, Beds. are the following rules:—

'Rules for Ringers

If to ring you do come Here
You must ring well with Hand and Ear
And if a Bell you chance to Throw
Sixpence to Pay before you go—
And if you ring in Spurs or Hat
Twelve-pence in all to pay for that.'

Fishwick, writing in 1878, states that 'not long ago' the following lines were painted on the plaster on the ground floor of the tower at Garstang, Lancs. They were partly obliterated when noted, but probably the missing words are supplied:—

'[Whoever] a Bell doth overthrow
[Shall pay] two groats before he go
[And he that] ringd with his hatte on
[Shall pay] two groats then he be gone
[And he that] ringd with Spur or heele
that penalty shall feele
[And he that] dare an oathe sweare
[For that shall pay] two quartes of beare.
[These laws are] old, they are not newe
[But the old] clark must have his dewe.

S. R. B. M. J. Ringers.'

At St. Chad's, Rochdale, Lancs. the following undated rules are painted in 'lower case' letters on a board in the ringing chamber:—

'You Gentlemen that ringers are
Please read these Rules and take great care.
No bell o'erturn for if you do
Sixpence you pay before you go.
If you brawl, sware, ill words express,
Your forfeit then shall be no less;
Who offends by tongue or Fingers
Must forfeit pay to the Ringers.
Then meet in love and part in peace,
It will your comfort much increase:
Observing Time, Your Peals to Ring,
And humbly pray for George our King.'

AT BISHOP'S WALTHAM, HERTS.

In the Church of St. Peter, Bishop's Waltham.—A.D. 1766:—

'Ye ringers all that use this Belfry
Your hats throw off, your gloves lay by,
The Steward's fees you can't deny.
And if a bell you overthrow,
You shall pay twopence e'er you go.
And if you shall a wager lay,
Or such a thing presume to say,
You shall for that a penny pay.
And if you take God's name in vain,
You shall pay sixpence for your pain,
And when you come the bells to ring,
Drink soberly, God save the King.'

Affixed to the wall of the tower of St. Mary's, Lancaster, is the following verse:—

'If to ring you do come here,
You must ring with hand and ear
And when your bell you overthrow,
Your shilling pay before you go;
Your fourpence pay besides all that,

Whoe'er appear in spur or hat;
And if above you wish to go,
Your twopence pay or stay below.'

These rules are in the belfry at St. Nicholas', Haxey, Lincs:—

'All you that here intend to ring,
Mind well before you do begin,
If you ring in Great Coat, Spurs or Hat.
Sixpence you pay straightdown for that
If you break stay or quarrel breed
Twelvepence you pay right down with speed
If you be Fair and do no Wrong
Then unto us you shall belong.

Mr. John Knowlson } Churchwardens
Mr. John Curtis } in ye year 1785

Jas. Morris, Script.'

MIDLAND COUNTIES 'MODERN OBJECTS'

Since the formation of recognised change-ringing societies and guilds during the last century, the old order has changed for the good and betterment of ringers, and where these societies hold sway they (the ringers) are recognised as true church workers. Belfries are kept clean and tidy, bell chambers free from litter of birds and other refuse, bell bearings and fittings cared for. There is, however, much yet to be done as one still finds in the isolated country towers much apathy towards the 'West End' of the church and often the base of towers form the dumping ground for all the litter that would not be tolerated in any other part of the church. For nearly a quarter of a century the writer was secretary of the Midland Counties Association and the following 'objects' were issued with much good resulting:—

'The chief object of this Association is the promotion of Belfry Reform, and it directs its attention among other points to the following:—

1.—The observation of good and peaceful behaviour in the Belfries of our Churches; it being remembered that they are an integral part of the Church, and therefore consecrated to the service of God, while the bells and ringers are intended to be exercised, equally with the organ and choir, for His glory and worship.

2.—To refrain as far as possible from using the bells on the Lord's Day, except for the services of the Church.

3.—To obtain full recognition of the ringer's office as essentially a branch of the Church's work, that they and their services (which demand much time, skill and mental labour) may be placed upon a true and acknowledged basis.

4.—To cultivate the art of change-ringing by frequent meetings in various centres for friendly peal ringing; and to provide at a reasonable cost, instructors for those who require them.

As a means of securing the above objects, the Association provides a medium for bringing into closer relationship, one with another, the Clergy, Churchwardens, and others interested in the objects for which the Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers has been established; and it is earnestly trusted that all such will hasten to join its ranks, and increase its influence.'

[Concluded]

Gratefully Acknowledged

Personal.—Michael and Jean Causley 7s.

Peals.—Packwood, 2s. 6d.; Alderton, 2s. 6d.; Burnham, 5s.; Thatcham, 5s.; Peterchurch, 2s. 6d.; Trowbridge, 5s.; Gloucester, 2s.; Lincoln, £1; Bishampton, 3s.; Guiseley, 4s.; Nottingham, 5s.

Quarter Peals.—Wimbledon, 2s. 6d.; Croydon, 5s.; Hallow, 4s.; Hemlock, 2s.; Gloucester, 2s.; Upper Clapton, E., 2s.; Freshwater, 2s. 6d.; Hughenden, 3s.; Mangotsfield, 2s.; Aldershot, 4s.; Cattistock, 4s.; Eastbourne, 4s.; Haslemere, 2s.; Bathampton, 3s.; Stonehouse, 2s. 6d.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.—On Dec. 9th, 1,260 Grand-
sire Triples, at St. Michael's Church: D. Macpherson
(first quarter) 1, W. H. Viggers 2, Miss M. Lewis 3,
D. H. B. Williamson 4, G. K. Williamson 5, E. J.
Bragg 6, Miss S. J. Corke (cond.) 7, W. Denyer 8.
Rung for the Confirmation service.

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260
Plain Bob Doubles: H. W. Brown 1, Beryl Reynolds
2, Mary W. Brown (cond.) 3, D. H. Paine (first
'inside') 4, S. W. Brown 5, R. D. Brown 6. Rung for
Confirmation service, at which Pamela Law, one of the
young ringers, was confirmed.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,280
Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Lola Callow 1,
D. A. Carpenter 2, P. K. Williamson 3, W. A. Stote
(cond.) 4, H. C. Summers 5, P. Stone 6, C. S. Aylett
7, J. W. T. Taylor 8.

ALVERSTOKE, HANTS.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260
Grand-
sire Triples: Miss D. Banks 1, Miss A. West 2,
Miss S. K. M. Knight 3, G. Verrill 4, R. Beale 5,
F. G. Barron 6, H. A. Nobes (cond.) 7, J. Hedges 8.
Rung half-muffled in memorial E. A. Jurd, former
member of the local band, interred the previous day.

BATHAMPTON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260
Grand-
sire Doubles: Norma Mathews (first quarter) 1,
Moir 1. Hemer (first quarter 'inside') 2, Joyce S.
Coward 3, Brenda L. J. Foley 4, S. A. Read (first
quarter as cond.) 5, E. Naylor 6. Rung prior to the
Confirmation service.

BEAMINSTER, DORSET.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260
Grand-
sire Triples: S. G. Atwell 1, Mrs. M. M. Godley
2, G. Gaylard 3, P. H. Hull (cond.) 4, C. Savage 5,
H. J. Gaylard 6, W. H. M. Smith 7, E. Lambert 8.

BLUNSDON, WILTS.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Grand-
sire
Doubles: B. S. Shephard 1, B. Bladen 2, Miss Y.
Wilkins 3, Miss D. Lewis 4, W. Trueman (cond.) 5,
J. Vincent 6. First quarter 1, 3 and 4. A wedding
compliment to Miss P. Casey.

BRISTOL, GLOS.—On Dec. 10th, at St. Mary Red-
cliffe, 1,259 Grand-
sire Caters: M. Hancock (first
quarter) 1, F. Leaker 2, D. Smith 3, G. Briggs 4,
A. Tyler 5, R. Hooper (cond.) 6, A. Hilliar 7, I. Trueman
8, F. Hansford 9, F. Mogford 10. Rung for the
Confirmation service. Also on Dec. 13th, at St.
Ambrose, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. D. M. Bennett
1, F. J. Sampson 2, F. Skidmore 3, G. M. Nichols
(first 'inside') 4, R. G. Hooper (cond.) 5, A. C.
Baker 6, J. F. Pedlar 7, V. E. Lucas 8.

BURES, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 13th, 1,256 Little Bob
Major: R. H. Davies (first of Major) 1, P. G. Hartley
2, D. L. Mills (cond.) 3, J. M. Spurgin 4, C. Bower 5,
Mrs. L. Mills 6, A. W. Cansdale 7, L. D. Mills 8.
First in method for 2 and 4.

CANFORD MAGNA, DORSET.—On Dec. 13th,
1,260 Plain Bob Minor: W. C. Shute 1, Miss W. M.
Cox 2, W. Mogg (first quarter) 3, H. I. Pitman 4,
C. Ridout 5, D. R. Reed (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled
to the memory of Mr. D. G. B. Bingham, sometime
churchwarden.

CANNOCK, STAFFS.—On Dec. 10th, 1,260 Grand-
sire
Doubles: D. Borley 1, A. C. Barker 2, P. J.
Barker (first as cond.) 3, H. Butler (first quarter) 4,
W. Benton 5, E. Borley 6.

CANTERBURY, KENT.—At St. Nicholas' Church,
on Dec. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: E. Prescott 1,
A. C. Gambrill 2, W. Terry 3, W. C. E. Goldup 4,
W. Payne 5, E. J. Wells (cond.) 6, T. Martin tenor
covering. Rung for the festival of St. Nicholas.

CARDIFF.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grand-
sire Caters:
L. Muller 1, T. Yeomans 2, W. Heath 3, F. Han-
nington 4, J. Davies 5, T. Lewis (first quarter) 6, F.
Rowell (cond.) 7, J. Evans 8, W. Dare 9, S. Barker 10.

CATTISTOCK, DORSET.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260
Stedman Triples: P. H. Hull 1, W. H. M. Smith 2,
Mrs. M. M. Godley 3, G. Gaylard 4, C. Savage 5,
S. G. Atwell 6, H. J. Gaylard (cond.) 7, E. Lambert 8.
First quarter peal rung on the new bells.

CROYDON, SURREY.—On Dec. 6th, at the Church
of St. John, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Royal: R. Davies
1, Mrs. W. F. Oatway 2, Mrs. F. E. Collins 3, Miss
P. M. Steere 4, E. W. Razzell 5, G. H. Humphries 6,
F. E. Mitchell 7, R. G. Abbott 8, W. F. Oatway 9,
F. E. Collins (cond.) 10. First quarter peal of Kent
Treble Bob Royal by 2, 4, 5, 8 and 9.

DURLEIGH, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 14th, 1,260
Grand-
sire Doubles: Miss P. Bird (first quarter, aged
16) 1, G. Marchant (first 'inside') 2, W. Selley 3,
C. Marchant 4, R. Short (cond.) 5, C. Dymott 6. Rung
as an encouragement to the young band at this tower.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—At the Church of St.
Mary, on Dec. 13th, 1,260 Grand-
sire Triples: E. Baldock (first quarter) 1, F. Beeny (first of Triples) 2,
G. Beeny 3, L. J. Baldock 4, H. Reynolds 5, J.
Boyes 6, R. W. Pankhurst (cond.) 7, R. Cowling 8.
A farewell to the Rev. and Mrs. J. Read, moving to
another parish.

FULHAM, S.W.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Plain Bob
Royal: H. M. Page 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, Miss B.
Harris 3, Mrs. F. Threlfall 4, W. J. Rawlings 5, J.
Waters 6, M. V. Chilcott 7, J. Phillips 8, H. Belcher
9, J. Chilcott (cond.) 10.

GLOUCESTER.—On Nov. 21st, 1,260 Grand-
sire
Triples: H. Newman 1, T. Newman 2, W. Jones 3,
W. Cox 4, H. Daniels 5, J. Whiting 6, L. Barry
(cond.) 7, C. Lagger 8. Rung on the occasion of
Col. Carne, V.C., receiving the Freedom of the City.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.—On Dec. 12th, 1,280
St. Clement's College Bob Major: P. G. Hartley 1,
A. W. Cansdale (first in method) 2, T. Hume 3, J. M.
Spurgin 4, C. Bower 5, Mrs. L. Mills 6, D. L. Mills
(cond.) 7, L. D. Mills 8.

HALLOW, WORCS.—On Dec. 10th, 1,260 Grand-
sire
Triples: W. Collins 1, R. Woodyatt (cond.) 2, P.
Blissett 3, J. Gwilliam 4, F. Griffiths 5, W. Lewis 6,
F. C. Pugh 7, P. Bullock 8. Rung half-muffled in
memorial Mr. T. G. Green, late captain of the
Hallow band, interred this day.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260
Grand-
sire Triples: J. Stevenson 1, Judith Unwin 2,
Mary Cox 3, Mrs. F. Bowden 4, C. N. Pearson 5,
H. Gauntlett 6, F. Bowden (cond.) 7, J. Clark 8. First
quarter for 1 and 2.

HEMYOCK, DEVON.—On Dec. 10th, 1,260 Minor
(720 Kent Treble Bob and 540 Plain Bob): B. Burston
1, R. Shire 2, C. J. Stevens 3, A. H. Reed 4, H.
Churchill 5, W. G. Gigg (cond.) 6. Believed to be
the first quarter of Minor on the bells.

HIGH LITTLETON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 14th,
1,260 Grand-
sire Doubles: W. J. Gait (cond.) 1, Mrs. H.
Kimber 2, Mrs. E. Ford 3, T. W. Kimber 4, J.
Brooks 5, Betty Bird (first quarter) 6. Rung half-
muffled in memory of Mrs. Hilda (Cissie) Naish, for
many years a ringer in this tower, interred earlier in
the day at Clutton.

HORRINGER, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 12th, 1,264
Plain Bob Major: F. Cooper 1, A. Rolfe 2, R. Rose
3, L. Nice 4, K. Brown 5, J. Kerry 6, W. Stannard 7,
J. Banks (cond.) 8.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260
Grand-
sire Triples: I. Biggs 1, Miss D. Coker 2, R.
Biggs 3, A. E. Cox 4, J. Kape 5, A. Newton 6, P.
Newton 7, V. Evans 8. This was rung non-conducted.
Mr. N. Cornwall was umpire.

HUNTON, KENT.—On Dec. 5th, 1,440 Plain Bob
Minor: P. F. Noakes (first in method) 1, Miss M.
Tapley 2, V. Davoren (first 'inside') 3, Miss F. M.
Burbridge 4, F. Meek (first in method 'inside') 5,
R. L. Sills (cond.) 6.

MANGOTSFIELD, GLOS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260
Grand-
sire Triples: C. Beakes 1, P. C. W. S. Wayman
2, R. E. Scudamore 3, M. Jefferies 4, P. C. W. F.
Scudamore (cond.) 5, J. W. Jefferies 6, J. G. Jefferies
7, E. Cookley 8. Rung to mark the birth of a
daughter to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Scudamore, and
grand-daughter to the ringer of the 3rd.

NORTH MYMMS, HERTS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260
Grand-
sire Triples: A. D. Bartlett (first quarter) 1,
A. R. Sherlock (first 'inside') 2, J. G. Hall 3, Mary
F. Lawrence 4, J. R. Lofly 5, P. J. Coles 6, G. A.
Spencer (cond.) 7, P. L. Baycock 8. Also on Dec. 6th,
1,264 Plain Bob Major: P. L. Baycock 1, A. R. Sher-
lock 2, Anne E. Salter 3, Mary F. Lawrence 4, J. R.
Lofly 5, G. A. Spencer 6, T. J. Lock (cond.) 7,
J. E. Lofly 8. A farewell to the ringer of the second
on his departure for service overseas.

READING, BERKS.—At St. Giles' Church, on Dec.
13th, 1,260 Grand-
sire Triples: K. Cotterell 1, Miss N.
Swann 2, S. Webb 3, E. W. Colley 4, J. K. Morley
5, R. W. Rex 6, R. E. Turner (cond.) 7, V. Cherrill 8.
Rung in honour of the marriage of Miss R. Relf, a
local ringer, to Mr. Roy Hewlett.

ROSS-ON-WYE, HEREFORDS.—On Dec. 13th,
1,340 Plain Bob Major: C. G. Jones 1, H. Powell 2,
Mollie Tilbury 3, W. T. Poston 4, Josephine Green 5,
J. J. Webb 6, A. T. Poulton 7, R. T. Jones (cond.) 8.

SYDNEY, N.S.W., AUSTRALIA.—On Nov. 29th, at
the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, 1,260 Court Bob
Triples: J. Sheehy 1, Joan Hills (first in the method
'inside') 2, Margaret Winter 3, G. Logan 4, E. Fowell
5, J. Cummins 6, T. Goodyer (first in method as cond.)
7, L. Curran 8. First in method for 1, 3 and 4. An
engagement compliment to Betty Sloan and Ian Lips-
combe, Pat Ulllyatt and Jim Giddens, all ringers at
St. Jude's, Randwick; also to Phyllis Tapscott, of St.
Paul's, Maryborough, Queensland.

STONEHOUSE, GLOS.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Grand-
sire
Doubles: L. Smith 1, T. Price (cond.) 2, E.
Chamberlayne 3, D. Friday 4, B. Cottle 5, H. Mat-
thews 6. First quarter for 3, 4 and 6. For evening
service.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Mat-
thew, on Dec. 13th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss N.
Hales 1, Miss G. L. Friswell 2, Mrs. R. K. C. Wilkins
3, J. A. Hales 4, J. Hales (first in method) 5, R. K. C.
Wilkins 6, D. Neal (first of Stedman as cond.) 7,
D. A. Sydenham 8. Rung as a 'welcome home' to
John Lintott, who has just been demobbed from the
R.A.F.

WIDCOMBE, BATH, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 9th,
1,260 Grand-
sire Doubles: Miss B. Russell 1, Mrs. P.
Newman 2, P. Bate 3, H. Newman (cond.) 4, J. Creigh
(first quarter) 5, R. Burgess 6.

WYKE REGIS, DORSET.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260
Grand-
sire Triples: F. Stevens (first of Triples) 1, F.
Symonds 2, F. Stedman 3, F. Crudeg 4, J. W. Rose
(cond.) 5, J. Rose 6, W. J. Chapman 7, J. Hart 8.
Rung to mark the laying of the foundation stone of the
Church of St. Edmund of Canterbury, Weymouth, by
the Bishop of Salisbury.

TO T. R., OF WOLVERHAMPTON

BY AN ADMIRER

T. R., of Wolverhampton,
Must be non compos mentis.
Not only cycles long, wet miles
To prove he's no apprentice,
But shows his skill at handling
Two bells to make up 'eight,'
For which his fellow ringers
Must him congratulate.

His love of tower-snatching
Has given him quite a name!
Would Eric, Harry, Sam or Alan
Like to do the same?
When bells go wrong, who climbs aloft
To see if he can right-'em?
The one who's climbed 700 towers
And so ad infinitum.

When one works out the number
Of steps he must have climbed,
The patient (!) hours explaining
How bells are rung or chimed,
The ropes he's spliced, the bells he's oiled,
Stays mended (not a few).
You'd think that such a genius
Was nearing 92.

And yet he's still a youngster!
What will his record be
When Peter opens Heaven's gate, saying
'Come, ring a peal with me'?

SAY 'MERRY CHRISTMAS' WITH

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All notices must be prepaid.

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Christmas greetings and every good wish for the coming year to all our ringing friends.—Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Francis, 2, Camden Square, London, N.W.1. 3678

Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year to all ringing friends from Mr. and Mrs. E. D. POOLE, Marlow, Bucks. 3685

Christmas greetings to my ringing friends everywhere. Happy New Year and good ringing. Shall be thinking of you, not least when the sleighbells sound.—Julia M. Preston, Institut Montesano, Gstaad, Switzerland. 3652

HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED to purchase, secondhand set of handbells.—A. J. Phillips, Victoria House, Pewsey, Wilts. 3598

PUBLICATIONS

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MISCELLANEOUS

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ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Committee meeting. Hall unavailable February 6th, meeting postponed till February 13th.—F. V. G. 3697

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MEETINGS

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tues., Dec. 29th, 7.15, practice, Christ Church, Ealing Broadway. Saturday, Jan. 2nd, general meeting. St. Mary's, Putney, 2.45. Service 4.15. Tea, Gordon Restaurant 5 p.m. Business and officer nominations 5.45. All Saints', Fulham, ringing 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4th, 7.15, practice, St. Mary's, Lambeth Bridge. Saturday, Feb. 6th, A.G.M., Southwark Cathedral, Festival Church, Waterloo, and St. George's, Borough High Street. Everyone welcome.—Rogers. 14, The Grove, Isleworth. HOU 3921. 3662

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD.—Annual meeting, Lindley (trolley bus 71), Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea for all at moderate cost 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow and bells afterwards. 3639

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Evening practice at Doncaster (8), January 2nd, at 6.30 p.m.—D. E. Smythe, Sec. 3689

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Annual meeting, Ely, Saturday, January 2nd. Bells 2.45 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m.—Miss M. Grain, Dis. Sec. 3695

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Western Division.—Annual general meeting, Hornchurch, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea and meeting. Names, please, to F. Gant, 3, Central Drive, Hornchurch. 3659

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Tewkesbury Branch.—The postponed annual meeting will be held at Tewkesbury Abbey on January 2nd. Arrangements as previously announced.—J. Beech, 6, Abbey Terrace, Tewkesbury, Branch Sec. 3694

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—N.E. Branch.—Annual meeting, Tiverton, St. Peter's, Saturday, Jan. 2nd, 1954. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by Dec. 28th, to W. H. Ware, 1, Holly Road, Cowleymoor, Tiverton. 3590

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Quarterly meeting at Wye (8) on Jan. 2nd. Bells at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Names for tea, please, by Tuesday, Dec. 29th, to Mr. W. Curtis, 7, Church Street, Wye, Kent. 3660

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Westerham (8) on Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells 4 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. (2s. per head) Names for tea, by December 30th, to Miss M. Cosgrove, 9, The Green, Westerham. 3637

LADIES' GUILD (Yorkshire District) and SHEFFIELD SOCIETY.—Joint meeting, Whiston, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Miss E. Wright, 501, West Bawtry Road, Whiston, near Rotherham. 3667

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Annual branch meeting, Whalley, January 2nd. Ringing at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Meeting to follow.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 3698

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.—Meeting, Cheadle R.C., Saturday, January 2nd. Own arrangements for tea. Cafes nearby.—W. Carnwell, Hon. Sec. 3684

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Easthampstead on January 2nd, at 6 p.m.—B. C. Castle. 3677

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—Annual meeting at Ravensthorpe, January 2nd. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to D. Payne, The Chequers, Ravensthorpe, before December 30th, please.—E. Orland, Hon. Sec. 3693

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Annual meeting, January 2nd, at Devizes. Three towers available from 3 p.m. Names for tea.—Slatford, Church Lane, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 3690

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 2nd, at St. Mary's, Nottingham. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Cups of tea 5 p.m. in Church Institute, Barkergate, for those notifying Mr. W. Nichols, 179, Eltham Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, by Thursday, Dec. 31st. Please take own food. Business meeting after tea. 3673

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Annual meeting, 6 o'clock, Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, on January 2nd. St. Martin's bells available 4.30 p.m.—G. E. Fearn, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer. 3688

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern.—Practice meeting, Cuckfield (8), January 2nd, 3 p.m.—Tea for those who advise Mr. G. Apps, 24, Chatfield Road, Cuckfield, by December 30th.—G. T. Jennings. 3681

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Mary's, Brecon, Saturday, Jan. 2nd. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Business follows. Names, please.—W. Smith, Stanbury, Penbont Road, Talgarth, Brecon. 3638

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Quarterly meeting at Howden, Saturday, Jan. 2nd, in conjunction with Selby and District Society. Bells (8) available. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock. Names, by Dec. 31st, to Mr. E. A. Newnham, 31 Pinfold Street, Howden. All outstanding subscriptions to be paid at this meeting, please.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec. 3666

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Bath Abbey on Saturday, January 9th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Names for tea essential to Mr. S. S. Woodburn, 16, Lynfield Road, Weston, Bath. 3627

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch.—Annual meeting, Frome, January 9th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea to Miss Overend, 49, Alexander Road, Frome, Som. 3692

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Combined annual meeting and social, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells open: Christ Church (10) 2 p.m.-3.30 p.m.; St. Michael's (12) 3 p.m.-5.15 p.m. Service 5.15 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m. Bells at St. Peter's (8) will be available from 5.45-6.45 p.m. for visitors. Hot-pot supper and social in the Beehive Restaurant at 7 p.m. Requests for tickets (price 5s.), not later than Jan. 2nd, 1954, to A. A. Potts, 132, Great King Street, Macclesfield. 3628

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Buckerell, January 9th. Service 4.15. Names for tea to Mr. F. Parry, Butts, Buckerell, Honiton, by January 4th.—J. Arbury, Hon. Sec. 3629

LADIES' GUILD.—North Eastern District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Jan. 9th, at St. Mary's, Gateshead. Ringing commencing 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea, not later than Saturday, Jan. 2nd, to Mr. R. Pattinson, 22, Alfred Street, Gateshead 8. All ringers cordially invited. 3661

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Annual meeting at St. Paul's, Burton, Saturday, January 9th. Bells (10) 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. Please notify by January 7th. All ringers welcome.—B. G. Key, 54, Rolleston Road, Burton-on-Trent. 3680

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held in Norwich on Saturday, January 9th. Ringing: Bells of St. Miles' and St. George's from 2 p.m. Service, St. Miles' 4.15. Tea, St. Miles' Hall, 5 p.m. Ringing at St. Giles', 7 to 8 p.m.; St. Peter's, Mancroft, 7 to 9 p.m. Names or numbers for tea not later than Tuesday, January 5th, please, to H. Tooke, 11, Long Row, The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk. Please note.—To be followed by a general meeting to adopt new rules approved at last annual general meeting.—A. G. G. Thurlow, Gen. Sec. 3687

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Quarterly. Adderbury (8), January 9th. Service 4 p.m. Subscriptions due. Notify January 5th for tea.—E. Pearson, Adderbury West, Oxon. 3679

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—Annual general meeting, Uppington (8), January 9th. Names for tea by January 8th.—E. E. Gibson, Hon. Sec., Estean, Market Overton, Rutland. 3674

(Continued on next page)

NOTICES—Continued

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davenport Branch.—The branch annual meeting will be held at Davenport on Saturday, January 9th. Guild service 4 p.m. Important: Names for tea to me by Saturday, January 2nd.—F. W. Hancock, Church View, Willoughby, Rugby. 3683

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts District.—Annual meeting at Retford, Saturday, January 9th. East Retford (10), West Retford (6) and Ordsall (6) available from 2.30. Service in East Retford Church at 4.15. Plenty of cafes for own tea arrangements. Meeting in East Retford belfry at 6 p.m.—H. Denman. 3686

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—The annual lunch will be held on February 6th at the George Restaurant, Oxford. Will old members interested please contact Miss P. Holborn, 130, Hady Hill, Chesterfield, for further details and ringing arrangements. 3696

YARDLEY, BIRMINGHAM.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): Jean Chown 1, B. C. Webb 2, K. Todd (first 'inside') 3, J. Chown 4, A. H. Fitter (cond.) 5, R. C. Lane 6, T. A. Griffin 7, B. C. Webb, sen., 8. Rung for Confirmation service. Also as a farewell to B. C. Webb on entering H.M. Forces.

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