



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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

No. 2473 Vol. LIV

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1958

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

6d.

RICHARD VALENTINE AND COMPANY

By Edgar C. Shepherd

NEARLY 60 years ago there came into the possession of Mr. Geoffrey Martineau, of Solihull, a manuscript volume compiled and written by a certain J. D. Wagstaff, who lived somewhere in Northamptonshire. It is a duodecimo book, bound in leather, measuring $7\frac{1}{2}$ " by $4\frac{1}{2}$ ", and the paper is of good quality. The title page, neatly designed in Old English and Roman, proclaims:—

'The Five and Six Bell Peals of Mr. Richard Valentine who was born December 19th, 1796 and who died March 9th, 1861, at 3 Hor. 30' P.M. Aged 65 yrs.'

Below this, and set in the same panel, is a cutting from 'The Northamptonshire Free Press' of March 23rd, 1861, and the notice reads:—

'Kettering. On the 14th ultimo, the remains of Mr. Richard Valentine were interred in Kettering churchyard, when the society of the Ancient Order of Foresters paid their last tribute to the deceased by walking in procession to the grave. Afterwards a dumb peal was rung on the church bells, the deceased having been a celebrated ringer. The following having been fellow ringers and companions of the deceased, also rung at Longstanton, near Cambridge, on their handbells (muffled) a true and complete peal of 1260 changes, being the quarter peal of Grandsire Triples. A very solemn effect was produced. The following persons were the ringers: John Henson, sen., first and second; John Henson, jun., third and fourth; James Althorp, fifth and sixth; and William Smith, seventh and tenor.'

The identity of Mr. Wagstaff remains obscure, but he was clearly an admirer of Mr. Valentine and a man of great precision and method. It seems to have been his aim to copy from Valentine's own manuscript a large collection of five-bell methods, adding a few four-bell extents, and to tabulate and set them out in figuring most beautifully written and exquisitely spaced on the pages. There are 113 methods of Doubles, many of them familiar to us in form and name, but some with names perhaps not so commonly met with. Among these are such delights as Old Frostley, The Mouse Trap, Spandigo, The Gas Light, and Valentine Maxham, which Wagstaff ventures to think may have been meant to be 'Pax An.': the year of peace.

There is something suggestive of legal precision about the way the writer of the book has framed his comments. He records that the collection contains 113 Doubles, but adds a note that three of them are not quite complete, so that the number should really be 110. He is careful to point out that his own additions are all in red ink and that certain spellings have been corrected. And to round off his task he writes: 'By the letter I received from his wife Mary Valentine he died Saturday March 9th 3½ hor P.M., Exactly the time I returned the MS to the carrier.'

There are some 50 pages remaining in the book after the setting out of the methods, and these sheets have been filled by Mr. Wagstaff with a most extraordinary collection of notes and extracts from works on (and allied to) bells and ringing, together with innumerable jottings and comments of his own. He writes partly in his own tiny print-script and partly in a form of shorthand, so that it is very difficult to follow much of his thought. He has gone to the trouble to copy extensively from 'Church Bells and Ringing,' by W. T. Maunsell, and from 'The Shepherds Kalender,' and he seems to have had access to,

and to have studied, most of the books devoted to ringing that had appeared up to his time. The very end of the volume seems to have accumulated a mass of sporadic jottings, among them being 'Jasper Snowdon Esq. (Campanologist) Ilkley-Leeds, Yorkshire, his father a clergyman,' and the following rather abrupt reminder: 'Jonathan Wild hung May 24th, 1725.'

In the forepart of the book are pasted copies of the circulars advertising the proposed publication of B. Thackrah's 'Art of Change Ringing' and Sottenstall's 'Elements of Campanologia,' and with these are some newspaper cuttings that record ringing activities at Kettering and Wellingborough in the '70's.

Extracts from 'The Northampton Mercury' record, in 1871, the sudden death of Mr. Samuel Tilley, and in 1872 the demise of Mr. John Henson, of Wellingborough. The former gentleman, a member of the 4th City Rifles and a bandsman, collapsed and died immediately after playing at the funeral of a comrade in London. He was only 53 years of age. Mr. Henson was 78, and a 'dumb peal' was rung for him after his funeral. The year 1872 was marked, too, in Wellingborough, by the ringing of 720 Bob Minor by a mixed band, conducted by Mr. Samuel Spencer, of Rushden. It was, according to the report, the first 720 rung in the town for over a hundred years, the previous performance being recorded on a tablet bearing the tailpiece:

'We were ye first then with a nod
That on these bells learn'd Grandsire Bob. 1741.'

Possibly the most interesting slip of paper is the cutting of 1874 recording the ringing of 2,520 Grandsire Triples by what was called 'The Kettering Star Handbell Ringers.' The paper tells us that 'the above was divided into five equal parts, containing forty-five lesles and one ginal, and was brought round in one hour and thirty-eight minutes.' The ringers were Frank Starmer, George Starmer (Conductor), Thomas Whiteing and John Starmer. The 45 lesles are clearly bobs, but the one ginal defeats us. An old dictionary of 1843 gives the verb 'Gingle: to utter a sharp clattering noise,' and the substantive 'a Gingle: a shrill resounding noise,' but whether these have any relation to Mr. Starmer's unusual call there is no means of determining.

The composition of this meritorious performance seems to have caused the methodical Mr. Wagstaff considerable heartache, and he spends much time trying to ascertain exactly what Starmer did call. The half peal was reported as the first half of Holt's ten-part, but the figures produced are those of the old 2,520 in the 'Campanologia' of 1702, published, as Wagstaff says, 'long before Holt's time.' There would appear to be no reason for any call other than bobs for the purpose of securing the half peal. This part of the manuscript book contains extensive notes and prickings showing that the writer was well aware that a ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples with two common singles would of necessity be false, and he goes on to assert that a 5,040 said to have been rung at Kettering (probably the one reported in 1840) was on this plan and must therefore be discredited. The reasoning is impressive, and a survey of these notes reveals Wagstaff as a very able man.

Much more might be written about this rather remarkable book, and doubtless a closer study of the notes would repay the earnest searcher. But this brief description of some of its features may arouse interest in certain quarters and possibly lead to the emergence of some more particulars concerning Richard Valentine and (of possibly greater interest and importance) concerning his friend and admirer, J. D. Wagstaff.

A WEEK-END IN TWO COUNTIES

APPLETON, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1958, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

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

*MARY HALL Treble	JOHN A. ANDERSON 6
GEOFFREY K. DODD 2	A. PATRICK CANNON 7
J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE .. 3	MALCOLM S. CLOKE 8
VIVIENNE M. HORTON 4	†PAUL J. RIGBY 9
TREVOR A. CROSS 5	PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Royal. † First of Plain Bob Royal.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Dr. D. H. Niblett and Ruth S. Hodgson, celebrated at Rye, Sussex, on Saturday, July 26th. Also a birthday peal for Miss Ann M. Cox, of Guildford.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Aug. 3, 1958, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5080 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. in G.

REGINALD A. REED Treble	†J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE .. 6
PAUL J. RIGBY 2	A. PATRICK CANNON 7
VIVIENNE M. HORTON 3	JOHN A. ANDERSON 8
*RICHARD C. KIPPIN 4	*GEOFFREY K. DODD 9
PHILIP MEHEW 5	TREVOR A. CROSS Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN.

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Treble Bob Royal. † First of Treble Bob.

HARWELL, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1958, in 3 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb. in E.

PAUL J. RIGBY Treble	TREVOR A. CROSS 5
JOHN A. ANDERSON 2	GEOFFREY K. DODD 6
J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE .. 3	*A. PATRICK CANNON 7
VIVIENNE M. HORTON 4	*PHILIP MEHEW Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* 50th peal together. 50th peal of Surprise Major as conductor, in 48 different towers.

DRAYTON, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1958, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in G.

VIVIENNE M. HORTON .. Treble	J. RICHARD CASTLEDINE .. 5
PAUL J. RIGBY 2	JOHN A. ANDERSON 6
PHILIP MEHEW 3	TREVOR A. CROSS 7
GEOFFREY K. DODD 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

25th peal of Cambridge Major as conductor.

TEN BELL PEALS

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 26, 1958, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 29 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb. in C.

*JOHN WILSON Treble	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN 6
RODERICK W. PIPE 2	WILFRED WILSON 7
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3	NORMAN V. HARDING 8
JAMES MORLEY 4	RONALD C. NOON 9
†ERNEST H. MASTIN 5	CECIL W. PIPE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

* First peal on ten bells. † First of Cambridge Surprise Royal.

Rung for the opening of the King's Lynn festival week.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1958, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMUND,

A PEAL OF 5000 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Ilkerton variation.	Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in E.
H. DAVID HOLLAND .. Treble	BURLEY P. MORRIS 6
JOSEPH SAXTON 2	CYRIL R. WRIGHT 7
FRANCIS R. LOWE 3	GORDON A. HALLS 8
HAROLD WAGSTAFFE 4	JAMES H. PAILING 9
ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 5	IAN M. HOLLAND Tenor

Composed by E. C. GOBEY.

First peal in this variation by all the band. The ringer of the third has now 'circled the tower.'

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.

THE SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

On Tues., Aug. 5, 1958, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 34½ cwt.

*DAVID G. FRENCH .. Treble	H. DAVID HOLLAND 6
IAN M. HOLLAND 2	NORMAN CHADDOCK 7
*†SUSAN CHADDOCK 3	JOHN SEAGER 8
BERNARD GROVES 4	*†JOHN N. D. CHADDOCK .. 9
ELIZABETH A. WARDILL .. 5	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES TOPP.

Conducted by NORMAN CHADDOCK.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. † 25th peal together.

LEEDS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Aug. 6, 1958, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB CATERS

Tenor 20 cwt.

*MARTIN L. HOWE .. Treble	PETER C. WRIGHT 6
KATHLEEN WRIGHT 2	REGINALD L. SILLS 7
LEONARD MANNERING .. 3	WILLIAM R. MANSEY 8
E. S. JOHN HATCHER .. 4	BENJAMIN F. BAKER 9
JOHN R. COOPER 5	STANLEY A. HAYZELDEN .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by PETER C. WRIGHT.

* First peal on ten bells. First of Bob Caters by all the band, and for the Association.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 19, 1958, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 8 lb. in F.

*CAROL FERNLEY .. Treble	BERNARD GROVES 5
FRANK OSBALDISTON .. 2	ROBERT B. SMITH 6
NEIL D. LOMAS 3	NEIL BENNETT 7
WILLIAM H. DOWSE .. 4	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

MILES PLATTING, MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 26, 1958, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5120 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lb. in G.

EILEEN FEARN .. Treble	NEIL BENNETT 5
CAROL FERNLEY 2	†ROBERT B. SMITH 6
JOHN R. KENNETT 3	FRANK OSBALDISTON .. 7
*STUART ELLISON 4	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Composed by DAVID HOARE.

Conducted by ROBERT B. SMITH.

* First peal of Major 'inside.' † 50th peal for the Guild.

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ROCESTER, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 26, 1958, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt. in F sharp.

*GEOFFREY DAVIES Treble	ALAN D. STEEL 5
ANN BARR 2	FREDERICK E. WILSHAW .. 6
J. EDWARD CAWSE 3	†PAUL W. WEBB 7
G. ARNOLD MOORE 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

* First peal. † First in the method away from the treble.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., July 28, 1958, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

*ERNEST MORRIS Treble	*JOHN A. ACRES 5
†BRIAN G. WARWICK 2	COLIN HARRISON 6
GORDON A. HALLS 3	ERNEST J. JELLEY 7
†RUSSELL S. MORRIS 4	G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER (No. 45).

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* 150th peal together. † 550th peal and 300th as conductor. ‡ First in the method.

A birthday compliment to Ernest Morris.

GRESSENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 30, 1958, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,

A PEAL OF 5184 UPTON IMPERIAL COURT MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

VERA M. NELSON Treble	GEORGE SAYER 5
H. WILLIAM BARRETT 2	NOLAN GOLDEN 6
ARTHUR G. BASON 3	JOHN S. BARNES 7
GEORGE P. ADAMS 4	BERT GOGLE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Believed to be the first peal in the method, C.C. Collection of Plain Major Methods No. 54. Fourths-place bobs were used.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 31, 1958, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

DAVID A. CARPENTER Treble	L. MICHAEL CALLOW 5
*LESLIE M. PARKER 2	GEORGE GARDNER 6
FRANK W. PERRENS 3	JAMES L. GARNER HAYWARD .. 7
RUTH M. BORDER 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by DAVID A. CARPENTER.

* First peal. First in the method as conductor, and 50th peal.

Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the seventh on the occasion of his 62nd birthday.

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Aug. 1, 1958, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 48 lb. in G.

A. SPENCER BROTHERS Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN 5
EVELYN M. FLETCHER 2	H. WILLIAM BARRETT 6
DAVID HEIGHTON 3	THOMAS R. SIMMONS 7
DANIEL T. MATKIN 4	GEORGE SAYER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Ringers of second and fourth from Birmingham and Bournemouth respectively.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1958, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

WILLIAM CLOVER Treble	WILFRED G. SAUNDERS 5
FRANK C. J. ARNOLD 2	C. FRANK W. PHILLIPPO 6
THOMAS E. SPIGHT 3	HENRY TOOKE 7
CHARLES H. MOORE 4	JOHN R. KETTERINGHAM .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by HENRY TOOKE.

DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Aug. 3, 1958, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part, seventh observation. Tenor 15½ cwt.

*PETER D. TAYLOR Treble	RONALD H. BULLEN 5
†MICHAEL H. PAULSON 2	GEORGE H. PAULSON 6
DAVID A. MELLOR 3	HERBERT E. TAYLOR 7
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 4	ERNEST PAULSON Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT E. TAYLOR.

* First peal. † First of Grandsire. 100th peal on the bells.

Rung fully-muffled as a last token of respect to Arthur W. Smith, aged 79, lay reader and one-time ringer at St. Helen's. Rung by the local band.

NORTHOWRAM, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Aug. 3, 1958, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in E flat.

*A. GILLIAN HENDERSON .. Treble	ALBERT W. BOND 5
†CYRIL F. SUTCLIFFE 2	SAM LONGBOTTOM 6
GEORGE A. BRIGGS 3	JOHN PEARSON 7
W. GEORGE TURNER 4	*HAROLD BROWN Tenor

Composed by A. J. CORRIGAN.

Conducted by JOHN PEARSON.

* First peal. † 25th peal.

Rung to mark the retirement of Canon George Watkinson, M.A., after 61 years as curate, first vicar and donor, of the above church.

SOUTHWELL, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1958, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL AND COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

GEORGE CHALLANS Treble	DOUGLAS H. ROOKE 5
CYRIL WRIGHT 2	ERNEST PRESTON 6
HAROLD DENMAN 3	JOSEPH SAXTON 7
HAROLD WAGSTAFFE 4	HERBERT T. ROOKE Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN H. WOOD. Conducted by HERBERT T. ROOKE.

First peal in the method on the bells.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the sixth.

DEREHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Aug. 5, 1958, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5152 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. 105 lb. in E flat.

ARTHUR G. BASON Treble	GEORGE SAYER 5
ARTHUR G. MASON 2	H. WILLIAM BARRETT 6
JOHN S. BARNES 3	GEORGE P. ADAMS 7
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	BERT GOGLE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in the method on the bells.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Aug. 6, 1958, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb. in G.

VIVIEN BARNES Treble	PHILIP A. CORBY 5
JOHN THOMAS 2	E. TREVOR NEWBURY 6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3	PATRICK HARRIS 7
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 4	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS (C.C.C. 12).

Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

Rung half-muffled in memory of Percival Walter Chapman, brother of the Rector of Hinton, interred this day at Yardley Cemetery, Birmingham.

PAKEFIELD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Aug. 7, 1958, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS AND ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's. Tenor 8 cwt. 88 lb. in G.

WILLIAM B. DUNCAN Treble	ARTHUR G. MASON 5
H. WILLIAM BARRETT 2	NOLAN GOLDEN 6
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN 3	THOMAS COOK 7
TREVOR N. J. BAILEY 4	JOHN S. BARNES Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in the method on the bells. Mr. Cook is from Darlington.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

DERSINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., July 11, 1958, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 9 cwt. 8 lb.

JOHN WILSON Treble	LESLIE W. HOUGHTOON .. 4
FREDA P. GREAVES 2	CÉCIL V. EBBERSON 5
J. SPICER 3	NORMAN V. HARDING .. Tenor

Conducted by NORMAN V. HARDING.

THORNER, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 17, 1958, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

HAROLD B. SCHOFIELD .. Treble	FRANK RAYMENT 4
ROY BETTLEY-COOKE 2	ALAN E. HARTLEY 5
*PETER DAWSON 3	FREDERICK A. MUNDAY .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK A. MUNDAY.

* First peal in the method. First of Surprise on the bells.

Rung to welcome the tenor ringer to Yorkshire.

FAIRFIELD, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(The Buxton College Society of Change Ringers.)

On Wed., July 23, 1958, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 12 cwt. 10 lb. in F. sharp.

*KEITH R. BIRKIN Treble	R. BRENT WHERRY 4
*J. DAVID ADAMS 2	†JOHN R. KENNETT 5
†STUART ELLISON 3	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal. † First 'inside.' ‡ 25th peal and 25th with the conductor. First tower bell peal for the Society, rung by present members.

STAGSDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Thurs., July 24, 1958, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 15 different callings.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb.

BRYAN PATTISON Treble	PETER J. SHIPTON 4
ANNE E. AMOR 2	ROBERT L. PIRON 5
JENNIFER M. DAVIES 3	ROY EASSON Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

First peal of Stedman Doubles by all the band.

WILLINGTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 24, 1958, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Comprising 30 extents of Grandsire and 12 of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. Treble	†RICHARD HARRISON .. 3
*MARY TYSOE 2	ROY WARD 4

COLIN PAYNE Tenor

Conducted by C. EDWARD JEFFRIES.

* First attempt for a peal. † First peal of Doubles.

Rung after meeting short for Minor.

FAIRFIELD, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(The Buxton College Society of Change Ringers.)

On Wed., July 30, 1958, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently.

Tenor 12 cwt. 10 lb. in F sharp

KEITH R. BIRKIN Treble	R. BRENT WHERRY 4
J. DAVID ADAMS 2	JOHN R. KENNETT 5
STUART ELLISON 3	BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

50th peal on the bells.

STOKE-NEXT-GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 30, 1958, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

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

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 7 cwt. 14 lb. in B flat.

*JOAN K. BEAZLEY Treble	*DOUGLAS A. R. MAY .. 4
*PETER A. BIRD 2	†A. PATRICK CANNON .. 5
*PETER G. SMART 3	†ANN M. COX Tenor

Conducted by ANN M. COX.

* First peal of Minor in four methods. † 50th peal together, rung in 42 different towers.

KIRBY MUXLOE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 31, 1958, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In seven methods, consisting of four extents of Stedman, six of Reverse St. Bartholomew, two of Plain Bob, six of April Day, two of Plain Bob, six of St. Simon's Bob, six of St. Martin's Bob, two of Plain Bob and eight of Grandsire.

Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in A flat.

JOAN K. BROWN Treble	*A. JAMES POYNOR 3
ERNEST MORRIS 2	JOHN A. ACRES 4

BRIAN G. WARWICK Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal on five bells and first in more than one method.

TILNEY, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Aug. 1, 1958, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 16 cwt.

*ELIZABETH LOVELAND .. Treble	LESLIE W. HOUGHTON .. 4
FREDA P. GREAVES 2	WILLIAM ROSE 5
H. HUXLEY 3	NORMAN V. HARDING .. Tenor

Conducted by NORMAN V. HARDING.

* First peal and first attempt.

A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Freda P. Greaves.

CADOXTON, NEAR NEATH.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1958, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATWG.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being one 2,160 and four 720's.

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

HARRY BOYCE Treble	JOHN T. WILLIAMS 4
EDMUND J. MORRIS 2	GWYN I. LEWIS 5
EDWARD PHILLIPS 3	BENJAMIN WILLIAMS .. Tenor

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

Rung in honour and as a welcome to H.R.H. Prince Charles.

CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1958, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-A-BECKET,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being two 2,160's with all 5-6's at backstroke, and an extent of 720 with 19 56's and five 65's at backstroke.

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

ROBERT B. SMITH Treble	FRANK OSBALDISTON .. 4
BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE 2	*NEIL BENNETT 5
BERNARD GROVES 3	*ARTHUR HIBBERT Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor. The ringers of treble and second have now 'circled the tower.'

Rung for the 225th anniversary of the casting of the bells.

WARSOP, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1958, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE COURT BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. in F.

DENNIS SMEDLEY Treble	HERBERT T. ROOKE 4
RICHARD HOBBS 2	HAROLD DENMAN 5
GEORGE CHALLANS 3	DOUGLAS H. ROOKE Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS H. ROOKE.

First peal in the method by all the band, and on the bells.

WORLE, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 2, 1958, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (ten callings). Tenor 13 cwt.
*RONALD J. BALLAM .. Treble | GEORGE PRESCOTT .. 4
MARJORIE LEGG .. 2 | FRANCIS C. MOGFORD .. 5
†JOHN DRENNAN .. 3 | *WILLIAM LOVELL .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE PRESCOTT.

* First peal. † First 'inside.'

Rung for the silver wedding anniversary of the Vicar, the Rev. E. Vallance Cook.

FAIRFIELD, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1958, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in 24 methods: (1) Willesden, Old Oxford, College Bob IV, Newdigate and Marple Delight; (2) Wragby, St. Albans, Neasden, Charlwood and Braintree Delight; (3) Killamarsh Treble Bob; (4) Norbury, College Exercise, Duke of Norfolk, Ockley and Morning Star Treble Bob; (5) Oxford, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure, Sandal and Chapel Treble Bob; (6) Kent Treble Bob; (7) Plain Bob and Double Plain Bob; 50 changes of method.

Tenor 12 cwt. 10 lb. in F sharp.

*S. GILLIAN CRANSHAW .. Treble | BERNARD GROVES .. 4
†JOHN R. KENNETT .. 2 | WILLIAM A. SMITH .. 5
FRANK OSBALDISTON .. 3 | BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal. † First in 24 methods 'inside.'

PACKINGTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 4, 1958, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY ROOD.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in six methods: (1) Double Oxford Bob, (2) Cambridge Surprise, (3) St. Clement's Bob, (4) Oxford Treble Bob, (5) Kent Treble Bob, (6) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb. in B flat.

A. JAMES POYNOR .. Treble | ERNEST MORRIS .. 4
BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 2 | *RUSSELL S. MORRIS .. 5
RICHARD J. CLIFTON .. 3 | ERNEST J. JELLEY .. Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal in six methods.

Rung in honour of the birthday of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother.

GAMSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Aug. 7, 1958, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents (four callings). Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.
*GEORGE CHALLANS .. Treble | †RICHARD HOBBS .. 4
KATHERINE BURCHNALL .. 2 | HAROLD DENMAN .. 5
GRACE BURCHNALL .. 3 | †DOUGLAS H. ROOKE .. Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS H. ROOKE.

* 100th peal for the Guild. † First of Surprise. ‡ 150th peal.

GOOSTREY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Aug. 7, 1958, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE.

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR

In 20 methods, being: (1) St. Werburgh, Vale Royal, Combermere and Crowland Delight; (2) Norbury, College Exercise, Duke of Norfolk and Ockley Treble Bob; (3) Wragby, St. Albans, Neasden and Charlwood Delight; (4) Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure, Sandal and Chapel Treble Bob; (5) Willesden, Old Oxford, College Bob IV and Newdigate Delight; (6) Norbury, College Exercise, Duke of Norfolk and Ockley Treble Bob; (7) Wragby, St. Albans, Neasden and Charlwood Delight; 209 changes of method. Tenor 6 cwt. in B flat.

*PHILIP G. K. DAVIES .. Treble | JOHN R. KENNETT .. 4
FRANK OSBALDISTON .. 2 | BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. 5
BERNARD GROVES .. 3 | NEIL BENNETT .. Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal in 20 methods

BENEFIELD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Aug. 8, 1958, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTY.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 6½ cwt.
*JOHN GROOME .. Treble | COLIN M. PAYNE .. 4
DIANA G. LAWLESS .. 2 | DAVID W. JAMES .. 5
RICHARD J. HARRISON .. 3 | VESTER HEADLAND .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID W. JAMES.

* First peal on a working bell.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

BUNWELL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Aug. 8, 1958, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being one extent each of London, Wells, Durham, York, Cambridge, Ipswich and Norwich. Tenor 10 cwt.
T. CHARLES BROWNE .. Treble | JOHN R. SMITH .. 4
WILFRED G. SAUNDERS .. 2 | WILLIAM CLOVER .. 5
FRANK C. J. ARNOLD .. 3 | C. FRANK W. PHILLIPPO .. Tenor

Conducted by C. FRANK W. PHILLIPPO.

First peal in seven Surprise methods by all except the ringer of fifth.

BOBBING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Aug. 9, 1958, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Oxford Treble Bob, three of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.
ALBERT DUNK .. Treble | THOMAS BEAUMONT .. 4
CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB .. 2 | CHARLES E. J. NORRIS .. 5
HARRY SPRINGATE .. 3 | WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT.

CHOBHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Aug. 9, 1958, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (ten callings). Tenor 10 cwt.
*ELISABETH LOVELAND .. Treble | GEORGE TALBOT .. 4
†SALLIE BUCHANAN .. 2 | ROY COLLINS .. 5
†PETER H. LAWSON .. 3 | *RONALD G. COLLINS .. Tenor

Conducted by ROY COLLINS.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal. First peal by a Sunday service band.

Rung on the eve of St. Lawrence's Day.

HANDBELL PEALS

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., July 25, 1958, in 1 Hour and 56 Minutes.

AT 7, WATERSIDE.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 15 in C.
*FRANK OSBALDISTON .. 1-2 | †BERNARD GROVES .. 3-4
BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. 5-6

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal of Minor on handbells. † 50th peal for the Guild.

FAIRFIELD, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(The Buxton College Society of Change Ringers.)

On Thurs., July 31, 1958, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes.

AT 68, ROCKFIELD ROAD.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

In eight methods, being five extents each of Shipway's Place Bob, Spliced Reverse Plain Bob and Canterbury Pleasure Bob, Spliced St. Martin's Bob and St. Osmund Bob, Spliced St. Martin's Bob and St. Simon's Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob, and 17 extents of Plain Bob; 65 changes of method, 131 bobs. Tenor size 16½ in A sharp.
*JOHN R. KENNETT .. 1-2 | BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE .. 3-4

*R. BRENT WHERRY .. 5-6

Conducted by BRIAN J. WOODRUFFE.

* First peal in eight methods on handbells.

????? STOPPED ????? ???? ???? STOPPED ?????



If you require FREE advice regarding your
Church Clock. It's time you consulted us.

CHAS. H. POTTS & CO. LTD. MARSHALL MILLS, LEEDS II.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On July 27th, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: I. C. Forrest 1, R. D. Brown 2, Valerie Mepham 3, B. K. Turnbull 4, H. W. Brown 5, S. W. Brown (cond.) 6. Rung as a farewell to the twins (Harry and Stan Brown), who were moving to Hurstpierpoint after their respective weddings on August 2nd. The 150th quarter peal on the bells since their joint captaincy commenced in 1950.

BECKINGTON, SOMERSET.—On Aug. 6th, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: W. J. Phippen 1, G. W. Massey (cond.) 2, R. G. Beck 3, G. Salmon 4, E. J. Hitchens 5, P. J. Wycherley 6, E. E. Bray 7, L. E. Hitchens 2. First in method for 1, 5 and 6.

BISHOPSTONE, WILTS.—On Aug. 9th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. W. T. Daniell 1, H. W. Bishop 2, V. Griffin 3, E. J. Berry 4, T. Townsend 5, A. R. Peake 6, W. H. Trueman (cond.) 7, J. Durham 8. Rung after the wedding of Miss Sheila Mant and Mr. R. Pelham Barron, both former graduates of Bristol University.

BOZEAT, NORTHANTS.—On Aug. 6th, 1,260 Doubles (120 each of St. Martin's, St. Nicholas', Winchendon, All Saints', Canterbury, Old Bob, Plain Bob, Reverse St. Bartholomew and Grandsire and 180 St. Simon's): T. M. Haines 1, A. R. Jones 2, G. F. Roome (cond.) 3, R. S. Roberts 4, J. C. Rainbow 5.

BROMHAM, WILTS.—On Aug. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Bradfield 1, A. J. Peters 2, D. A. Powney 3, J. Hughes (first 'inside') 4, F. S. Paramore (cond.) 5, G. Cowdrey 6. First quarter 1, 3 and 6. Rung for the wedding of Mr. A. M. House and Miss S. M. Wordly this day.

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA.—On Aug. 3rd, at St. Mary's Church, Woodstock, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Gardiner (first of Triples) 1, C. Gardiner 2, L. Hewitt 3, R. Law 4, W. J. Smith (cond.) 5, R. H. Stickley 6, O. Lamb 7, J. S. Riadore (late of Penshurst, Kent, first quarter) 8.

CHARMINSTER, DORSET.—On May 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Grigg (first quarter) 1, Mrs. M. M. Godley 2, Terha Barnett 3, H. C. Pearce 4, E. H. Amey (cond.) 5, R. Sturmeys 5. Rung for the visit of the Bishop of Sherborne to dedicate the new organ. Also on July 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Grigg 1, Wendy Harewood 2, Terha Barnett 3, H. C. Pearce 4, E. H. Amey (cond.) 5, B. Hine 6. Rung as a 70th birthday compliment to the tenor ringer, who learnt to ring at this tower in 1911.

CHERITON, KENT.—On Aug. 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. French 1, E. Hough (first quarter) 2, A. Jackson 3, J. R. Hough (first quarter) 4, A. Berry 5, J. Welland 6. Conducted by 3 and 5. Rung for Transfiguration of Our Lord; also a birthday compliment to the Misses E. and M. Bryant.

CHEWTON MENDIP, SOMERSET.—On July 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Whitfield (first quarter) 1, J. Furze 2, D. Baber (first quarter) 3, R. Middle 4, J. Bartlett 5, H. Baber 6, R. Dudden 7, C. Ford 8. Rung for the Festival of St. Mary Magdalene, patron saint. Also a 70th birthday compliment to ringer of 4th and in recognition of his 45 years' faithful service.

CHOBHAM, SURREY.—On Aug. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (6, 4, 8 covering): Miss A. Wells 1, Miss S. Buchanan 2, Miss E. Loveland 3, Miss M. Howell (first quarter) 4, P. H. Lawson 5, G. Talbot 6, Roy Collins (cond.) 7, Ron Collins 8. For Parish Communion on St. Lawrence's Day.

EAST BUDLEIGH, DEVON.—On Aug. 9th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Plain Bob, 240 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 120 each of Spliced Grandsire and Stedman Reverse St. Bartholomew, April Day, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, 60 Grandsire): C. Savage 1, C. M. Bloomer 2, S. Skinner (cond.) 3, J. Carter 4, J. Quick 5, F. Snow 6. Also 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: S. Skinner 1, Daphne R. Cloke 2, C. Savage 3, J. Carter 4, C. M. Bloomer 5, M. Cloke (cond.) 6.

EPHING, ESSEX.—On Aug. 7th, 1,288 Grandsire Triples: Miss B. McClelland (first as cond.) 1, C. Moore 2, R. Moore 3, M. Osborne 4, E. Freeman 5, J. Aldridge (first of Triples) 6, I. Statham (first of Triples 'inside') 7, M. Lamb (first quarter) 8. Rung for the 100th birthday of Mrs. Emily Clark, the oldest inhabitant of Epping.

EPSOM, SURREY.—At Christ Church, on July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Adrienne Gibson (first quarter) 1, W. Parrott 2, G. A. Cockman 3, N. Webb 4, F. Oakshott (cond.) 5, G. D. Robinson 6. Also on Aug. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Sylvia Marsh (first quarter) 1, W. Parrott 2, N. Webb 3, K. Prime 4, F. Oakshott (cond.) 5, G. D. Robinson 6.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.—On July 20th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: A. G. Button 1, Miss A. Pryke (first in method) 2, I. Cooper 3, M. A. Mills 4, R. Duesbury 5, E. E. Davey 6, G. N. Orman 7, A. R. Andrews (cond.) 8. For Evensong.

GUISELEY, YORKS.—On Aug. 2nd, 1,260 Minor (360 each of Keat and Oxford Treble Bob, 540 Plain Bob): J. Armitage 1, W. Dixon 2, J. Cooper 3, P. Whitaker 4, A. C. Walsh 5, E. H. Simpson (cond.) 6, G. Dixon cover. For the patronal festival.

HOLYWELL, HUNTS.—On July 30th, 720 each of Ipswich and Norwich Surprise Minor: M. J. Dyer 1, E. J. Parish 2, D. F. Murfet 3, K. Prime 4, G. A. Lucas 5, H. S. Peacock (cond.) 6.

HUMBERSTONE, LEICS.—On Aug. 10th, 1,260 Doubles (360 Reverse St. Bartholomew, 360 Grandsire, 540 Plain Bob): Judith A. M. Cox (first quarter) 1, Barbara Manship 2, G. A. Rudge 3, E. H. Bagworth 4, D. Darby (cond.) 5, T. C. Williams (first quarter) 6. For Evensong.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.—On July 27th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: L. W. Houghton 1, Miss F. P. Greaves 2, E. Barker 3, H. Huxley 4, W. Houghton 5, W. Wilson (cond.) 6, W. Rose 7, N. V. Harding 8. For special service attended by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother in connection with King's Lynn festival week.

LAPWORTH, WARWICKS.—On Aug. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. C. Morris (cond.) 1, J. J. Green 2, R. C. Warburton 3, R. E. Tallis 4, J. K. Foot 5. Believed to be the first quarter on the bells.

LIANGIBBY, MON.—On Aug. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Rev. I. J. Richards 1, Patricia H. Jones 2, Jacqueline S. King 3, D. G. Clarke 4, B. Johns 5, G. Ward 6, D. J. King (cond.) 7, J. James 8. Rung in honour of the new Prince of Wales.

MAIDS MORETON, BUCKS.—On July 31st, 1,260 Doubles (360 Stedman, 360 Plain Bob and 540 Grandsire): F. Townsend 1, G. W. Holland 2, C. Gough 3, F. Vickers 4, W. A. Yates 5, W. H. Yates 6. Conducting shared by 2, 4 and 5. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Charles Payler, for many years vergier and bellringer at Buckingham Parish Church. Rung at this tower as ringing at Buckingham is suspended due to tower repairs.

NAILSEA, SOMERSET.—On Aug. 5th, 1,260 Union Doubles: H. Hardwidge 1, J. Brain 2, L. Derrick 3, M. Horseman 4, C. Korrigh (cond.) 5, Monica Fray 6. First in method by all the band.

NORTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On Aug. 5th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: R. Bridges 1, L. Cordell 2, D. Heapy 3, C. Bingham 4, D. Mitchell 5, W. Wedlock (cond.) 6. Rung as a farewell to D. Heapy on his demobilisation, a regular ringer at North Weald while stationed there.

OCKHAM, SURREY.—On Aug. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss H. Pugh 1, Miss P. Drury 2, J. Martin 3, Miss D. Gibbons 4, B. Priestley (first as cond.) 5. For Evensong.

OTTERHAMPTON, SOMERSET.—On Aug. 8th, 1,296 Grandsire Minimus: Miss F. Phillips (first quarter) 1, K. Prime 2, G. Marchant 3, D. Miller (first of Minimus as cond.) 4. First in method for all.

OTTERSHAW, SURREY.—On Aug. 6th, 1,260 Doubles (280 Reverse St. Bartholomew, 280 Old, 240 April Day, 240 Bob, 240 Grandsire): Miss H. Pugh 1, Miss B. Loveland 2, Miss P. Drury 3, Miss H. Hancock 4, J. Martin (cond.) 5, B. Priestley 6. First in five methods by 1, 2, 4 and 6.

OXFORD.—At the Church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr, on July 23rd, 1,320 Undershaft Doubles: C. R. C. Coussmaker 1, K. Mackintosh 2, J. Pusey 3, R. Jackson 4, D. J. Roaf 5, M. Journeaux 6. First in method for 2, 3 and 6.

PADBURY, BUCKS.—On Aug. 4th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: G. W. Holland (cond.) 1, W. J. Chester 2, M. Saunders 3, W. A. Yates 4, C. Gough 5, G. Sheppard 6.

PETERBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.—At St. Mary's Church, on Aug. 8th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Grandsire, 360 St. Simon's, 360 St. Martin's, 300 Plain Bob): M. Roberts (first quarter) 1, Mrs. M. Parker 2, J. Roffe 3, J. Brown 4, M. Parker (cond.) 5, B. Branstons (first quarter) 6. First of four Doubles methods by all the band. Rung for the first wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. M. Parker.

RADLEY, BERKS.—On July 27th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: Miss M. R. Cross (cond.) 1, Miss S. E. Allen 2, Miss D. J. Pollard 3, Miss S. A. Alexander 4, Miss C. M. Smewin (first of Minor) 5, A. R. Pink 6. First 'inside' in method for 2, 4 and 5. Rung in the octave of St. James-the-Great and to celebrate H.R.H. Prince Charles being created Prince of Wales.

RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.—On July 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. Elkington 1, A. Reeve 2, P. Coward 3, R. Tomlin 4, G. Sandwell 5, M. Hallett 6, A. House (cond.) 7, W. Ward 8. For Evensong.

ROCKWELL GREEN, SOMERSET.—On Aug. 8th, 1,260 Doubles (60 Stedman, 240 each of Reverse Canterbury, Reverse St. Bartholomew, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire): Mrs. D. North 1, G. Walford 2, D. North 3, G. Gammon 4, P. Bird (cond.) 5, C. Baker 6. Rung as a compliment to Mr. J. Gammon and Miss P. Davies on their wedding at Bishopston, Glam., on August 4th.

ST. MARTIN-BY-LOOE, CORNWALL.—On July 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. G. King 1, Miss G. Newton 2, Miss S. Lewis 3, Miss R. M. Webb 4, A. W. Gibbs (cond.) 5, B. K. Lewis (first quarter) 6. For Matins.

SAPCOTE, LEICS.—On Aug. 12th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: M. Faulkes (first quarter) 1, Jennifer Stratford 2, Rita Stratford 3, G. Vernon 4, M. Vernon 5, M. E. Brown (cond.) 6.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Aug. 9th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Valerie Hoby (first of Major) 1, Linda Kew 2, Pamela Jervis 3, M. Harbord 4, B. Lister 5, E. L. A. Hudson 6, A. D. Rivers 7, W. Birmingham (cond.) 8. Rung on the evening of the wedding at Weymouth of the Rev. Philip Swindells, deacon and bellringer at this church, to Miss Lorna Iggulden.

SOUTHGATE, N.—At Christ Church, on Aug. 10th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Grandsire, 420 Stedman, 360 Plain Bob), 6, 7, 8 covering: M. Stanyon 1, S. G. Peck 2, Ann Aldridge 3, J. Wallman (cond.) 4, C. Aldridge 5, Rev. G. D. J. Walsh (first quarter) 6, W. Wainwright 7, J. Perrett 8. For Evensong, and a farewell compliment to the Rev. G. D. J. Walsh, M.A., who is leaving to become secretary for the Student Christian Movement in Cambridge.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICS.—On July 27th, 1,260 Doubles (four extents Stedman, four Plain Bob, two and a half Grandsire): Joan K. Brown 1, B. G. Warwick (cond.) 2, A. E. Bodycote 3, B. S. Chapman 4, E. J. Jelley 5, P. Norman 6. For Evensong.

STEEPLE ASHTON, WILTS.—Recorded service touch of 720 Grandsire Doubles, also five minutes' chiming of the sanctus bell: Miss E. Bennett 1, R. Cottle 2, P. Berrett 3, G. Moore 4, H. Gummer (cond.) 5, G. Burbridge 6. Recorded at the request of Mr. B. Russell, organist at Norton Cannon, Limura, Kenya, to be used preceding the services held in that district. Rung by the local band.

THORPE-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.—On Aug. 3rd, 1,260 Minor (720 Oxford Treble Bob, 540 St. Clement's): Heather Stewart 1, Marian Mills (cond.) 2, M. Mills 3, F. Harvey 4, P. Mills 5, W. Downs 6. For Evensong.

TWERTON-ON-AVON, SOMERSET.—On Aug. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. R. Young 1, B. Davis 2, J. R. Hobbs 3, A. F. Lee 4, R. O. Fry (cond.) 5, J. J. Jefferies (first quarter) 6. For Evensong.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Aug. 10th, 1,295 Grandsire Caters: F. C. Maynard 1, D. A. Hewitt 2, H. Rumens 3, T. Hawkins 4, P. D. Chapman (first 'inside') 5, F. W. Sykes 6, M. A. Austin 7, B. R. Downes (cond.) 8, A. J. N. Boyack 9, F. C. Taylor 10. For Evensong, and first birthday of Susan, grand-daughter of tenor ringer.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On Aug. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. C. Case 1, G. E. Green 2, R. A. Vickers 3, F. Vickers 4, C. Gough 5, W. A. Yates 6, G. W. Holland (cond.) 7, W. H. Yates 8. First of Stedman Triples by 3 and 5.

KEMPSTON, BEDS

Through the generosity of Mr. P. Inskip, 35 ringers and friends of Kempston belfry had an enjoyable meeting into Oxfordshire on July 26th. Ringing took place at Wheatley, Cowley, Ifley and Warborough, the arrangements being admirably made by Mr. G. Hutchings. Mr. Holloway was of assistance in directing the coach on part of the journey. When the coach was halted about midnight at Houghton Conquest a vote of thanks to Mr. Inskip was proposed by Mr. H. L. Stevens and carried unanimously. Incumbents and tower-keepers, not forgetting Mr. Absolam, of Warborough, are thanked.

A pleasing ceremony took place in the Kempston belfry on August 10th, when Mr. R. Freeman, on behalf of the ringers, presented Mr. P. Inskip with a barometer in recognition of his leadership and also as a birthday present.

STRATTON, CORNWALL

Ringers from Stratton, in Cornwall, and visitors from Kent, Essex and Somerset, held a summer outing on August Bank Holiday Monday.

Ringing began in the morning at St. Stephen-by-Launceston (8), St. Thomas', Launceston (6) and St. Mary's, Launceston (8), and then, after a short run, St. Mary's, Lifton (8), where we enjoyed a Cornish meal of 'parsties,' sauce and beer at the Arundel Arms.

Then on to St. Briochus', Lezant (6), in the afternoon. A good tea was enjoyed in Launceston and ringing continued at Werrington (8), North Petherwin (6) and Tamer-ton (6).

Methods rung were Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman and Kent. Many thanks are due to Mr. Harry Stacey and all friends from Stratton, who made this such a memorable day of our holiday.

M. A. L.

OUTINGS**HASLEMERE, SURREY**

On August Bank Holiday, a party consisting of ringers from St. Bartholomew's Church, Haslemere, and friends from one or two local towers, set off for the annual outing. Reading was reached at 10 a.m., and ringing took place on the eight at St. Giles' Church (15 cwt.). In the absence of the local ringers the party was welcomed by the Vicar, and it was some while before ringing could commence owing to attempts to disengage a clock hammer, which turned out to be a trap-door! Moving on to Thatcham, an hour was spent on the eight at St. Mary's (13 cwt.) before continuing to Newbury for lunch, with a break of just over an hour, in time to see the commencement of a British Legion carnival.

Then followed the long drive to Hursley, with ringing on the eight (13 cwt.). Whilst for most of the party this was one more new tower, for some it was a return visit from a previous outing made some six years ago. After tea at Hursley, the party moved on to Romsey, where ringing took place at the magnificent old Benedictine Abbey. The eight bells (24 cwt.) were declared without question the best of the day, and a most enjoyable hour was spent there before setting out home for Haslemere, which was reached by 11 p.m.

Mr. A. V. Queen made all arrangements for the very enjoyable trip, and Mr. F. Bowden was Ringing Master. Methods rung included Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major, and Cambridge Minor.

J. E. C.

AYLESTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE

On Saturday, July 12th, ringers from St. Andrew's, Aylestone, together with friends from neighbouring churches, visited several towers in Derbyshire.

The Dawn Chorus (so the itinerary stated) was to be at Overseale, where Mr. J. W. Cotton (secretary of the Midland Counties Guild) had given permission to ring from 8.30-9 a.m. On these light Taylor bells a good touch of Stedman started the day. The next call was at Ashbourne. Here some difficulty was experienced as the bells are rung from the centre of the church and the ropes are very long.

At Brassington a very good ring of six with a tenor of eight cwt. was discovered. These bells are a delight to ring and are well worth a visit. Ringing at Matlock was delayed owing to a wedding but eventually an excellent course of Cambridge was rung. Lunch was taken here and some misunderstanding arose with the result that three members of the party were left waiting for the bus in the pouring rain for 20 minutes.

The tit-bit of the day, especially put in for those of the Monday band, was the light six at Wornhill. Naturally some trouble was experienced but some members of the party found that the bells could be rung.

Belper was the next tower and on this handy eight some spliced Major was attempted.

The last tower of the day was St. Andrew's, Derby, the only 10-bell tower in the programme. Here we were pleased to meet and welcome Mr. George Freebrey, who never seems to lose any of his enthusiasm despite his age. Ringing here consisted of Grandsire Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal. Thanks are due to Mr. Russell S. Morris (Ringing Master at Aylestone) for his work in arranging such a varied and enjoyable outing.

J.

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LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

All communications for publication to:—
The Editor, 'The Ringing World,'
c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, Surrey.
Tel. Guildford 5028 or 5311.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

	One copy	2 copies	3 copies	4 copies
3 months	7/6	—	—	—
6 months	14/6	£1/6/-	£1/15/6	£2/6/-
12 months	£1/8/-	£2/9/-	£3/10/-	£4/11/-

Remittances to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall. Cheques payable to 'The Ringing World.'

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BELFRY GOSSIP

Five members of the Bedfordshire Association 'took to the water' at St. Neots Regatta on August 2nd and entered a crew in the Maiden Fours event. They lost to the City of Cambridge Boat Club. The crew was Roger A. Lennard cox, Roy A. Ward stroke, Peter J. Shipton 3, John B. Long 2, Bryan Pattison bow. All except Roy Ward are members of the St. Paul's, Bedford, band, and someone in the boat was heard to say at the end of the race that at least City of Cambridge B.C. couldn't ring Grandsire Doubles.

Ringers from Warmley, Glos, spent their holiday this year in Cornwall. They 'grabbed' many new towers and rang a quarter peal at St. Martin-by-Looe. Thanks are accorded to everyone who helped in an enjoyable holiday.

For the peal of Superlative Surprise at Barnard Castle, Co. Durham, Mr. Robin Leale and Mr. Fred Scott travelled up from Stamford in pouring rain on a motor-cycle during the morning. They had at least some good ringing to recompense them.

The band who took part in the peal of Minor at Tilney All Saints, Norfolk, wish to thank Miss Elizabeth Loveland, of Woking, Surrey, who was on holiday at King's Lynn, for standing in at the last minute, and congratulate her on the efficient way in which she rang the treble in her first peal.

Recently appointed as Registrar in Chester, Mr. R. C. H. Sibley, formerly of Northampton, was accorded a hearty welcome when he accepted an invitation to attend a meeting of the Chester Branch at St. Mary's-within-the-Walls. News of his appointment was contained in a peal footnote, and the moral, writes our correspondent, is: 'There is something in every feature of 'The Ringing World'—even footnotes.'

Aldrington, Sussex, band has lost its joint captains, Messrs. Harry and Stan

Brown, who have held office since 1950, during which time 150 quarter peals have been rung on the bells. The twins moved to Hurst-pierpoint after their respective weddings on August 2nd.

Mr. T. E. G. Taylor, of Gravesend, writes thanking the members of the Irish Association for the enjoyable ringing he had while visiting Bangor. He had a very warm welcome at Bangor, Holywood, Dundela and St. Thomas', Belfast, towers.

On July 31st a band from St. Thomas', Belfast, travelled to Bangor for a quarter peal attempt of Grandsire Triples in honour of the elevation of Canon A. A. Buchanan, Rector of Bangor, to the Bishopric of Clogher. Unfortunately the attempt came to grief after 35 minutes.

Mr. Brian Russell, organist at Norton Canon, Lemura, Kenya, has sent a request to Canon O. R. Yerburch, Vicar of Steeple Ashton, Wilts, that he would like to hear the bells of his youth again, preceding the services held in his district, followed by the chiming of the sanctus bell for about five minutes. Steeple Ashton's local band have made such a recording and sent it to him by air.

A peal attempt at Llangibby, Mon, in honour of the new Prince of Wales was brought to an abrupt end. 'Mine host' from across the road suddenly burst into the ground floor ringing chamber and inquired 'Ow you getting on in 'ere?' After it was explained to him just what he had done a very regretful landlord went back to his bar. The ringers returned to the tower, where a quarter peal was successfully brought round.

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HANDBELL RINGING IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

Random Reminiscences of Thomas Ogden

THE series of articles on 'Music in Bell Ringing' by Mr. Chant and Mr. Painter, together with the correspondence arising therefrom, must, I feel sure, have been of great interest to a large number of ringers.

An old saying, which is nevertheless quite true to-day, is that 'Beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder,' and it is equally true to say that 'Music lies in the ear of the listener.' In proof of this, my dictionary defines the word 'music' as: 'Any succession of sound, so modulated as to please the ear,' and, of course, every individual has his or her own ideas as to what is pleasing to the ear and what is not.

For instance, over the past two years the younger members of my family have gone to considerable trouble and no little expense to amass a collection of gramophone records, the majority of which I can only describe as being of the 'Pop' variety. The youngsters and their friends obviously derive much pleasure from listening to this kind of 'music,' but, to say the least, their mother and I much prefer them to play it when we are out. Personally, I would scrap the lot of these 'Pop' records for a good recording of Stedman Triples or Kent Major rung by a competent band on, say, the bells of St. Thomas' Church, Moorside.

DOUGHTY STRIKERS OF FRIEZLAND

One of my most treasured recordings is one made by that band of doughty strikers at Christ Church, Friezland, in Yorkshire. On one side of this record is a touch of Oxford Minor, while on the other is a plain course of Merchant's Return, both practically faultless. And I can listen to this kind of bell music for a long, long time before tiring of it, but it has little or no appeal to the other members of my family or to my non-ringing friends, most of whom I find get bored and can see nothing of interest in change ringing, however good, after three or four minutes of listening to it.

On the other hand, many of my acquaintances with a musical ear will listen entranced for perhaps an hour or longer to my recordings of tune ringing on handbells, the work of two of the most competent bands of tune ringers in the north of England at the present time.

Two or three summers ago I attended a six-bell ringers' contest at a West Riding tower, my object being not to take part in the contest but just to listen to the ringing. My friend, Mr. Harry Nutt, of Friezland, happened to be the judge on this occasion, and when the contest was over I remarked to him how much I had enjoyed the 'music.' 'Yes, Tom,' he replied, 'but your kind of bell music (meaning tune ringing on handbells) is what the general public appreciate the most,' and this is undoubtedly true, as witness the fact that people will actually pay to attend concerts at which leading bands of tune ringers are the principal artists.

During the course of my journeyings around the north of England over the past few years I have been made most welcome at many of the towers I have visited on practice nights, and I have also made many good friends of whose kindness I cannot speak too highly, and to whom I look forward to meeting again from time to time as my journeys come round.

About 60 years ago and up to the 1914-18 war, handbell tune ringing in the north of England was probably in its heyday, but the 'Kaiser's War' caused the dispersal of many a band whose bells have since laid silent and forgotten, or have, perhaps, been sold in odd sixes or eights, or even for scrap. Page 176

of 'The Ringing World' of March 14th, 1958, contains news of the piecemeal sale of handbells of the once famous Horbury Handbell Ringers, who made two successful tours of North America and who once won the National Handbell Ringing Contest. There were nearly 70 bells in this set (presumably 5½ chromatic octaves) and it is stated that the bells fetched a total of more than £30! I wonder if the people responsible for the dispersal and sale of this set realise that they could have obtained much more than £30 for the set if offered complete, and that breaking up a set of this description is akin to breaking up an organ and selling the parts piecemeal, simply because they have no one to produce music from it!

KEEPING THE ART ALIVE

However, the north of England still has a hard core of handbell tune ringers who have kept the art alive and who are making progress with it, and all honour to their efforts, too. I do not know of them all, but those with whom I have come into contact I should like to briefly mention.

In Cumberland we have Mr. Joe Brownrigg with his band at Crosthwaite, Keswick. They have 36 bells (I think) and have an extensive repertoire of musical items, old and new, and have broadcast very frequently of recent years, usually in a 'Country Dancing' or 'Cumberland Merry Neet' programme. By the way, they have a method of notation all of their own, devised, I suspect, by Mrs. Brownrigg, who seems to be able to arrange any tune for them at a few minutes' notice. All the other bands I know ring from staff notation, suitably abridged for each individual ringer, of which more later on.

Also, at the very southern extremity of Cumberland, at Millom, we have Mr. and Mrs. Overfield with the Millom Handbell Ringers. They have not a large set of bells and are only just beginning tune ringing, but I think they will persevere and make progress as time goes on, and we shall hear more of them, I do not doubt.

Over in North Lancashire on the edge of the bonny Lake District, we have the Silverdale Band, whose leader, Mr. Tom Bolton, has a team second to none, and whose efforts in the face of great drawbacks deserve the highest praise. The Silverdale ringers have broadcast more than once, and in fact 'Their sound has gone out into all the world,' for they took part in an overseas broadcast at Christmas, 1957, and why this was not broadcast in the Home Service I cannot imagine. Certainly it would be an improvement on some of the so-called 'music' that comes over the radio at times.

YORKSHIRE BANDS

In Yorkshire, at Skipton, we have Mr. Joe Wiseman and his band of Yorkshire lasses. I was sorry to hear last week that Cupid has made havoc with his band of ringers recently, which will surprise no one who knows them. This happens, however, in the best of ringing bands and new recruits have to be trained to fill the gaps, as every leader knows. The Skipton ringers have about 48 bells and a good selection of music including hymn and carol tunes in their scores.

In South Yorkshire my friend Norman Chaddock is well known for his band of teenage ringers, most of whom can perform equally well on the bells of Rotherham Parish Church or on his set of 48 handbells, and I have to thank Mr. Chaddock for his help in lending me musical scores to copy out from time to time.

Yorkshire has also a first-class band of tune ringers at Saddleworth, to whom I have listened more than once. The Saddleworth Handbell Ringers won the first prize at the Belle Vue (Manchester) annual contest in

1914, again in 1921, and in the final contest in 1925, the last one to be held, and the present band are certainly one of the best in the north of England.

Todmorden, also in Yorkshire, had quite a promising band up to about 12 months ago, but owing to the call-up for National Service of one member and another leaving the district, they have not practised since. Mr. Colin Ashworth tells me that when the wanderer returns from doing his National Service duties they hope to commence activities again, and I hope it will not be long before they do.

HIS IDEA OF HEAVEN

Over the Mersey, in Cheshire, are the well-known Norbury Handbell Ringers, whose late leader, Mr. Fernley, passed away so tragically some months ago. The Norbury band have 14 ringers and a fine set of about 160 handbells, probably six octaves, with many duplicate and some triplicate bells. They have a splendid repertoire of music, mostly arrangements by their late leader, and I well remember the remark made by a prominent ringer whom I once took to listen to them practising. After listening quietly to two or three of their tune arrangements, he lit his pipe and turning to me said: 'This is my idea of heaven, Tom,' and I certainly agreed with him.

Over in the Fylde district, Mr. Jim Wilson at Singleton is the leader of the Singleton Handbell Ringers. They have about 36 bells and mostly confine their activities to the Christmas and New Year period, when they usually have quite an enjoyable and profitable time touring their extensive parish ringing seasonable tunes and carols.

Finally I must mention the band of which I am a member, the Moorside Handbell Ringers (Oldham). We have 11 ringers and 74 bells at Moorside, a range of 4½ chromatic octaves with 18 duplicates.

My father, who was born in the village, remembered that there was an active band of tune ringers at Moorside as far back as 1884, for he remembered listening to them practising in a little cottage which he had to pass on his way home from church on Sunday mornings. He would then be about 10 years old. Later on, when about 19 years of age, he joined the band of tower ringers at St. Thomas' Parish Church, Moorside, afterwards joining, along with John, his younger brother, the band of handbell ringers.

MANUSCRIPTS FROM 1883

Some of the copies that we ring from at the present day are dated as far back as 1883, and we have a few that were arranged by my father and his brother early in the present century. They still bring pleasure and enjoyment to our audiences and ourselves, just as much as when they were first notated. I should like here to pay tribute to our leader, Mr. Ivan Kay, without whose enthusiasm and knowledge the band would probably not have re-formed after the second war period. In October, 1953, he asked me to join them, and since then he has built up an excellent band of tune ringers who have made quite a name for themselves in Oldham and district.

These ten bands comprise all the handbell ringing bands in the north of England at the present that I know of. There are many, far too many, sets of handbells lying silent all over the North Country, and there will also be those places with perhaps an enthusiastic band who are only known of in their own immediate vicinity, and to these I would say, if you are interested enough, drop a line to 'The Ringing World': let others know of your activities. You may be able to help a struggling band, or others may be able to help you. Who knows? Why not try it?

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY WEEK-END IN TWO COUNTIES

A VERY successful and happy week-end in Berkshire and Hampshire, arranged by Mr. Geoffrey K. Dodd, of Highclere, was enjoyed by nine ringers from various parts of the country. H.Q. was at the Queen's Hotel, Newbury.

A start was made on the Saturday morning at Wantage for Yorkshire, but after over two hours of good ringing the conductor, sad to relate, put in a bob at 'Home,' when no call was needed. (He said it must be due to old age!) The bells are a very good ring, of mixed vintage, with a tenor of 22 cwt.

After lunch we made our way in our hired 'Dormobile' to the famous bells at Appleton (10, 14½ cwt.). We were met by Mr. F. White, who kindly had everything ready for us, and, with the assistance of Malcolm Cloke, rang a very fast peal of Bob Royal. Maybe it was a little too fast, but these bells take some holding back! Mrs. Daphne Cloke kindly stood out to enable Miss Mary Hall, of Bristol, to score her first peal of Royal, and very well she rang, too. After the peal we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Fred White, who rang the tenor in the record peal of Stedman Caters in 1922.

Sunday morning saw us at Highclere (8, 11 cwt.) to join Geoff Dodd at his local tower, and ring for the visit of H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, who was taking part in a cricket match in the afternoon, and, attending morning service first, Prince Philip noticed us standing by the belfry door, and remarked to his escort, Lord Caernarvon, 'Is that the choir?' Lunch was taken at Winchester, and at 2.15 p.m. we were joined by Reginald Reed and Christopher Kippin for a well-struck peal of Kent Royal at North Stoneham (10, 10½ cwt.). We returned to Newbury and found Ralph Edwards awaiting us with the glad news that Mrs. Edwards was making a good recovery from her recent accident. He had come down to join us for one night, having rung a peal at Bradford, Yorks, on the Saturday.

The first tower for Monday was Harwell (8, 16½ cwt.) and we were met by Mr. David Jordan. The peal of Yorkshire sounded well on this good Taylor ring, and Ralph Edwards enjoyed his listen, sitting in the churchyard.

We went on to Abingdon to try to find some lunch, and instead found Brian Blaydon and some friends from Swindon area waiting to have a ring at St. Nicholas'. We joined his party for a ring here, found some lunch and arrived at the famous church of Drayton (8, 9½ cwt.). Ralph was particularly pleased to ring here, and to examine the mass of peal boards from 1880 to 1889. The bells are a very fast-moving ring, and our peal of Cambridge in 2 hours and 29 minutes may have been the fastest Major on the bells. A peal of Stedman Triples was rung here in 1888 in 2 hours and 27 minutes, conducted by J. W. Washbrook (see 'Among the Bells,' page 84) from the tenor.

Leaving Drayton and its memories of the Rev. F. E. Robinson and J. W. W., we again joined Brian Blaydon and his friends at Appleford (6, 8 cwt.) and North Moreton (5, 13 cwt., a minor five). We are looking forward to another week-end next August.

A. P. C.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Aylesbeare Branch

At the last quarterly meeting it was considered doubtful whether the monthly practice meetings were worth continuing. It was decided, however, to try, and the meetings are now being held on the last Saturday of each month. To simplify matters, towers are taken in alphabetical order. At the first, in June, at Clyst St. George, about 25' turned up, while the second, at East Budleigh, attracted some 32. We are hoping for even more at Honiton Cyst on August 30th at 7 p.m. After that we take Littleham, Lymstone, Sowton, Topsham, Withycombe and Woodbury, each in turn.

This is the season of visitors, and at East Budleigh we have been very fortunate lately with help from almost every part of the country. We suffered a severe blow some time ago when Sid Skinner left the village to work at Exton but we are consoled by the fact that he is not far away, in fact he often comes over to help with the very young band which we are now struggling with. Chris Bloomer has been with us now for a week and we look forward to another week of his help. We were ringing for a wedding on August 9th and had barely got the bells up when who should walk in but Malcolm and Daphne Cloke, welcome visitors in any tower, so a couple of quarters were quickly arranged for the evening, and both were successful. The 'happy couple' are staying at the King's Arms, and as we write we look forward to a pleasant week.

Coming events give us something to look forward to. We have the practice meeting at Honiton Cyst on the 30th, the quarterly meeting at East Budleigh on September 6th (Budleigh Salterton Carnival Day), when tea will be provided in the Village Hall by the ladies, and on Friday, September 26th, the Society of Friends of the Exercise assemble at the King's Arms for a weekend tour of some of the more obscure sixes over Dartmoor. Pete Anger and Stella are coming next week and Brian Bladon and Lesley will be with us on September 24th, in plenty of time for the Dartmoor 'do.' To all our friends in England, Wales, Canada, Australia and America we send our sincere greetings and we hope to see you all in turn, and soon.

C. S.

100th Peal at Darley Dale

The 100th peal on the bells of St. Helen's, Darley Dale, was rung on August 3rd.

The first peal was rung on September 12th, 1903, and was conducted by the late Walter Wallace, of Derby. Two local ringers took part—Taylor (treble) and Hugh Gregory (tenor)—and these were the first local ringers to ring a peal. Both peals were Grandsire Triples and the composition on each occasion was Parker's Twelve-part (seventh observation).

The 100 peals include 60 Triples in seven methods, one Doubles and 39 Major (seven in Surprise methods). Up to 1922 55 peals had been rung; then occurred a break to 1931 when a new band was formed under Mr. George H. Paulson. Of the 100 peals, only two have not contained a local ringer.

H. E. T.

OBITUARY

MR. E. J. BUTLER

With the passing of Mr. Ernest J. Butler, of Colchester, the Essex Association has lost one of its life vice-presidents and one of its most loyal supporters.

The funeral service was held at St. Peter's, North Hill, Colchester, where the bells were rung half-muffled as the cortege approached the church.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. T. Hollingdale), who, in a personal tribute to Mr. Butler, referred to the loss which the Exercise in general and Colchester in particular had sustained. The ringers present and the messages of sympathy which had been received from those unable to attend the service, he said, were proof of the affection with which he was held. His constancy and punctuality—always there first with a cheerful smile and kindly word of welcome—was how they would remember him. May he rest in peace.

For many years Ernest Butler lived in Chadwell Heath and was a member of the Romford band, contemporary with the brothers Pye and Jack Watson. For some years before the first world war he was Master of the South Western Division of the Association. After the war both he and Mr. Watson used regularly to attend the practices at churches as far apart as Brentwood and Leytonstone, helping to teach Sunday service ringers.

In 1925 he became secretary of the enlarged South Western Division, and by his efforts over the next 13 years until his retirement was largely responsible for the success of this Division. He accepted the office of auditor during the second world war and served until 1948, and had been one of the Association's Central Council representatives for many years. In 1948 he was elected a life vice-president.

After his retirement he went to live at Colchester, becoming a regular ringer at St. Peter's Church. Right up to the end of his life the officers of the Association were able to call upon his wisdom and long experience for help and advice in carrying on the work he had so much at heart.

He had rung numerous peals in many methods, but perhaps the one of which he was most proud was the 22-method peal of Spliced Surprise Minor at Chigwell Row on March 24th, 1928. The band who rang this peal were the real pioneers of Spliced Surprise Minor in Essex.

H. T.

Epsom and Ewell's 21st Birthday

On September 29th the Borough of Epsom and Ewell celebrates the 21st anniversary of its Incorporation. At the suggestion of the Surrey Association and with the co-operation of the incumbents, the official celebrations will include a peal attempt at each of the three towers within the Borough. It is understood that the Mayor has invited the ringers to join him in refreshments after the attempts.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DEVON GUILD AND REPRESENTATION

Dear Sir,—I am quite sure that the majority of ringers in Devon will heartily endorse Mr. Bartlett's remarks (page 515), and that nothing would give members of the Devon Guild greater pleasure than to see the Devon Association represented on the Central Council. Thank goodness the rift between the two, as we knew it many years ago, is now gone, and for the Central Council to refuse them representation is a blot on the Exercise generally.

I am tempted to quote the case of 'the ninety and nine,' but who is to judge in this instance which has strayed?

Visitors to Devon will, I am sure, agree that the welcome one receives at Association towers is something of an experience, and it would seem that the only people who are 'in the wilderness' are the Central Council.

It is time something was done about this.—Yours faithfully,

C. SAVAGE.

East Budleigh, Devon.

Dear Sir,—It was with great interest that I read Mr. Bartlett's letter, and with one exception I am fully in accord with him and the thoughts which seem to have inspired it.

To deal with the exception first: the 'fence' does not exist, and Mr. Bartlett himself almost removed it from his own thoughts when he later described it as metaphorical.

I think I am right when I say nearly all ringing Guilds and Associations practise call-changes before 'progressing' on to scientific.

Now regarding the B.B.C. list of good striking towers, it would seem that as the answer to the enquiry was 'No,' then the West Country has been virtually eliminated from such a list. Perhaps the Central Council could arrange to have this list published. It would make interesting reading and act as an incentive for other bands to qualify for inclusion in subsequent reviews of the list. If the Council should at any time show sufficient interest, I will send the names of a dozen call-change bands in South Devon alone who will hold their own with the best scientific bands in the country in the matter of good striking.

And now to representation on the Central Council. I hope I am wrong in my interpretation of this, but it seems that the secretary of the Central Council speaks for the Guild of Devonshire Ringers in this matter, and as a member of that Guild I would take strong exception to anyone outside our Guild speaking for us. Could I suggest to Mr. Bartlett that he applies on behalf of the South Devon Ringers' Association for affiliation to the Central Council of *Church Bell Ringers*?

I do not think the Central Council could turn it down, but I do know that many of us 'scientifics' would welcome and support the affiliation.

In the next paragraph of Mr. Bartlett's letter delete the word 'surely.' It then reads 'The purpose and overruling consideration is for the glory of God and the service of His Church.' This is a positive statement and no one can gainsay it.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM SIMMONDS,
Call-changer and Scientific.

Torquay.

'WOULD BE WELCOMED'

Dear Sir,—The letter printed on page 515 from my friend Mr. B. E. Bartlett refers to a communication he has received from the secretary of the Central Council which appears to be based on a misunderstanding. My general feelings are that the Guild of Devonshire Ringers would welcome the representation of the call-change Associations on the Central Council, if this were possible.

Although I have only been resident here for eight years, a perusal of the Guild minute book confirms the impression that the call-change ringers are much respected, and at the last annual meeting of the Guild on Whit Monday a contribution was voted towards a competition shield which was being provided by the South Devon Ringers' Association as a memorial to the late Mr. Middleton, of Dartmouth, a friend of both kinds of ringers. Incidentally, it was gratifying that a Guild band took part in the first competition for the shield.

As regards Sunday service ringing, it appears that we change-ringers have much to learn from the call-change ringers, especially as regards raising and falling in peal. No doubt the committee appointed by the Central Council to report on Sunday service ringing will benefit from the knowledge of call-change ringers possessed by one of our representatives, the Rev. J. G. M. Scott, and we are glad that he was chosen to be on this committee.—Yours, etc.,

E. M. ATKINS, General Secretary,
The Guild of Devonshire Ringers.

FIGURES IN COMPOSITIONS

Dear Sir,—Mr. Sedgley seems to feel quite strongly on the position of figures in compositions, wishing to repeat his plea that the figures should come last. It is really a matter for individual composers, for although the resolution in 1946 was lost, several composers put the figures in the way Mr. Sedgley advocates. A few composers are not consistent! Admittedly it is the quality of the composition that matters, not the position of the figures; but can someone say why the so-called illogical system has become the correct way—that is, presuming the Central Council publications are 'correct'?—Yours sincerely,

P. G. K. DAVIES.

Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire.

VITAL STATISTICS

Dear Sir,—In his (or her) entertaining report 'Handsworth ringers visit Shropshire' (see page 514), M. F. H. writes: 'St. Leonard's, Bridgnorth, has a truly magnificent 18 cwt. ring of eight.' In my recent report of the Burghill ringers' visit to St. Leonard's I gave the weight of the Warner tenor there as 21 cwt. M. F. H.'s 18 cwt. was probably taken from 'Dove's Guide' (18-0-18) or from a local source, and may be correct. My 21 cwt. was taken from the Hereford Diocesan Guild's annual report (1957).

Has the 'noble lady' been losing some of her middle-age spread?—Yours truly,

F. MORRIS.

Burghill, Hereford.

FIRST PEAL IN YORKSHIRE

Dear Sir,—Too many words have been written about 'the unpardonable arrogance of the College Youths in claiming their peal of Treble Bob at Halifax in 1787 to be the first peal in Yorkshire.'

E. Morris, in 'History and Art,' and no doubt J. A. Trollope in 'The College Youths,' obtained this from the College Youths' Rule Book. What is not realised is that the rule books and peal books of any old London Society refer only to the performances of the particular Society, and any footnote or claim to be the first peal in the method, the first peal on the bells or the first peal in the county, is meant to imply 'for the Society.'

Thus the statement about the first peal in Yorkshire, taken from the A.S.C.Y. Rule Book, is quite correct, the peal in question being 'the first peal in the county by the Society.'

It is extremely unlikely that the College Youths would claim to have rung THE first peal in the county, when their peal was more likely the 25th peal.—Yours sincerely,

F. T. BLAGROVE.

Windsor.

MUSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Dear Sir,—Mr. York-Bramble trots out a string of alternatives for rounds 'chosen for their musical characteristics.' If one wishes to ring Doubles or Minor on an 8-bell ring, what can be more beautiful than using 123478? I cannot understand why he has omitted this arrangement, and would ask him, and others, to try it.

It is also useful when there are several youngsters or ladies and a shortage of 'back-enders.'—Yours faithfully,

W. BIRMINGHAM.

Slough.

THE EGHAM PEAL

Dear Sir,—A recent correspondent complains that a peal at Egham was the worst in which he had rung.

Surely, if the ringing was such as to cause him agony of mind, he had 3½ hours in which to set his bell, giving his reason for doing so to the conductor, thus settling the matter before leaving the tower.—Yours faithfully,

D. J. KING.

Chepstow.

Correspondence continued on next page.

LONDON UNIVERSITY SOCIETY IN SOMERSET

Next week the University of London Society of Change Ringers are holding their annual tour in Somerset. A record number of 39 members and friends are in the party. An indication of the growing up of the Society (and the members) is that there are eight married couples and three small children in the party. As well as visiting many of the famous rings in the county, peal attempts are being made at Minehead, Rowberrow, Martock, Chewton Mendip and Wrington. Headquarters for the week are at Shipham, near Cheddar.

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LETTERS (continued)

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL RINGING

Dear Sir,—I wonder if I could intrude in your columns for a brief comment on the letter in your issue of June 20th by T. C. Belton. This is the second time that disparaging remarks have been passed by him on the state of the Sunday service ringing at Leicester Cathedral. Now, I have been a not infrequent visitor to that city recently, and can assure Mr. Belton that every time I have rung for Sunday services at the Cathedral either Cinques or Maximus has been rung—including half a course of Cambridge Maximus for morning service.

Since he has quoted the Bishop of Coventry, perhaps I might quote those fine words, 'Let us now praise famous men'—we hear far too much nowadays about the obscure and lowly—after all, someone has got to carry the torch, and it is no good letting jealousy and prejudice spoil an appreciation of their good work—that is far from snobbery. And in case anyone is led to believe that the Leicester Cathedral band are at all selfish or snobbish, as he insinuates, I can assure them of as warm a welcome there as anywhere in the country.

I feel Mr. Belton must have some secret grievance in his heart which prompts these acrimonious and trouble-making remarks. Yet he attaches great importance to the attendance at church services. Unfortunately this type of inconsistency and hypocrisy is doing the Church a great deal of harm, and does more to discredit it than the minority of ringers who never attend its services.

Mr. Belton has said nothing constructive in either of his letters and I hope we shall be spared his spiteful and envy-prompted remarks in the future.—Yours sincerely,

STEPHEN IVIN.

Houghton Conquest, Beds.

ALGARKIRK ALLIANCE

Dear Sir,—Referring to the recent letter of inquiry concerning what the late Mr. A. G. Driver called Special Alliance methods, I would like to draw attention to the omission of Algarkirk Alliance from the list, a peal which was rung spliced with Bastow Little Court on Saturday, January 4th, 1936, at Algarkirk, Lincolnshire.

Unfortunately I am not now in possession of the figures for the method, though as the late A. G. Driver was informed they may be traceable in his papers. I cannot remember whether a lead was published in 'The Ringing World,' nor can I say whether any of my ringing friends of those days could supply the information.—Yours faithfully,

VERNON TAYLOR.

Walmer, Kent.

BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY

A lengthy discussion on how to get bells going in silent towers took place at a joint meeting of the Barnsley and District Society and the Southern District of the Yorkshire Association held at Thryburgh on August 9th. Mr. Noel F. Moxon presided, and Geoffrey Graham, of Cawthorne, was elected a member of the Yorkshire Association.

The next meeting of the Barnsley Society is the cup contest at Hoylandswaine on September 13th (entrance fee 6s.). The Southern Yorkshire District propose to join up with the Sheffield Society for their meeting in November at Handsworth.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Rector and wardens and to Mr. Brunt and the local company for the arrangements. The ladies were also thanked for the excellent tea.

WEDDINGS

TWIN CAPTAINS MARRIED

On August 2nd the Aldrington bellringers were very happy to see the Brown twins (previous joint captains at this tower for seven years) safely launched into married life.

Stan, younger of the two by quarter of an hour, was married first, to Miss Rosemary Patching, also a ringer, at the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Barcombe. Guests were then taken to Aldrington by coach for Harry's wedding to Miss Joan Palmer at the Church of St. Leonard.

After both services the bells were rung by various representatives from the Southern Division of the Sussex County Association.

A joint reception was held in the Church Hall, Glebe Villas, Hove—a memorable building for the twins, for it was the place where they first began their loyal connection with St. Leonard's Church over 25 years ago.

During the evening the happy couples left for their honeymoons, after a hearty send-off. We later discovered that Stan and Rosemary went to Beer, in Devonshire, and Harry and Joan to Ambleside, in the Lake District.

All the Aldrington ringers would like to take this opportunity of thanking the twins for the excellent example of loyalty they have given the band, and as a token of our appreciation for their hard work they have consented to become honorary captains. We shall miss their help and encouragement and we only hope we can live up to the high standard they have set us. We wish them every happiness and success in their future married lives.

P. R. G.

MR. PETER F. BORER—

MISS JENNIFER M. HIGHLEY

The wedding took place on August 2nd at Frindsbury Parish Church, Kent, of Mr. Peter F. Borer and Miss Jennifer M. Highley. The bells were ringing to welcome the bride to the church. The service, conducted by the Vicar, was fully choral and included the Bell-ringers' Hymn also an anthem, 'Blessed be the God and Father,' by S. S. Wesley. The bride, who was dressed in white, was attended by four bridesmaids. After the service the bells were again rung and also 'fired.' The reception was held at Wainscott Institute and about 90 guests were present.

In the evening a peal of Stedman was attempted, but after 20 minutes 'Stand' was called as two bells were over. The band were very late in starting the peal, probably causing uneasiness. A quarter peal was rung, of Stedman Triples, by the following: Miss P. Smees 1, T. Barton 2, I. Oram 3, C. S. Jarrett 4, R. Bird 5, G. Kenward 6, G. Butler (conductor) 7, L. B. Dobbie tenor.

After this a bottle of port, given by the bridegroom, was drunk with the toast to 'The bride and bridegroom.' The newly-married couple spent their honeymoon on the Isle of Wight.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—West Countrymen's Yorkshire tour £1, Ernest Weatherby 5s., Anonymous 2s. 6d., N. Robinson 10s.

Peals.—Rotherham 3s., Northowram 8s., Bobbing 3s., Allesley 4s.

Quarter Peals.—Chewton Mendip 2s. 6d., Llangibby 2s. 6d., Bromham 2s. 6d., Cheriton 2s., North Weald 3s., Nailsea 3s., Rockwell Green 1s. 6d., Steeple Ashton 2s., Walthamstow 5s., Beckington 2s., Charnminster (2) 2s., St. Martin-by-Looe 3s., Bishopstone 4s., Otterhampton 2s., Guiseley 2s., Humberstone 3s., Cape Town 5s.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

St. Albans District

The St. Albans District August meeting at Kimpton was one with a difference. The Kimpton ringers have, over the past years, made great efforts towards a Restoration Fund for Kimpton bells, but August 9th was the biggest to date, when a fete was held for this fund. Luckily a fine afternoon encouraged the population and ringers from a wide area to join in the fun.

Kimpton bells were ringing soon after 3 p.m. and continued to ring with only a short break for tea until about 8 p.m. Most ringers paid a visit to the fete and gave their support to the various sideshows and had tea with local supporters in the Memorial Hall. A dance followed in the evening. Kimpton ringers report that the day's efforts brought in £150, bringing the total to date to £450. They also say how much they would like to thank the many friends for the help and support they gave.

M. A. C.

OUTINGS

SWINDON AND DISTRICT

The weather was very kind to Swindon and District ringers on their August Bank Holiday 'grab' of five- and six-bell towers. Although it was cloudy at first it didn't dampen the spirit of the ringers as they piled their bicycles into the guard's van of the 7.50 a.m. train to Didcot just before it left Swindon.

From Didcot Station they cycled to Stevenston, where they were joined by friends riding in cars. A short cut along a footpath, half cobblestones, half mud, took the cyclists to Milton, the next tower, where they arrived without a single casualty. Then on to Sutton-Courtney and afterwards to Culham, where a picnic lunch was had after ringing on the delightful little anti-clockwise ring of six.

By kind permission of Miss M. Cross, the ringers managed to squeeze Radley bells on to their 'list' before going on to Abingdon, Sunningwell, Long Wittenham and Little Wittenham, where the bells were considered 'unringable' when the ceiling fell in during some rounds! After tea Appleford and North Morton were visited before the cyclists returned to Didcot Station.

Methods rung during the day were Grand-sire, Plain Bob, Stedman, Kent, Oxford, London and Cambridge. A lot of fun was had by all, thanks to Mr. A. Peake, who organised the tour, and to local ringers and incumbents, who gave permission for their bells to be rung.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY, BEDS

Husborne Crawley ringers and their friends had their second outing this year on August 9th. After ringing at Great Marlow they came to the best eight of the day at Goring-on-Thames, where all capabilities were catered for. The eights at Wantage and Lambourne were next visited. Preshute was undoubtedly the best all-round set of the day. It was here that a course of Cambridge was going well until a friend opened the west door and completely blocked the treble's view of the second just as they were dodging.

St. Mary's, Marlborough, bells were found to be loud in the belfry with the tenor out of tune. A compensation was the fine tea at the Georgian Restaurant. If anybody has never seen white-coloured bells they should go to Thame, where the tower was, until recently, a pigeons' paradise. Several methods came to light here before we left. Husborne Crawley was reached at 10.20.

Our thanks include not only the incumbents and those who met us but also Bob Churchill, who arranged this outing which, like the previous one, was a great success. K. C. F.

'PLANETARY EXCURSIONS' DURING DORSET TOUR

By M. P. Moreton

9.30 a.m. London. Friday, July 18th, 1958. The loudspeakers at Victoria blared forth . . . 'Will Miss Lois Beevers please report to the inquiries office? . . . Will Miss Lois Beevers

The echoes died away as a dejected figure, one William S. Deason, affectionately known as 'Bill,' waited with dying hopes of meeting the young lady from Edinburgh, who was to accompany us on our tour.

Something was seriously wrong with the organisation, and Bill took his courage in his hands, advanced on the nearest telephone and rang the Master Mind. 'Leale speaking' . . .

1.30 p.m., 15 phone calls and four hours later.

Messrs. Leale, Deason and Moreton are seen consuming a quick two pints of lunch in the Elephant and Castle, Westminster, and are talking in worried tones.

Meanwhile Lois had spent an embarrassing half-hour asking all the eligible young men at Victoria if they were 'Bill,' and as none of them were, had boarded a bus to Shaftesbury, Dorset, where the tour was due to start.

Believing the worst, our sorry trio set off, only to find, on arrival at Shaftesbury, that the best rooms at the Royal Hotel had been taken by the rest of the party, which consisted of David Hawkins, in a Sapphire, Fred Scott, Alan Buswell and Ernie Wilcox. Anne Garnett appeared later in the evening.

We opened the tour at Holy Trinity, Shaftesbury (6, 10 cwt.) with a rise in peal and some Bob Minor. The treble is vaguely loose, which makes it quite interesting. At St. Peter's, Shaftesbury, (6, 12½ cwt.) a rope broke at the wheel on the fourth, but was quickly spliced. At St. James', Shaftesbury (6, 9½ cwt.), we met a keen local band and rang a touch in five methods, finishing with London Surprise round at handstroke . . . very salubrious.

At the hotel we listened to some of the recent peal of Scientific Triples, which was all recorded by Philip (the tape-recorder), and recorded some Stedman Doubles on handbells. This we played back at twice the speed, and it sounded much better. It would seem quite possible that fast ringing generally sounds better than it is. We also heard some ringing from Leyton, Essex (8, 8 cwt.), played back at half speed, which made the bells sound like a magnificent back eight, although the trebles were still out of tune.

Saturday dawned, and we greeted it appropriately enough with some Saturn Treble Bob at Melbury Abbas (a nice 5, 7½ cwt.), where we were welcomed by Mr. Henstridge. At Compton Abbas (5, 9 cwt.) the Rector met us and we rang some Erin, Reverse Bob (a most amusing method) and the first course of Moon Treble Bob, as well as other methods of no particular interest.

Iwerne Minster (6, 18 cwt.) has a fine ring with a beautiful tenor. Iwerne Courtney (6, 9½ cwt.) was the last tower of the morning and we then had a magnificent lunch at the White Hart, followed by ringing at Childe Okeford (6, 17½ cwt.). At Shillingstone (6, 15½ cwt.) Lois rang her first course of London Surprise, and the next tower was the ill-fated Okeford Fitzpaine (6, 11 cwt.). The treble ringer found a convenient seat to go with the long rope, and only rose on the final command 'Stand.' The ascent to the ringing chamber starts with a vertical iron ladder for some six feet, at the top of which is the doorway cut into the wall, leading to the spiral staircase. This is not easy for adults, and must have added to the confusion at the time of the recent disaster.

We were joined at Sturminster Newton by Roger Baldwin and Kath Knight. The bells (6, 16½ cwt.) have a long draught but all were negotiable and our progress was not checked.

We moved on to Sherborne, booked in at the Half Moon Hotel and went to ring at the Abbey (8, 46 cwt.). We did not pull the bells up in peal here. We rang some Stedman, Grandsire and Double Norwich, and 'Philip,' the tape-recorder, captured the grandeur of this ring. We were made very welcome by the local ringers who, after the ringing, turned on the lights of the chancel roof to reveal the fascinating intricacy of the carving.

Sunday service ringing was at Yeovil (10, 41 cwt.), where we met some of the local ringers, and at Trent (6, 18 cwt.). At this tower we rang some 'Coal Miner,' a principle—first published in the 'Bell News' of July 16th, 1898, as Kidderminster Minor, Kidderminster Major having been published some two years before. The method consists of alternate Kent and Oxford places in 3-4, while the bells in 1-2 and 5-6 Treble Bob. Does anyone know if a peal of it has been rung?

We searched in vain for a place to swim, got lost, and drove straight through a farm, pigs, chicken and all! The farmer and his wife did not seem to mind having to open their gates, but the old woman at the level crossing we came to, did. It must have been years since anyone used that road . . . she'd even forgotten which side the gate opened!

After lunch we were met at Bishop's Caundle (5, 8½ cwt.) by the Rector and the local Ringing Master, with whom we rang some Plain Bob Minimus. The Rector was also the incumbent at the next parish, Holwell (5, 14½ cwt.), and, arriving there early, we played an energetic game of Pig-in-the-middle (two pigs) while we waited for a service to finish. Our visit had been publicised in the parish magazine and we were watched by a number of the parishioners at this ground-floor ring. Afterwards we were very pleased to accept the kind invitation of Mr. F. Antell to tea at Borough Farm. His family have lived in the parish since the time of William the Conqueror!

Queen Camel (6, 36½ cwt.) came next, and after a rise in peal we rang Bob Doubles, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor, and lowered the bells for Evensong. This is a grand ring and we were grateful to the local ringers for letting us record the bells.

Roger Baldwin and Kath Knight left us here. The evening saw us quaffing Scrumpy (draught cider) in full measure, and we slept, at least some of us did, at the Half Moon again. The others complained of beds that would not keep still when you closed your eyes, and at least one good breakfast went uneaten the next morning.

Monday. Nether Compton (5, 15 cwt.). Rang Moon Treble Bob and Reverse Grandsire. Bradford Abbas (6, 13½ cwt.). Rang Reverse Cambridge Surprise (Superlative) and Forward Minor. We also rang some call changes in which the treble hunted out of the back of one change and into the front of the next but one. This was part of an exercise as practice for ringing Time Doubles, a method of the future, in which bells do not necessarily turn round just because they happen to have got to the front or back of a change!

At Thornford (6, 8 cwt.) we rang some Bob Minor starting at backstroke. After this someone came in and said: 'I don't know what you were ringing, but if you want to get your backstrokes down . . . and could not understand why we burst out laughing.'

Yetminster (6, 19 cwt.). We rang some Spliced Cambridge and London Surprise and

then adjourned to the New Inn, Chetnole, for bread and cheese with pickled onions and beer (with orange squash for those in need). It was here that we heard the story of the two ghosts who were refused a drink at a public house—the landlord said: 'I don't serve spirits here,' and the true story of the farmer's wife who put some fermented blackberry pie out in the yard, and came back later to find her six geese had eaten it and died. She had just finished plucking them when the effect of the alcohol in the pie wore off, and they regained consciousness!

Melbury Osmond (5, 9 cwt.). Reverse Stedman Doubles proved a little more tricky than one would expect.

Evershot (6, 9 cwt.). The excellent bells here were half-muffled in memory of the son and heir of Lord Staverdale. We rang, and recorded, some London Surprise which sounded magnificent. (It was possibly here that I lost my tape-recorder notebook, with numbers and details of recordings made, and if anyone finds it I should be very pleased to hear from them.)

Corscombe (6, 13½ cwt.). Rang Reverse St. Clement's and Southwell Surprise (an exercise).

Beaminstor (8, 23 cwt.). We met Messrs. Barrett and Glyde and rang on these fine untuned bells, which were cast in the churchyard. On the way to Stoke Abbott (5, 14½ cwt.) we met a herd of cows, which Ernie Wilcox chased into a field; this was such a stirring sight that we rang the first 240 of Moon Treble Bob when we eventually reached the tower.

On Tuesday morning we found we'd been given a ticket by the local constabulary. Apparently we had infringed some *Anciente Parkynge Bylaw*. Netherbury bells (6, 20 cwt.) were rung to Surprise Minor and the first plain course of Venus Treble Bob. At Lodors (6, 19½ cwt.) we broke with our custom and did not raise the bells in peal. Ronald Dove (author of the Guide) joined us for the day. At Bradpole (8, 13 cwt.) the Vicar welcomed us. We rang a course of Superlative and some Stedman on these pleasant bells, some of which need more work than one would expect.

It is nearly 12 years since the writer rang a peal of Bob Major at Bridport (8, 21½ cwt.) and with a nostalgic twinge he heard them rung again, this time to Cambridge, Double Norwich and Little Bob.

We made full use of an afternoon off, by going to Lyme Regis and having a swim. Tea afterwards made us late at Whitechurch Canon-icorum (8, 17½ cwt.) but we had a short ring on these fine bells. In the evening four of us joined four local men at Lyme Regis (8, 11 cwt.), ringing a peal of London—conducted by George Morris—and afterwards were horrified to find that the pub we were in shut at 9.30! Still, apparently it had been open all day, so we excused it and moved on to another further along the Front. After some interesting reminiscing we bade farewell and returned to the Knight's Bull Hotel, Bridport. We had a talk with the landlord about the visit of the Guild of Clerical Ringers, and he kindly produced, at a late hour, a very salubrious supper of Bass, Worthington, bread (1½ in. thick) and butter, cheese, pork pies and apple pie beds (our own make).

Wednesday. Powerstock (5, 20 cwt.). Rang Spliced Grandsire and Plain Bob and the first plain course of Pluto Treble Bob. At Ram-pisham (5, 13½ cwt.) we rang the first course of Jupiter Treble Bob. We were welcomed to Cattistock (8, 13½ cwt.), which are a pleasant ring, and enjoyed a course of Erin Triples. Malden Newton (6, 10½ cwt.) was the last tower before lunch—at the White Horse.

Continued on page 550.

DORSET TOUR (continued)

Our first disappointment was at Frampton (6, 16 cwt.), where the tower was under repair, preventing us ringing, so at Stratton (5, 9½ cwt.) we made up for it by ringing the first course of Mars Treble Bob and a 240 of Jupiter.

At Bradford Peverell (5, 7½ cwt.) we rang Ashford Little Bob and the first course of Neptune Treble Bob.

After tea in Dorchester it was discovered that as well as the octave at St. Peter's (21 cwt.), which we were due to ring at 7.30, there was a six at St. George's (13 cwt.). The incumbent was contacted and we were very kindly given permission to ring at this tower, where there were signs of a keen band. Then to St. Peter's for the local practice, which had very kindly been changed from Tuesday to Wednesday to enable us to ring.

Thursday. We arrived at Charminster (6, 15 cwt.) in good time to ring for the 10 a.m. service. These are excellent bells rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in 1952. At Sydling (5, 19 cwt.) we rang Original Doubles, New Grandsire and Uranus Treble Bob. At Buckland Newton (6, 17 cwt.) the Vicar met us and after leading us in prayer, showed us the church. The bells were rung to Bob Minimus and Stedman Minimus while we waited for the other car to arrive. It was afterwards discovered that he had stopped to admire the notoriously uninhabited figure of the prehistoric Cerne Abbas Giant, cut into the chalk hillside overlooking the village! We also rang some Durham and other less surprising methods. We had a picnic lunch on the top of a hill somewhere, and went to Hilton (6, 16 cwt.), where the tower roof was seen to be off and we could not ring.

The magnificence of Milton Abbey will long remain in our memory. Not least because it was here that we walked in front of a photographer and came near to appearing in the Milton School XI L. rugby team. The bells, a tuneful eight (11 cwt.) were quite the loudest of the tour and are hung in a vast ringing room. We could not understand reports that the bells went badly, as they all went like tops.

At Blandford Forum (8, 19½ cwt.), a good ring, we rang a Triples principle produced just after the war, which we later called Forum Triples. This was the first method we had rung whose plain course came round at hand-stroke!

After tea we did battle with the five bells of Stourpaine (12 cwt., anti-clockwise). The noise of bumping and creaking is enough to make one think that no bells could go more badly... well, these do! One misguided ringer put his finger in a crack in the wall and nearly had it amputated. We rang Stedman and Saturn Treble Bob.

Durweston (6, 10½ cwt.) provided pleasant relief and as our arms had stretched a bit at Stourpaine, and the ropes were long, we drew up chairs and sat down for a plain course of Bob Minor. Has a tower bell peal ever been rung sitting down?

After a good night at the King's Arms, Blandford Forum, we started Friday at Spetisbury (5, 17 cwt.) with Earth and Uranus Treble Bob. Prolific use of the Leale Water-Ray-Gun had not dampened our enthusiasm and we continued to devour our programme. Sturminster Marshall (6, 16½ cwt.) and Lytchett Matravers (6, 7½ cwt.), where Ernie Wilcox rang his first course of London Surprise Minor, were enjoyed. We also tried some Bob Minor, starting fast, and breaking into half-speed at the lead-end, then alternating quick and slow. This was very salubrious.

To ring the fifth at Lytchett Minster (6, 11 cwt.) one stands four or five steps up the stairway to the bell chamber, but Spliced Beverley and Surfleet Surprise survived.

After lunch at Poole nine of us rang rounds on the 10 (19½ cwt.) and then the back eight and the top six. Canford Magna (6, 10 cwt.) proved to be the last tower of the day, as the ninth clapper recently broke as Wimborne Minster (10, 29½ cwt.) and we could not ring. Circumstances beyond our control prevented our ringing at Corfe Mullen (6, 12 cwt.).

The last day dawned—we almost rang a course of Reverse London Surprise at Witchampton (6, 11 cwt.), and we will long remember the expression on Bill Deason's face at Long Crichel (6, 14 cwt.) when, while turning in the tenor, he found himself holding a mere one foot of rope while the rest went its own sweet way round the belfry.

Gussage St. Michael (6, 11 cwt.) bells are an anti-clockwise ring which do not go too well, and at Gussage All Saints' (5, 8 cwt.) we rang the last of the ten Treble Bob Doubles methods... named Mercury. We can recommend the lunch at the Earl Haig Inn.

A Triples principle, since discovered to be Prittlewell Triples, was rung at Wimborne St. Giles (8, 15½ cwt.), and at Cranborne (8, 17½ cwt.) Mr. Day joined us, ringing the tenor to another course of it. Grandsire Major sounded as musical as usual. At St. Martin's (6, 8½ cwt.) we rang some New Cambridge Surprise (an exercise) and at Damerham (6, 8 cwt.) we tried some call changes without a handstroke gap. Fordingbridge (8, 14 cwt.) was the 62nd and last tower, and we finished the tour with some Grandsire Doubles, 768 covering, for two local girls.

To Robin Leale, whose planning and organisation were first-class, and to all who made us so welcome, we say, 'Thank you.'

**VICAR FOR 61 YEARS
HONOURED BY A PEAL**

The peal of Grandsire Triples at Northowram, Halifax, on August 3rd, was to mark the official retirement of Canon George Watkinson, M.A., on July 31st. We say 'official' because at 86 years of age the old gentleman is still 'holding the fort' until his successor takes up his appointment in September.

It was on Christmas Day, 1894, that Canon Watkinson, then a young layman down from Cambridge, was asked to preach at the newly-established Northowram Mission, a daughter church of the parish of Coley. Three years later he was ordained and took charge of the Northowram Mission. In the year 1910 Northowram was made a separate parish and Canon Watkinson became the first Vicar. He built and endowed the present church and vicarage, and his brother, the late Mr. S. L. Watkinson, gave the tower, clock and bells, a ring of eight by Gillett and Johnston. He was appointed an Honorary Canon of Wakefield Cathedral in 1931.

Among his interests are, or have been, the Church Tutorial Classes of Wakefield Diocese; member of the Halifax Board of Guardians up to the transfer of Poor Law administration; chairman of the Crowther Trust, Northowram, since its inception; the Northowram Aged People's Treat Committee for over 50 years; the Halifax Tradesmen's Benevolent Institution; the Waterhouse Charities; and, as a prominent Freemason holding provincial rank, he is the last surviving founder member of Lightcliffe Lodge. He is also a Fellow of the Entomological Society of London.

Grandsire Triples was chosen for the peal attempt to make reasonably certain of ringing a peal for the special occasion and the outcome was never in doubt. We are indebted to friends from Halifax (All Souls'), Queensbury, Sowerby and Lindley for helping out, and appreciate the gesture of our veteran member, Mr. Joe Greenwood, in standing down in favour of a 'first pealer,' and we associate him in the compliment to 'The Canon.'

W. G. T.

NOTICES**New Scale of Charges**

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Other Notices: 4/- (minimum) for 36 words, afterwards 1½d. a word.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address after September 1st of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Jeffries will be 105, Jersey Road, Wolverton, Bucks. Tel. No. 3264. 2793

The address of Mr. G. Watson, the secretary of the Doncaster and District Society, is 37, Morris Road, Balby, Doncaster. 2863

PERSONAL

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MISCELLANEOUS

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.—All ringers coming as freshers to Bristol in October please contact B. J. Wylde, 37, Junction Road, Totton, Hants. 2830

COMPLETE YOUR FILES.—For back numbers, price 6d. each, apply 'The Ringing World.'

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

MEETINGS

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Business meeting on Saturday, Aug. 23rd, at The Rising Sun, Carter Lane, E.C., at 6 p.m. Ringing 4 p.m., St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green.—John Chilcott. 2831

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—A joint meeting with the Midland Counties Guild at Melbourne on Saturday, Aug. 23rd, at 3 p.m. Bells (8). Own tea arrangements.—W. A. Morley, Dis. Sec. 2817

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak and Chesterfield Districts.—Meeting at Ashover (8) on Saturday, Aug. 23rd, 2.45 p.m. Own arrangements for tea at the Red Lion. Roll up and enjoy the 'roll ups.'—H. E. Taylor, A. B. Cooper. 2811

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cheltenham Branch.—Meeting at Bishop's Cleeve, Saturday, August 23rd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—Mary Bliss, Beech Pike, Cheltenham. 2857

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Combined practice at Hawley (8) from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23rd.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 2826

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—Meeting at Wragby (6) on Saturday, Aug. 23rd.—C. Brown, 3, Altham Terrace, Lincoln. 2823

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Monthly practice, Iver (8), Saturday, Aug. 23rd. Ringing 3.15 p.m. Preliminary notice: next meeting, Marlow (8), Saturday, Sept. 13th (note date).—W. Butler, Hon. Sec. 2850

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Shelsley Beauchamp, Saturday, Aug. 23rd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. 2820

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Combined evening practice at Betchworth (8) on Monday, Aug. 25th. Bells 7.30 p.m. All welcome.—A. Streeter, Dis. Sec. 2847

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Next meeting at Alderminster on Saturday, Aug. 30th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by August 27th, please.—H. M. Windsor, The Bakery, Long Itchington, near Rugby, Warws. 2845

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Tickhill on Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mr. Hulley, 51, King Edward Road, Tickhill.—G. Watson, Dis. Sec. 2861

DEVON GUILD.—Aylesbeare Branch.—Practice meeting at Honiton Clyst on Saturday, August 30th, at 7 p.m. Visitors welcome.—R. T. Perry, Hon. Sec. 2835

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Cramlington on Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 6.30 p.m. Names for tea to G. S. Deas, 65, Elsdon Road, Gosforth, Newcastle, 3. 2859

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—An evening meeting will be held at Everton (5) on Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells available 6 p.m.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 2843

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Westerleigh (6), Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5.15. Meeting to follow. Please make effort to attend.—F. Hussey, 39, Gordon Avenue, Bristol, 5. 2854

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Tewkesbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Tirley (6), Aug. 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Numbers for tea by August 26th.—G. H. Burrows, 24, Lansdown Place, Cheltenham. 2838

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Northchurch on Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, Aug. 27th, to Mr. R. Ashby, 110, High Street, Northchurch.—J. Good, Dis. Sec. 2806

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District.—Meeting at Sibsey, near Boston, on Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names not later than Tuesday, Aug. 26th, to Mr. W. Wilkinson, Station Road, Sibsey, near Boston.—Mrs. A. Richardson, Hon. Sec. 2795

LADIES' GUILD.—Sussex District.—Meeting at Hellingly, Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells at 3 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, Aug. 27th, to Mr. G. Beeny, Hillbrae, Carters Corner Road, Hailsham. No name by date stated, definitely no tea.—Daphne Lester, Hon. Sec. 2767

LADIES' GUILD.—Beds and Northants Branch.—Meeting, Saturday, Aug. 30th, at Isham. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, Aug. 27th, to Mr. A. Garley, 14, Fairfield Road, Isham, Northants. 2841

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at Newchurch on Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business follows tea. Names for tea urgent, by Wednesday, Aug. 27th, to Rev. E. A. Lee, Newchurch Rectory, Risley, near Warrington.—Thornley, Sec. 2862

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Otley on Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells available 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. P. Whittaker, 97, Ilkley Road, Otley. 2832

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The meeting at Alga Kirk advertised for August 30th has been postponed. 2849

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Meeting at Alga Kirk, Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, Aug. 25th, to me.—W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston. 2818

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Meeting at Wells on Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by the business meeting. Teas will be served at one of the cafes to those who notify not later than Thursday, Aug. 28th, J. S. Williamson, 47, Staith Street, Wells, Norfolk. 2819

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilsborough Branch.—Evening meeting at Clipston-with-Kelmarsh, Saturday, Aug. 23rd. Bells available 6 p.m. Meeting at Yelvertoft, Saturday, Aug. 30th. Names for tea by Tuesday previous to me, please.—W. J. Kinchin, Hon. Sec., Main Street, Yelvertoft, Rugby. 2844

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Pitsford, Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea, please, by Monday previous, to G. F. Roome, 116, Derby Road, Northampton. 2800

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Summer meeting at Barton-under-Needwood, Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, Aug. 27th, to Mr. B. G. Key, 54, Rolleston Road, Burton-on-Trent. 2804

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—Meeting at Bottesford (8), Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Special method, Rutland Surprise Major. Names for tea by previous Tuesday to Mrs. P. Clarke, The Vicarage, Whatton. 2822

SOUTHEAST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Leigh-on-Sea, Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Bring own food—tea provided. All welcome.—B. Crossman. 2858

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury District.—Evening practice meeting at Long Melford on Saturday, Aug. 30th, 6.30-9 p.m. 2839

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—Quarterly meeting at Havant on Aug. 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify, by previous Tuesday, Miss M. Marshall, Springfield, Rectory Lane, Havant. 2797

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting, Aysgarth (6), Saturday, Aug. 30th. Bells from 3 p.m. Names for tea by Thursday, Aug. 28th, to Mr. H. C. Pauli, Wensleydale Cottage, West Burton, Leyburn. Other towers in District may be available.—Edward Hudson, Hon. Sec. 2860

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Practice meetings 7.30, Monday, Sept. 1st, and first Monday in each month, St. Mary's, Lambeth Bridge. General body meeting Saturday, Oct. 11th. details later.—Rogers (ISL 3921). 2834

DEVON GUILD.—Aylesbeare Branch.—Quarterly meeting at East Budleigh, Saturday, Sept. 6th. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, by September 2nd, to Mr. C. Savage, Brookside Cottages, East Budleigh.—R. T. Perry, Hon. Sec. 2836

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Stow Branch.—Branch meeting, Bourton-on-the-Hill, Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea, by Aug. 30th, to F. Newton, Lyncroft Cottage, Bourton-on-the-Water, Glos. All welcome. 2837

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—Quarterly meeting at Withington, Sept. 6th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service and tea. Names, by Sept. 2nd, to: A. Wingate, Huntington House, Hereford. 2840

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—By-meeting at Frittenden on Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by previous Wednesday to Mr. H. Baker, 1, Bournier Cottages, Frittenden.—C. T. H. 2853

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting, Herne, Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Names for tea must reach not later than Wednesday, Sept. 3rd. Mr. D. Hadlow, 66, School Lane, Herne, Herne Bay, Kent.—B. J. Luck. 2852

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—By-meeting at Stockbury on Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea not later than Tuesday, Sept. 2nd, to A. Dunk, Pett Farm Bungalow, Stockbury Valley, near Sittingbourne.—T. Barton, Hon. Dis. Sec. 2846

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Brasted on Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Wednesday, Sept. 3rd, to Mr. F. Budgen, 11, St. Martin's Meadow, Brasted. 2848

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Fenny Stratford, Saturday, Sept. 6th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Please notify for tea by Sept. 1st.—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. 2856

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly meeting, Attenborough, Sept. 6th. Bells (8) 2.45 to 8 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea for those who notify, not later than Sept. 3rd. Mr. M. Rose, Wyoming, Nottingham Road, Long Eaton.—S. Adams, Dis. Sec. 2809

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Quarterly District meeting will be held at Barnes on September 13th. Bells 3. Service 4. Tea and meeting in Church Hall 4.30. Mortlake bells after. Names for tea to Miss Heath, The Rectory, 25, Glebe Road, S.W.14.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 2825

ELY ASSOCIATION DINNER.—The Ely Diocesan Association will hold a dinner at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27th, at the All Saints' Hall, Ferrar's Road, Huntingdon. Tickets 12s. Peals can be arranged for persons attending the dinner, also various rings will be available during the afternoon and evening—times to be announced later. Tickets and peal arrangements from H. S. Peacock, 8, Roscrea Terrace, St. John's Street, Huntingdon. 2842

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary notice—annual dinner.—The 21st annual dinner will be held in the Guildhall, Worcester, on Saturday, Oct. 18th, at 5.45 p.m. Tickets (9s. each) shortly available, and obtainable from usual committee or J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Sedgeborough, Evesham. 2808

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The meeting at South Anston on August 2nd was visited by ringers from Dronfield, Handsworth, Harthill, Rotherham, Scunthorpe and Sheffield Cathedral. In spite of the absence of many members on holiday the handy light ring of six was well employed and there was a full programme of ringing, although fewer methods than usual were possible. Before tea Grandsire Triples, Little Bob Major, Kent Minor and several courses of Plain Bob Minor and Major were rung.

After tea the Vicar welcomed the ringers to South Anston and took the chair at a short business meeting. Mr. H. M. Turner was thanked for making the local arrangements. Ringing after tea included a course of Cambridge Major and a touch of Double Norwich, together with some Stedman Triples and more Plain Bob. The young learners had a full and interesting meeting, but it was unfortunate that so many of the more experienced members of the Society were unable to support the meeting. J. S.

10,080 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

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W	M	H	23456
—	—	—	43652
—	—	—	64235
2	—	—	43265
—	S	3	54236
—	2	—	56432
—	—	2	54362
3	—	—	35462
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Rung at Longney, June 7th, 1958, conducted by David Heighton.

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42356	—	LXL
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