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THE BELLS OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, CHESTER

MUCH interest has been aroused in Chester, and indeed much further afield, by an announcement in the press that the Vicar and wardens desire to sell the ring of six bells and to place the money in the general fund for the restoration of the church. For the first time, it would appear, many of the citizens, including some of the parishioners, have become aware of the fact that there are bells in the tower. Certainly they had not been heard for a very long time.

The tower is unique in that it stands on arches at the south end of Chester's famous Rows, those raised side-walks which visitors find so attractive and from which access to the church is gained. The first tower, replacing a timber belfry which housed three bells of mediæval date, was built in 1710, and young Rudhall must have watched the building with interest and anticipation. He was at that time in the city, hanging the new six at St. John's, a tower which later achieved some local fame from its association with the 'Gentlemen Bellringers.' At St. Michael's, however, Rudhall was not fortunate, and the old three bells, together with the sanctus, were hung in the new tower.

Fifteen years later there was evidently a strong desire in the parish for a ring of the 'musical' bells which Rudhall had made so popular, and the matter was finally settled at a meeting held on May 30th, 1726, when it was 'unanimously agreed & resolved by the inhabitants of the said parish that there shall be six Tuneable bells hung in the steeple instead of the three bells now hanging in the said Steeple.' The wardens were empowered to act, and they gave the contract to Rudhall who took away the three mediæval bells and the sanctus, the latter being recast.

In due course the new bells arrived from Gloucester and were weighed in the presence of a large gathering, the occasion being marked by a liberal allowance of liquid refreshment. Sir Richard Grosvenor, whose name appeared on the tenor, gave a donation of £20, a windfall which called for further celebration. The total weight of the bells was 30 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.

The tower was in poor shape as early as 1815, but it was not until 1849 that it was taken down, having by that time become dangerous. A new structure was erected which was considerably larger than its predecessor, but again the right of way through the Rows meant that the tower must rest on arches. In an obvious attempt to re-

duce the weight of stonework above, large windows were made at the second stage, that on the east looking into the nave of the church. The west wall was further weakened by a spacious recess made to accommodate the clock movement. The louvre openings too were large, and the bonding of the masonry left much to be desired. However, the bells were duly installed in their old frame, and all seemed well.

There were some keen change-ringers at St. Michael's later in the century, as records of their achievements plainly show, and the ringing chamber was also a place where handbell ringing was much practised. However, the ringers were eventually forced to abandon their major activity for an ugly crack developed in the west wall and the tower was declared unsafe for ringing. The bells were last rung to mark the occasion of the Queen's jubilee in 1897, after which they were 'clocked' and hymn tunes hammered out before the services, a practice which continued until about 20 years ago. Since that time they have not been heard at all.

The belfry became a home for hundreds of the city pigeons, and the droppings eventually covered the floor and reached almost to the headstocks. As might be expected, the weight caused the floor to sag, and yet another dangerous situation had to be dealt with, the filth being shovelled into sacks, lowered to Row level, and carried to waiting vehicles in the street below.

After being buried for so long the bells can now be seen again. The trebles carry stock Rudhall inscriptions and the tenor is of course inscribed with the name of Sir Richard Grosvenor while the others carry the names of the wardens. The frame and fittings are naturally in a poor if not dangerous condition, and would be better moved from the tower which is itself badly in need of attention.

In the light of what has been written above it is clear that the parish is faced with a very difficult problem—the restoration of the whole of the church fabric. The tower is in such a state that even the dead weight of the bells and frame is viewed with concern, hence the proposition to offer the ring for sale. The matter will eventually come before the Chancellor, and while it would be unwise to anticipate his decision it is reasonable to suppose that he may grant a faculty for the sale of the complete ring to another church where the bells could be again used for their intended purpose. It is unlikely, however, that permission would be given for the bells to be sold singly.

J. W. C.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in D.

RUTH M. BORDER .. Treble	BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY .. 7
TONY PRICE .. 2	DAVID J. PURNELL .. 8
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. 3	NORMAN J. GOODMAN .. 9
JOHN McDONALD .. 4	*NORMAN V. HARDING .. 10
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 5	RICHARD E. PRICE .. 11
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 6	PETER BORDER .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

*First peal of Maximus in the method.

TEN BELL PEALS

BUCKFAST, DEVON.
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.
On Sat., Nov. 26, 1960, in 3 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5000 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 41 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb.

*PETER A. LOCK .. Treble	*CHARLES P. YATES .. 6
JOHN M. JELLEY .. 2	*DONALD J. ROBERTS .. 7
RUSSELL S. MORRIS .. 3	NORMAN MALLETT .. 8
E. MAURICE ATKINS .. 4	FRANK D. MACK .. 9
HERBERT C. SPENCER .. 5	WILLIAM SIMMONDS .. Tenor

Composed by G. RONALD EDWARDES.

Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY.

*First peal on ten bells.

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Thurs., Dec. 1, 1960, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

NORMAN J. GOODMAN .. Treble	BARRIE HENDRY .. 6
RODERICK W. PIPE .. 2	DAVID J. PURNELL .. 7
BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY .. 3	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 8
JOHN PINFOLD .. 4	JOHN A. ANDERSON .. 9
W. BERTRAM KYNASTON .. 5	PETER BORDER .. Tenor

Composed by W. PYE.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

LEYLAND, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt. 20 lb. in E flat.

STANLEY WALMSLEY .. Treble	ARTHUR RIGBY .. 6
THOMAS BARKER .. 2	DONALD LAWSON .. 7
JOHN H. GARTSIDE .. 3	LAWRENCE WALMSLEY .. 8
MARYL R. CROSSTHWAITE .. 4	*DEREK HEATON .. 9
JOHN JACKSON .. 5	CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE .. Tenor

Composed by EDWIN TIMBRELL.

Conducted by STANLEY WALMSLEY.

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

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

ST. LAURENCE-IN-TANET, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 16 cwt. 6 lb. in E.

*H. JOHN WEBB .. Treble	*REV. STANLEY M. EVANS .. 6
*MARY S. TAYLOR .. 2	†THOMAS C. PHILLIMORE .. 7
*PAULINE FENNEL .. 3	*NICHOLAS J. DAVIES .. 8
IAN H. ORAM .. 4	CRAWFORD T. HILLIS .. 9
JOHN R. COOPER .. 5	‡DENNIS A. CHAPMAN .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE W. DEBENHAM.

Conducted by DENNIS A. CHAPMAN.

*First peal on ten bells. †First of Royal. ‡100th peal. First of Royal as conductor.

SOUTHAMPTON.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 BRISTOL SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

*DEREK C. JACKSON .. Treble	R. ROGER SAVORY .. 6
JESSIE M. KIPPIN .. 2	TOM CHAPMAN .. 7
REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD .. 3	MAURICE J. BUILE .. 8
NELIA M. LEAHY .. 4	ADRIAN J. TUMBER .. 9
M. ELIZABETH CHAPMAN .. 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN .. Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY.

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

*First 10-bell peal. First of Bristol Royal in the county, by the Guild, and by all the band except the ringers of the second and tenor.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 10, 1960, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH WITH ST. EWEN.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt.

REGINALD G. HOOPER .. Treble	*ALAN F. LEE .. 6
*DOREEN COX .. 2	*RICHARD J. BOWDEN .. 7
DAVID J. PURNELL .. 3	*PATRICK J. BIRD .. 8
ANTHONY E. COX .. 4	D. JOHN HUNT .. 9
ANTHONY W. T. CLEAVER .. 5	*DONALD E. COBB .. Tenor

Composed by S. J. IVIN.

Conducted by ANTHONY E. COX.

*First peal of Cambridge Royal.

First in the method and of Royal

as conductor.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Hancock, of St. Mary Redcliffe, on the occasion of their silver wedding celebration.

DERBY.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 10, 1960, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 DERBYSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 lb. in D flat.

ROY STEPHENSON .. Treble	ROGER BALDWIN .. 6
DAVID J. MARSHALL .. 2	DENIS A. FRITH .. 7
MRS. P. A. M. HALLS .. 3	DENIS R. CARLISLE .. 8
HAROLD TAYLOR .. 4	IAN M. HOLLAND .. 9
GORDON A. HALLS .. 5	JAMES H. PAILING .. Tenor

Composed by D. R. CARLISLE.

Conducted by GORDON A. HALLS.

WRINGTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 10, 1960, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB ROYAL

C.C.C. No. 239.

Tenor 37 cwt. 13 lb.

VICTOR G. ROBERTS .. Treble	DON C. EXELL .. 6
ELISABETH A. G. BOWDEN .. 2	JOHN BRAIN .. 7
ARTHUR H. REED .. 3	PHILIP N. TUBBS .. 8
BRYNLEY A. SHACKLETON .. 4	WILLIAM H. KINGCOIT .. 9
JOHN R. KETTERINGHAM .. 5	JOHN H. GILBERT .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES MOTTS.

Conducted by JOHN H. GILBERT.

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

Rung without previous practice.

DERBYSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

x 30 x 14 x 50 x 16 x 1270 x 18 x 34 x 50 x 1458 x 50
L.e. 1907856342 Clean.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

GOOLE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 5, 1960, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST.

A PEAL OF 5280 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15½ cwt.

JAMES THORLEY .. Treble	†RONALD R. WARFORD .. 5
*RUSSELL STEPHENSON .. 2	ALAN SHEPPARD .. 6
†DAVID S. JOHNSON .. 3	G. FRED TERRY .. 7
JOHN J. TAYLOR .. 4	LESLIE M. WOODHEAD .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by LESLIE M. WOODHEAD.

*First peal of Major. †First in the method.

A farewell peal to the Rev. R. Hanson (Vicar of Goole), who is taking up the living at Eccleshall, Sheffield. Also rung to welcome the birth and celebrate the christening of Nigel Philip Sheppard, son of the ringer of the sixth.

OAKHAM, RUTLAND.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 5, 1960, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt.

ROGER BALDWIN .. Treble	PETER B. KNIGHTS .. 5
PAT A. M. HALLS .. 2	CLIVE W. WALKLATE .. 6
GORDON A. HALLS .. 3	JAMES H. PAILING .. 7
HAROLD TAYLOR .. 4	MICHAEL R. BLORE .. Tenor

Composed by G. A. HALLS.

Conducted by MICHAEL R. BLORE.

Rung in memoriam Ben Barker, for many years a faithful ringer at St. Peter's Church, Derby.

HARROW WEALD, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Sat., Nov. 19, 1960, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

*ELSIE K. HART .. Treble	H. GEORGE HART .. 5
JOAN BERESFORD .. 2	THOMAS H. FRANCIS .. 6
†MARJORIE F. MATTHEWS .. 3	DENNIS BERESFORD .. 7
†CELIA F. WHITEFIELD .. 4	PETER BERESFORD .. Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN J. IVIN.

Conducted by DENNIS BERESFORD.

*50th peal on the bells. †First of Yorkshire Surprise Major.

LLANDAFF, GLAMORGAN. THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Nov. 19, 1960, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

*NICHOLAS W. H. SIMON .. Treble	ROGER G. HAVARD .. 5
EDMOND J. R. HARTLEY .. 2	WILLIAM J. GOODFELLOW .. 6
THOMAS YEOMANS .. 3	GEOFFREY J. B. STICKLAND .. 7
ADRIAN F. R. HARTLEY .. 4	BRYN TAYLOR (17) .. Tenor

Composed by T. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by BRYN TAYLOR.

* First peal attempt, aged 14. First as conductor.
Rung as a compliment to Mr. R. T. White, who has been verger at Llandaff Cathedral for 25 years.

TUNSTALL, STAFFORDSHIRE. THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Nov. 26, 1960, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes.
AT CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt.

*ELIZABETH M. SNELL .. Treble	ROBERT ARROWSMITH .. 5
PHILLIP S. WHALLEY .. 2	WILLIAM TALBOT .. 6
RONALD BARLOW .. 3	*LESLIE T. WALLEY .. 7
K. PETER JONES .. 4	DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY .. Tenor

Composed by H. WHITFIELD. Conducted by DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY.

* First peal of Major.
Ringers' effort for the Stoke-on-Trent jubilee year celebrations.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Dec. 1, 1960, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOIES .. Treble	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY .. 5
KENNETH R. DUNSTAN .. 2	H. GEORGE HART .. 6
ELSIE K. HART .. 3	NEVILLE JENKINS .. 7
CELIA F. WHITEFIELD .. 4	GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN.

ANSTEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. in G.

ALFRED BALLARD .. Treble	*A. MAXWELL LINDSEY .. 5
W. ERNEST RAWSON .. 2	*MARTIN C. FAULKES .. 6
E. ALAN JACQUES .. 3	RUSSELL S. MORRIS .. 7
J. EDWARD CAWSE .. 4	JOHN M. JELLEY .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.
* First peal in the method.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.
AT THE R.C. ABBEY OF SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND OF CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in F.

CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY .. Treble	BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY .. 5
NORMAN V. HARDING .. 2	JOHN McDONALD .. 6
GEORGE E. FEARN .. 3	JOHN A. ANDERSON .. 7
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 4	PETER BORDER .. Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN. Conducted by PETER BORDER.

FINEDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

*MALCOLM KING .. Treble	HARRY RICHARDSON .. 5
JOHN KING .. 2	GEOFFREY E. WATSON .. 6
†NOEL PEARSON .. 3	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE .. 7
*ERIC CHAPMAN .. 4	CHARLES RICHARDSON .. Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY E. WATSON.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal.
Rung half-muffled as a last tribute to John R. Main, a regular ringer at this church for over 60 years.

HARROW WEALD, MIDDLESEX. MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5184 WHITMINSTER SURPRISE MAJOR

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

H. GEORGE HART .. Treble	PATRICK W. SALTMARSH .. 5
ELSIE K. HART .. 2	JOE E. G. ROAST .. 6
JOHN R. MAYNE .. 3	DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS .. 7
PETER J. EVES .. 4	HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE .. Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.
First peal in the method by all the band, and on the bells.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Pritchard's.	Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in E flat.
JOHN HILL .. Treble	†ANTHONY H. TURLEY .. 5
*MICHAEL W. SEYMOUR .. 2	WILLIAM H. COLES .. 6
FRANK C. PRICE .. 3	†ALBERT R. G. TWINN .. 7
	ARTHUR D. BARKER .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK C. PRICE.

* First peal of Major. † First of Plain Bob Major. The conductor has now 'circled the tower.'
Rung as a compliment to Mrs. G. Goodfellow, who has been a ringer at this church for 40 years.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*RICHARD NEWMAN .. Treble	WILLIAM J. NEWMAN .. 5
MRS. J. THOMAS .. 2	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN .. 6
MRS. P. HARRIS .. 3	RALPH HARRIS .. 7
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON .. 4	PATRICK HARRIS .. Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.
* First peal of Major.

Rung in honour of the marriage of Miss Angela M. Chapman (only daughter of the Rev. W. B. and Mrs. Chapman, of Hinton) to Mr. Roger S. Holdsworth, which was solemnised at All Hallows' Church, Almondbury, Yorks, the same day.

PINCHBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt.

STANLEY E. BENNETT .. Treble	JOHN G. AMES .. 5
*DENNIS WOODS .. 2	FRANK TAYLOR .. 6
J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 3	TREVOR A. BEVIS .. 7
*ALAN G. PAYNE .. 4	CYRIL R. BURRELL .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by J. MARTIN THORLEY.
* First peal of Major 'inside.'

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALBERT W. BOND .. Treble	HERBERT W. WOOLVEN .. 5
E. WINIFRED KEYS .. 2	BASIL W. WHITE .. 6
EDGAR R. RAPLEY .. 3	LEONARD STILWELL .. 7
ANGELA GRAINGER .. 4	W. LESLIE WELLER .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by W. LESLIE WELLER.

QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF 5024 BIDDENDEN SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9½ cwt.

IVOR GOULTER .. Treble	VICTOR GRIFFIN .. 5
LESLEY J. BLADON .. 2	PETER T. HURCOMBE .. 6
CYRIL A. WRATTEN .. 3	ANTHONY R. PEAKE .. 7
SHIRLEY M. PARSONS .. 4	BRIAN BLADON .. Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN. Conducted by ANTHONY R. PEAKE.
First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells, and for the Association.

CHURCH CLOCKS

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CLOCKS

JOHN SMITH & SONS - DERBY

SUTTERTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF 5152 KENT & OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Ilkeston variation.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

MARGARET A. SWANN .. Treble	†LOUIS WILLDRS .. 5
*C. ROGER ASHER .. 2	PETER A. SHARP .. 6
†DAPHNE P. BROWN .. 3	†GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. 7
†CLAIRE DILLAMORE .. 4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. Tenor

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.
 *First peal of Major. †First of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major.

WICKEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist.

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

WILLIAM A. YATES .. Treble	FREDERICK C. CASE .. 5
*JAMES LINNELL .. 2	THOMAS E. ROBERTS .. 6
WILLIAM J. CHESTER .. 3	GEORGE W. HOLLAND .. 7
*CHARLES E. TRUMAN .. 4	*GEORGE E. GREEN .. Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by GEORGE E. GREEN.

*First peal in the method. The conductor's 50th peal, and his 25th on the bells.

Rung as a compliment to the conductor's wife on the birth of a son.

WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist.

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

H. Johnson's Six-Part.

Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in E flat.

*DAVID P. HILLING .. Treble	HOWARD OGLESBY .. 5
†MONICA M. BLAGROVE .. 2	FREDERICK R. SCOTT .. 6
†PAMELA M. JERVIS .. 3	EDWARD S. T. FARR .. 7
J. KEITH WARD .. 4	FRANK T. BLAGROVE .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK T. BLAGROVE.

*First peal of Major. †First in the method.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 4, 1960, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

At the Church of St. James.

A PEAL OF 5056 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Comprising 2,688 Cambridge and 2,368 Yorkshire, with 93 changes of method, and all the work of each method for every bell.

Middleton's .. Tenor 18 cwt.	
*NORMAN SMITH .. Treble	†GORDON ROTHWELL .. 5
†MICHAEL D. FISHWICK .. 2	†KEITH ABBOTT .. 6
†JOHN P. PARTINGTON .. 3	†DEREK BUTTERWORTH .. 7
†GEOFFREY S. MILLS .. 4	*EDWARD JENKINS .. Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by NORMAN SMITH.

*First peal of 2-Spliced Surprise Major. †First of Spliced Surprise. First of Spliced Surprise on the bells. The ringer of the second has now 'circled the tower.'

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1960, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

At the R.C. Cathedral Church of St. Chad.

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in F.

BARRIE HENDRY .. Treble	RODERICK W. PIPE .. 5
BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY .. 2	DAVID J. PURNELL .. 6
JOHN A. ANDERSON .. 3	JOHN McDONALD .. 7
PETER BORDER .. 4	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Composed by H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1960, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Washbrook's variation.	Tenor 18½ cwt.
ARTHUR G. MASON .. Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. 5
*JOHN W. COLEMAN .. 2	RALPH BIRD .. 6
CYRIL S. JARRETT .. 3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER .. 7
TREVOR A. CROSS .. 4	PETER G. RICHARDS .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.

*First peal in the method, and first on eight.

Rung as a compliment to Canon Elliot-Mitchell, Vicar of Dartford, on the 30th anniversary of his induction to the above church.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHERESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1960, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas.

A PEAL OF 5088 SOMERSET SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

JOHN SOANES .. Treble	RONALD J. JOHNSTON .. 5
CAROL FERNLEY .. 2	LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. 6
EILEEN M. FEARN .. 3	EDWARD JENKINS .. 7
BASIL JONES .. 4	BRIAN HARRIS .. Tenor

Composed by C. KENNETH LEWIS. Conducted by BASIL JONES.

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

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

WHITSTONE, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Sat., Oct. 15, 1960, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Katherine,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*FRANK W. BYE .. Treble	*PETER E. JUPP .. 4
*KENNETH G. E. WANNELL .. 2	SIDNEY F. SKINNER .. 5
JOHN M. CARTER .. 3	FRANK D. MACK .. Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY F. SKINNER.

*First true peal.

ROWBERROW, SOMERSET.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Wed., Nov. 30, 1960, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being Morris' 240 and 40 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 7 cwt.

*JANE B. TUFFIN .. Treble	MICHAEL J. AUSTIN .. 4
†JOHN C. BALDWIN .. 2	IAN C. MAYCOCK .. 5
†ROYSTON BLACKLER .. 3	*EDWARD G. MOULD .. Tenor

Conducted by ROYSTON BLACKLER.

*First peal. †First of Doubles. ‡First 'inside' and as conductor of Grandsire Doubles.

SULGRAVE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 2, 1960, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

At the Church of St. James.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Carter's Principle: Being 42 extents (five callings). Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr.

CHARLES E. TRUMAN .. Treble	MONTAGUE SAUNDERS .. 4
BARRY E. SAUNDERS .. 2	WILLIAM A. YATES .. 5
JAMES LINNELL .. 3	J. GEORGE SHELLARD .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. YATES.

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

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard-at-the-Hythe.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Single Oxford, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and four of Plain Bob. Tenor 15½ cwt.

BERNARD W. FAIRHEAD .. Treble	*JOHN AVIS .. 4
WILLIAM J. BRUNT .. 2	ADRIAN G. SEMKEN .. 5
GEORGE W. BARNES .. 3	URBAN W. WILDNEY .. Tenor

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

*First peal 'inside.'

Rung before the opening service of the Parish Mission, when the Church Army missionaries were commissioned by the Lord Bishop of Colchester.

COUNTESTHORPE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in six methods, viz.: (1) Cambridge Surprise, (2) Double Oxford Bob, (3) St. Clement's Bob, (4) Oxford Treble Bob, (5) Kent Treble Bob, (6) and (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 17 lb.

RUSSELL S. MORRIS .. Treble	ROBERT A. SOUTHWOOD .. 4
JOHN M. JELLEY .. 2	A. JAMES POYNOR .. 5
BRIAN S. CHAPMAN .. 3	JOHN J. MORRIS .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN M. JELLEY.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

GAYTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of six six-scores each of Plain Bob, Old, Norfolk. April Day, Reverse St. Bartholomew. All Saints' and Reverse Canterbury. Tenor 14 cwt.

*RICHARD WHITE .. Treble	ROY A. KEEVES .. 4
PATRICIA F. CURTIS .. 2	KENNETH D. PERKINS .. 5
†GRAHAM C. PAUL .. 3	ERIC BILLINGS .. Tenor

Conducted by KENNETH D. PERKINS.

*First peal. †First in seven methods.

GREAT LIVERMORE, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 1,200 each of St. Martin's, St. Simon's, Plain Bob (four callings), and 1,440 Grandsire (four callings). Tenor 6 cwt.

ARTHUR F. BALLAM .. Treble	RICHARD J. STANNARD .. 3
MRS. H. IVINGS .. 2	JOHN E. IVINGS .. 4
HENRY IVINGS .. 3	JOHN E. IVINGS .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR F. BALLAM.

HATHERN, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 42 extents in ten methods, viz.: One extent each of Huntspill and New Bob, six of Grandsire and two of Reverse St. Bartholomew, four each of Rev. Canterbury, Winchendon Place Bob, St. Nicholas', Plain Bob, St. Martin's and St. Simon's, Plain Bob and Rev. Canterbury.
 Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb.
 TOM HARRIS Treble .. FRANK CHAMBERS 4
 CELIA COWLEY 2 .. JOHN TICKLE 5
 DAVID SWIFT 3 .. *RON CARTER Tenor

Conducted by TOM HARRIS.

* First peal. First of Doubles by all the band.

HEMINGBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two different extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three different extents of Plain Bob.
 Tenor 10 cwt.
 JAMES THORLEY Treble .. G. FRED TERRY 4
 RONALD LUNN 2 .. JOHN J. TAYLOR 5
 *RUSSELL STEPHENSON .. 3 .. LESLIE M. WOODHEAD .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE M. WOODHEAD.

* First peal in three methods.

MARLESFORD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different 720's.
 Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb.
 *JOHN MARJORAM Treble .. ALAN S. PIPE 4
 JACK PILGRIM 2 .. JOHN W. BLYTHE 5
 RAYMOND PECK 3 .. PETER S. BEDFORD Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. BLYTHE.

* First peal.

ROTHLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY-THE-VIRGIN AND JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
 Being seven different extents.
 Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in F sharp.
 GEOFFREY M. BREWIN .. Treble .. *J. RICHARD PERKINS .. 4
 JUDITH A. M. COX 2 .. CHARLES V. CATTELL .. 5
 DEREK M. SAWYER 3 .. JOHN B. BENNETT Tenor

Conducted by JOHN B. BENNETT.

* First peal of Plain Bob Minor.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
 In four methods, being one extent of St. Clement's College Bob and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
 Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in G.
 GORDON RUMNEY Treble .. BRIAN SCHOFIELD 4
 *E. MICHAEL QUINN 2 .. MICHAEL D. FISHWICK .. 5
 JOHN P. PARTINGTON .. 3 .. JOHN ROBINSON Tenor

Conducted by JOHN ROBINSON.

* First peal in four methods. First as conductor in four methods.

SHAPWICK, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES
 Being 42 extents (ten callings).
 Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.
 *ALAN KENT Treble .. GEORGE PRESCOTT 4
 MARJORIE LEGG 2 .. *KEITH PRIME 5
 HOWARD COLLINGS 3 .. JOHN GREBER Tenor

Non-conducted.

* First peal of Doubles. † First of Grandsire Doubles.

SOUTH WEALD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In 11 methods: (1) London and Wells, (2) York and Durham, (3) Carlisle, (4) Chester and Munden, (5) Beverley and Surfleet, (6) Ipswich, (7) Cambridge.
 Tenor 15 cwt.
 *GERALD K. GOLDWIN .. Treble .. *JOHN L. FENNELL 4
 *COLIN M. TIFFIN 2 .. LAURENCE H. TURNER .. 5
 *ROBERT J. ISGROVE 3 .. HARRY TURNER Tenor

Conducted by HARRY TURNER.

* First peal in more than seven methods.

STOKE-NEXT-GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of Double Oxford and St. Clement's, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob.
 Tenor 7 cwt. 14 lb. in B flat.
 WILLIAM T. BEESON .. Treble .. STANLEY G. PONTING .. 4
 *JILL M. LANE 2 .. DOUGLAS A. R. MAY .. 5
 *CHRISTINE M. HARBOTT .. 3 .. A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Minor in six methods.

TENDRING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being extents of St. Clement's, Double Court, Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
 Tenor 7½ cwt.
 MRS. VIOLET A. HALES .. Treble .. ARTHUR G. BUTTON 4
 RONALD G. BUGG 2 .. EDWARD E. DAVEY 5
 ALAN R. ANDREWS 3 .. WALTER RUFFLES Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

THAKEHAM, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.
 Tenor 9½ cwt.
 *MICHAEL J. WAKE Treble .. MARIAN SKINNER 4
 CHARLES B. SKINNER 2 .. BENJAMIN W. FARHALL .. 5
 ROBERT WAKE 3 .. RAYMOND P. WOOD Tenor

Conducted by RAYMOND P. WOOD.

* First peal.

Rung as a compliment to Canon H. T. Mogridge on being made Rector of the united parish of Thakeham with Warminghurst.

WORTH, SUSSEX.
THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 3, 1960, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise and Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob.
 Tenor 9 cwt.
 *JOHN WARNER Treble .. COLIN A. TESTER 4
 MARGARET A. LADD 2 .. *BRIAN JEFFERY 5
 OLIVE D. COUCHMAN 3 .. ERNEST J. LADD Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST J. LADD.

* First peal in four methods.

BOXLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 5, 1960, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Single Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob.
 Tenor 9½ cwt.
 WILLIAM MANSEY Treble .. *MARTIN HOWE 4
 *OLIVE COUCHMAN 2 .. BERNARD GROVES 5
 *MONTY GILBERT 3 .. THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by BERNARD GROVES.

* First peal in six methods. The conductor's 250th peal.

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THAMES DITTON, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 5, 1960, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7½ cwt.
FRANK E. HAWTHORNE .. Treble DOUGLAS BONIFACE .. 4
FRANK OAKSHOTT .. 2 MICHAEL GATHERCOLE .. 5
*DAVID LEACH .. 3 WILFRID G. WILSON .. Tenor

Conducted by WILFRID G. WILSON.

* First peal. Rung on the eve of St. Nicholas.

WENHASTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 5, 1960, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Being 42 extents. Tenor 12 cwt. 6 lb.
RAYMOND PECK .. Treble JACK PILGRIM .. 4
JOHN W. BLYTHE .. 2 H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 5
PETER S. BEDFORD .. 3 C. JACK GIBSON .. Tenor

Conducted by H. WILLIAM BARRETT.

The ringers of 2 and tenor have 'circled the tower' to peals.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Dec. 6, 1960, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes.

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Norwich Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Hereward, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.
Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb.

HAROLD MARCON .. Treble C. WILLIAM HALL .. 4
TOM HARRIS .. 2 DAVID SWIFT .. 5
CELIA COWLEY .. 3 G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Tenor

Conducted by G. RONALD EDWARDS.

A compliment to Celia Cowley and Tom Harris on their engagement.

PERRAN-AR-WORTHAL, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1960, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PIRAN.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents. Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb. in G.
CLEMENT W. JOSE .. Treble †ROGER G. EGGINS .. 4
ANTHONY LOCKE .. 2 DOUGLAS BURNETT .. 5
*ANTHONY J. DAVIDSON .. 3 †DAVID R. MICHELL .. Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS BURNETT.

* First peal on six. † First peal. First of Doubles as conductor.

SMARDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1960, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents in 17 methods: (1) Netherseale, Lightfoot and Wearmouth; (2) Hull and Annable's London; (3) London, Wells and Cuneastre; (4) Hexham and Berwick; (5) Stamford and Rossendale; (6) York and Durham; (7) Cambridge, Beverley and Surfleet; with 116 changes of method.
Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb. in E.

CRAWFORD T. HILLIS .. Treble IAN H. ORAM .. 4
RALPH BIRD .. 2 JOHN R. COOPER .. 5
ANDREW M. MACVE .. 3 THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by IAN H. ORAM.

First peal in 17 Surprise methods by all the band, and on the bells.

WRAGBY, YORKSHIRE.

THE LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION CAMPANOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

On Sat., Dec. 10, 1960, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND OUR LADY.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Oxford Treble Bob, one of Cambridge Surprise, one of St. Clement's Bob and four of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

F. KEITH WILLIAMSON .. Treble ROBIN BROWN .. 4
*FRANCES FAIRBANK .. 2 W. RUSSELL READ .. 5
KEITH GOLDTHORPE .. 3 W. JOHN COUPERTHWAITE .. Tenor

Conducted by W. JOHN COUPERTHWAITE.

* First peal on tower bells. First as conductor in more than one method.

HANDBELL PEAL

HINCKLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Nov. 29, 1960, in 2 Hours and 2 Minutes.

AT 128, LEICESTER ROAD.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-Part. Tenor size 15 in C.
GRAHAM T. BALL .. 1—2 ALFRED BALLARD .. 5—6
JOHN VERNON .. 3—4 MICHAEL VERNON .. 7—8

Conducted by MICHAEL VERNON.

A birthday compliment to Miss Jill Vernon, of Caterham, Surrey.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

QUARTER PEALS

ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—At St. Peter's Cathedral, on Nov. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. O. Goulter 1, Enid Roberts 2, H. Greenhalgh 3, C. H. Bagot 4, H. F. Cox 5, W. B. Pitcher (first as cond.) 6, B. R. Cox 7, H. C. Moule 8. For Remembrance Day service. Also on Nov. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Facy 1, Enid Roberts (cond.) 2, H. Greenhalgh 3, W. B. Pitcher 4, B. R. Cox 5, W. Lampard (first quarter) 6. Also on Dec. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. O. Goulter 1, Enid Roberts 2, H. Greenhalgh 3, C. H. Bagot 4, W. B. Pitcher (first of Minor as cond.) 5, A. R. Lampche 6. For Confirmation.

AYLESTONE, LEICS.—On Nov. 20th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: St. Marie Davenport 1, Christine Sanders (first of Major 'inside') 2, Patricia A. Wardle 3, Sandra E. Chesterton (first as cond. in method) 4, A. J. Poyner 5, T. I. Roper 6, R. S. Morris 7, P. Martin 8. For Evensong.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,344 London Surprise Major: Jill Parsons 1, F. E. Darby (cond.) 2, S. F. Kimber 3, Joan Beresford 4, M. V. Chilcott 5, A. Rogers 6, B. D. Threlfall 7, R. Bird 8. Rung after meeting short for a peal attempt of Royal. Also on Dec. 4th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal: E. G. Talbot 1, Jean Lavender (first of Surprise Royal) 2, Jeanette Winchester (first of Surprise Royal) 3, Kathleen Chilcott 4, R. W. Hinde 5, R. J. Cook 6, F. E. Darby (cond.) 7, F. D. Jennings 8, M. V. Chilcott 9, S. F. Kimber 10. For Evensong.

BLACKWELL, DERBYS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. Cantrill 1, P. Eastland 2, A. Smithson 3, W. Steele 4, J. Smith 5, A. Wheeler (cond.) 6. First quarter 1 and 5. For Evensong.

BOURNEMOUTH.—At St. John's, on Dec. 4th, 1,296 Cambridge Minor (tenor covering): Miss D. Gould 1, H. A. Mitchell 2, Mrs. D. Gardener 3, F. Price 4, A. Busby (first Cambridge) 5, M. J. Best (cond.) 6, A. V. Davis 8. For Confirmation service.

BRATTON CLOVELLY, DEVON.—On Nov. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss M. Shepherd (first quarter) 1, W. Manning 2, W. C. Boucher 3, J. H. Benoy (cond.) 4, F. Wells 5, L. Cundy 6.

BRISTOL.—At the Church of St. Michael-on-the-Mount, Without, on Nov. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. G. Mould 1, Jane B. Tuffin 2, J. C. Baldwin 3, C. T. Biscoe 4, I. C. Maycock (cond.) 5, S. M. J. Young (first quarter) 6. For Evensong by the U.B.S.C.R. Also on Nov. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: T. Samuelson (first quarter) 1, Christine Collett 2, R. Blackler (cond.) 3, M. J. Austin 4, T. Kench 5, D. Evans 6. For Evensong by the U.B.S.C.R. Also on Dec. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mary Busch (first quarter) 1, Jennifer Gambling 2, Dorothy Stafford 3, Bridget Heighon 4, J. C. Baldwin 5, D. Heighon (cond.) 6. For Evensong. Also on Dec. 11th, 1,260 Doubles (Stedman, Morris', Grandsire, Reverse St. Bartholomew, Plain Bob, April Day, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Winchendon Place, St. Nicholas', St. Simon's and St. Martin's): Pam Sturdy (first quarter) 1, R. Blackler 2, I. C. Maycock 3, J. C. Baldwin 4, M. J. Austin (cond.) 5, C. T. Biscoe 6. First quarter in 10 methods for all. For Evensong by the U.B.S.C.R.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Sally Parrott 1, R. E. Fentiman 2, W. Parrott 3, J. Munton (first as cond.) 4, D. J. F. Oakshott 5, A. Saunders (first quarter) 6.

BURSTOW, SURREY.—On Dec. 8th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: R. Padbury (first quarter, first attempt) 1, L. W. Penfold 2, G. Charlton 3, T. Padbury 4, A. J. Bull (cond.) 5, H. H. Padbury 6.

CAVENDISH, SUFFOLK.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss R. J. Seabrook 1, Mrs. W. A. Perry (first quarter) 2, H. G. Honeyball 3, S. M. Honeyball 4, S. J. Twichett (cond.) 5, W. A. Perry 6. A birthday compliment to the tower captain, Mr. S. H. Honeyball.

CONSETT, CO. DURHAM.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: M. Armstrong 1, E. Oliver 2, J. G. Wall 3, R. Skelton 4, N. Errington 5, W. Tyson (cond.) 6. For evening service.

EAST ISLEY, BERKS.—On Nov. 28th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: C. J. Hibbert 1, J. W. T. Hibbert 2, Mrs. M. C. Hibbert 3, J. H. Naper 4, A. W. G. Sayers 5, R. M. Head (first quarter) 6, W. G. Bishop (cond.) 7, H. R. Wells 8.

GREAT TEW, OXON.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: M. W. Sayers (first of Major) 1, B. J. Davies (first of Major 'inside') 2, H. H. Alexander 3, H. H. Morley 4, W. J. Cross 5, R. A. Reeves 6, W. N. Genna 7, C. C. Clarke (first of Major as cond.) 8.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.—On Dec. 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss R. Lund 1, H. Wingrove (cond.) 2, Miss D. R. Fletcher 3, W. Henley 4, G. Riglar 5, R. Broadley 6, A. Bridges 7, D. Miles (first quarter) 8. In memoriam Miss F. Parker, daughter of the famous composer, Mr. J. J. Parker, interred this day.

KING'S NORTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Nov. 6th, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: Tonic I. Critchley 1, Ann E. Fellows 2, J. Mary Funnell 3, Linda M. Hughes 4, Veronica M. Miles 5, Alma M. Greaves 6, R. J. Gay 7, R. W. Pipe (cond.) 8. For Evensong. Also on Nov. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: Tessa P. Kemp 1, Linda M. Hughes 2, J. Mary Funnell 3, Ann E. Fellows 4, Alma M. Greaves 5, Veronica M. Miles 6, Susan Funnell 7, R. J. Gay 8, R. W. Pipe (cond.) 9, N. J. Goodman 10. For Evensong.

LECKHAMPTON, GLOS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,312 Double Norwich C.B. Major: Mrs. M. A. Wratten 1, A. Pendlebury 2, Miss S. M. Parsons 3, W. A. Farmer 4, Rev. J. B. T. Homfray 5, I. Goulter 6, T. Boreham 7, C. A. Wratten (first in method as cond.) 8. For Evensong.

LEEDS, YORKS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,264 Plain Bob Minor: R. Brown 1-2, M. G. Swift 3-4, F. K. Williamson 5-6, W. J. Couperthwaite (cond.) 7-8.

LEICESTER.—At St. John-the-Divine, on Nov. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Atkins (first on eight) 1, A. Grant 2, I. Fraser 3, P. Chilton 4, R. Elkington 5, S. Harrison 6, K. Townsend (first as cond., aged 15) 7, A. Cooke 8. For Evensong. Also on Dec. 4th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: S. Harrison 1, R. Elkington 2, I. Fraser 3, R. Southwood 4, H. Grant 5, A. M. Lindsey 6, P. Chilton (first as cond., aged 15) 7, K. Townsend 8. For Evensong.

LECHLADE, GLOS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Hayden 1, A. King 2, G. Land (cond.) 3, H. Evans 4, P. Kirby 5, J. Ryman 6. For Evensong.

LITLINGTON, HERTS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: F. Bailey (first quarter) 1, W. Ridgeman 2, A. Mynott 3, D. Pepper 4, W. Newman (first of Doubles and as cond.) 5, F. Morgan (first quarter) 6. For Evensong.

LONDON.—At St. Clement Danes', on Dec. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Caters: J. Tomsett 1, Freda Greaves 2, M. Gathercole 3, A. Fulwell 4, R. Cadamy 5, J. Maybrey 6, J. Marks 7, D. Theodm 8, W. F. Oatway (cond.) 9, B. Willgress 10. First of Stedman Caters for 3, 5, 6, 8 and as conductor. Also at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, on Nov. 27th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: V. Green 1, Miss J. Firth 2, Miss J. Langton 3, M. Barton 4, J. Perrett 5, G. Parsons 6, J. Euston (cond.) 7, P. Cattermole 8. For Matins.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,537 Stedman Caters: Bro. A. Tomlinson 1, Bro. A. Gibbs 2, Bro. R. Ingram 3, Bro. F. Perrens 4, Bro. B. Kynaston 5, Bro. E. Elson 6, Bro. C. Harrison (cond.) 7, Bro. P. J. Stanforth 8, Bro. J. Worth 9, Bro. J. Thornley 10. Rung by Fremasons to mark the installation of Bro. Colin Harrison.

LOWER HEYFORD, OXON.—On Nov. 12th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: C. H. Kinch 1, C. Clarke 2, R. Reeves 3, L. Busby 4, E. G. Jones 5, E. J. Smith (cond.) 6. A birthday compliment to E. E. Pearson.

MAIDS MORETON, BUCKS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (Stedman, Grandsire, Plain Bob): Miss D. Busby 1, R. Vickers 2, A. Stanton 3, C. Stopps 4, G. Holland (cond.) 5, H. Stopps 6. Rung on the 90th birthday of Mr. H. Jones, a ringer at this church for 70 years.

MARSTON, OXON.—On Nov. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. H. Jones 1, J. S. Walker 2, Helen Williams 3, N. D. Dean (cond.) 4, A. Gammon 5. For Evensong.

MELTON MOWBRAY, LEICS.—On Dec. 10th, 1,321 Stedman Caters: A. Stimson 1, E. W. Rawson 2, P. A. Corby 3, T. Templeton 4, R. Mantion 5, A. Ballard 6, R. Morris 7, H. Clayton 8, P. J. Stanforth (cond.) 9, S. Smith 10. Rung on the occasion of the Melton District dinner.

MERROW, SURREY.—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: K. R. A. Glue 1, Jill M. Lane 2, P. G. Smart (cond.) 3, A. Pamela Warren 4, B. A. Todd 5, R. I. Vaughan 6. First of Minor for 1 and 5. For Confirmation service.

NAILSEA, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: M. Owen 1, Jennifer Brake (first 'inside') 2, L. Derrick 3, Mary Powell 4, C. Kortright (cond.) 5, H. Hardwide 6.

NORTON CANES, STAFFS.—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Susan Devey 1, D. Jordan 2, Ann Eden (first quarter) 3, Margaret Guthrie 4, G. Bradbury (cond.) 5, A. Armstrong 6. A birthday compliment and a farewell to ringer of third, who leaves to become a nurse.

NORTON, HERTS.—On Nov. 23rd, 720 Single Oxford, 720 St. Clements Minor: Gillian Sims 1, Caroline Wills 2, I. Werrett 3, H. E. Werrett 4, M. A. Collings 5, P. Mehew (cond.) 6, Elisabeth Wills (13, cover bell) 7.

OCKHAM, SURREY.—On Nov. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: D. Priestley 1, Miss J. Drury 2, Miss P. Drury 3, A. D. Leach 4, J. Martin (cond.) 5. For morning service.

PETERSFIELD, HANTS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles: H. DeCombe 1, R. Walker 2, K. Sansom (cond.) 3, D. Hughes 4, K. Tipper 5, B. Kercher 6.

PUTNEY, LONDON.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Martin 1, B. Coatsworth 2, L. Allen 3, A. Mann (first of Grandsire Triples) 4, J. Perrett (first of Triples as cond.) 5, A. Clayton 6, C. Mew 7, B. Bull 8. For Matins, and to mark the confirmation of Alan Millidge, Hugh MacPherson, Michael Uphill and Graham Welch, all members of the local band.

RAYLEIGH ESSEX.—On Nov. 20th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. F. Ward 1, M. F. Hatch 2, R. D. Tomlin 3, F. May 4, G. D. Sandwell 5, D. Belcham 6, M. J. Hallett (cond.) 7, E. J. Blower 8. For Evensong.

READING, BERKS.—At St. Mary's Church, on Dec. 4th, 1,280 Glasgow Surprise Major: K. Cotterell 1, A. Diserens 2, Jennifer M. Davies (first in method) 3, J. N. Diserens 4, F. W. Lewis 5, R. F. Diserens 6, C. E. Lewington 7, N. J. Diserens (cond.) 8.

ROMSEY, HANTS.—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: K. J. Jacobs 1, Audrey J. Knight 2, M. D. G. Northway 3, M. L. Northway 4, H. J. Page 5, C. M. White 6, C. H. Kippin 7, R. C. Kippin (cond.) 8. First in method 1 and 4. For the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Northway.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—At St. Paul's, on Oct. 18th, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: E. Haines 1, Miss M. Page 2, Miss A. Sweeney 3, R. Haines 4, B. Lawes 5, J. Daniels 6, L. Page 7, H. Abrahams (cond.) 8. First of Major for 3 and 4. Also on Dec. 1st, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: E. Haines 1, Miss M. Page 2, Mrs. A. Abrahams 3, R. Haines 4, B. Lawes 5, J. Daniels 6, L. Pages 7, H. Abrahams (first in method as cond.) 8. First of Double Norwich for 1 and 4.

SLAUGHAM, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (4, 6, 8 covering): E. Arnold (first quarter) 1, S. Brook 2, P. Tomsett 3, F. Smith 4, A. Turner (cond.) 5, A. Tayman 6, S. Arnold 7, M. Abbott 8. Rung in memory of J. Gratwick, a ringer of this tower.

STANWELL, MIDDY.—On Nov. 12th, 1,260 Cambridge Surprise and Plain Bob Minor: F. T. Blagrove 1, D. P. Hilling 2, Monica M. Blagrove 3, M. Lane 4, D. Pickett 5, C. B. Fynes 6. Half-muffled on eve of Remembrance Sunday.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.—On Dec. 10th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Miss G. Burchall 1, Miss K. Burchall 2, Mrs. C. W. Reed 3, P. N. White 4, J. D. Clarke 5, C. W. Reed 6, J. W. Raithby 7, W. L. Exton (cond.) 8. First of Cambridge Major 3, 5 and 8. Also 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Miss K. Burchall 1, Mrs. C. W. Reed (first of Double Norwich) 2, P. N. White 3, Miss G. Burchall 4, J. W. Raithby 5, C. W. Reed 6, W. L. Exton (cond.) 7, J. D. Clarke 8. Rung after a peal attempt for Cambridge Surprise Major.

SWINDON, WILTS.—At St. Mark's Church, on Nov. 27th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: M. A. New 1, P. H. Naylor 2, A. M. Stratford 3, A. T. Collins 4, M. J. Stanley (first as cond.) 5, A. Sims 6. For Evensong, by a teenage band.

SWITHLAND, LEICS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. W. Brown (first quarter) 1, M. D. Barsby 2, E. F. Payne 3, J. Mitchell 4, B. S. Payne (cond.) 5, F. T. Bindley 6.

THAKEHAM, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Stedman Doubles: Marian Skinner 1, Charles Skinner 2, R. Wilson 3, B. Farhall 4, R. P. Wood (cond.) 5, W. Cherriman 6. For Induction service.

TORQUAY, DEVON.—On Dec. 3rd, at the Church of St. Saviour, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: K. E. Fursdon (first quarter, first attempt) 1, A. L. Bennett 2, A. J. Garbett 3, P. A. Lock 4, W. J. Harvey (cond.) 5, J. Kelly 6.

UPWELL, NORFOLK.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Ann Dorling 1, E. H. Mastin 2, S. G. Elsey 3, N. Greenacre 4, T. Bush 5, G. I. Mann (cond.) 6. For Evensong, and as a 20th birthday compliment to treble ringer.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.—On Dec. 10th, 1,272 Plain Bob Minimus: R. A. Trickett 1-2, F. R. Morton (cond.) 3-4. First quarter on handbells for both.

WOBURN, BEDS.—On Oct. 26th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Kathleen Rivett 1, F. Rivett 2, Mrs. Mary Mann 3, C. Payne 4, K. C. Fleming 5, P. Wake-man 6, C. D. Mann 7, R. Churchill (cond.) 8. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Colin Payne, with best wishes of the remaining seven ringers.

WOLLATON, NOTTS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Shonfield 1, C. R. Daft 2, P. W. Hawcock 3, M. Poppleson 4, R. Preston 5, P. J. Hawcock (cond.) 6. Welcoming the return of Mr. R. Preston, from H.M. Army.

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HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER: E. A. BARNETT, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford, Kent. Telephone: Crayford 24989.

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EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

J. FRANK SMALLWOOD (convener), Heatherbrae, South Park Avenue, Darley Dale, Matlock, Derbyshire. Telephone: Darley Dale 2184.

FRANK I. HAIRS.

R. S. ANDERSON.

W. G. WILSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

The quarter peal at Buckfast Abbey, in which four monks took part, was rung to celebrate the silver jubilee in the priesthood of the Lord Abbot (Dom Placid Hooper), who was ordained at the Abbey 25 years ago. After the quarter peal, which was rung on the middle eight, the visitors were entertained by the Community, the Lord Abbot, himself, attending to thank the ringers personally.

Mr. Bryn Taylor (17) wishes to know whether he is the youngest person to conduct a peal of Major for the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association.

The seven good wishers in the quarter at Woburn are getting in plenty of practice for ringing for another occasion in Colin Payne's life that might occur in the near future!

Litlington, Herts, has made a start. This issue contains a quarter, the first in which any member of the local band participated or conducted.

The peal of Minor rung at Tendring, Essex, on December 3rd, was to mark the completion of 57 years' service as church clerk by Mr. Charles Marven. A ringer for an even longer period, he still attends district meetings, and is well known in the area. The band look forward to ringing for his diamond anniversary.

The band who rang the peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at Christ Church, Bristol, would like to associate with it the name of Roger O. Fry, who was to have called the peal, but had to drop out for health reasons. The band wish him a swift return to health and send him their best wishes for his ordination at the end of December.

On December 1st, 1950, a peal of Bristol was rung to welcome the Rev. Philip Lea, as Rector of St. John-the-Baptist, Erith. Now, ten years later, another peal of Bristol has been rung as a farewell, with many thanks for the ready permission always given to the many ringers who have come to St. John's to attempt peals. Fortunately, Mr. Lea will not be leaving Kent, as he is to be inducted to the living of Seal.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

An incident occurred while a television team was visiting St. George's Church, Damerham, preparatory to the Christmas Day broadcast. One of the technicians came into the ringing chamber and exclaimed: 'I always wanted to ring a bell.' Before anyone realised it, he had pulled off the treble, which was already up. Fortunately no harm was done, but he learned that bellringing is not so easy as it looks; in the few seconds which followed.

With the first peal of Tyrone Surprise Major (named after the Irish county) at Rochester, Staffs, Derek P. Jones has 'completed the alphabet' of Surprise Major peals.

Two surprises awaited the band on completing a seven Minor methods peal at Bradfield, Berks, on December 9th—a glass of port or sherry kindly provided by the local captain, Mr. J. Butler, and two inches of snow, which had fallen while the peal was in progress.

Mr. Gordon Halls, of Derby, is putting in some very useful work by collecting postal subscriptions and is also roping in some new subscribers. This kind of practical help is much appreciated. We hope that 'R.W.' enthusiasts in other districts will copy Mr. Halls' example.

Two 15-year-olds, Keith Townsend and Peter Chilton, of St. John-the-Divine, Leicester, pupils of Mr. S. Harrison, have conducted their first quarter peals—Grandsire and Stedman Triples, respectively. The Stedman is worthy of special mention as Peter has been conducting this method for only a few weeks. The visiting ringer afterwards remarked that it was the best ringing in which he had taken part for some considerable time.

The peal rung at Acton on December 12th was, at the Rector's request, associated with St. Cecilia. The parish had musical celebrations for St. Cecilia's Day (November 21st) and the Rector (the Rev. Richard Parsons) was anxious to include the bells. Owing to circumstances outside his control, a peal could not be attempted on the eve of the festival, but the band did ring the bells before the actual celebrations, the following evening. The peal (Lincolnshire) was the 100th on the bells.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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BELLS SILENT FOR 40 YEARS RUNG AGAIN

THE bells of Cowesby Church, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, silent for more than 40 years and which the late Vicar considered were too heavy to be rung, have been restored by ringers from Thirsk and Northallerton.

A recent inspection of the tower revealed an accumulation of jackdaws' nests which buried the fourth and tenor bells up to the crown and except the treble all were completely jammed with twigs. The wheels and stays and sliders and pulleys, when exposed, seemed sound and an oil can and bottles of oil also came to light.

The ropes hung coiled in the chamber below, except for the tenor's which was broken at the garter hole. The others were severed at the same point where they had rotted away and knots were tied inside the wheel. This, of course, put the sallies out of reach and led indirectly to the discovery of a box containing 17 handbells, for something was needed to stand on. One at a time the bells were raised and rung then lowered in pairs by the two ringers who had undertaken the work. The ropes held firm and stood the test. It is hoped to find others, however, no necessarily new, which will serve for the little ringing likely to take place here.

The bells are a ring of six, by Warners, installed in 1878 and Dove gives the tenor as 8½ cwt. They are in A flat and of a good tone. The ropes fall in two straight lines of three to the chancel floor from a central tower. The church was designed by Salvin in 1846 and is in the Norman style and on the site of a Saxon church. All that remains of the old church are the communion rail and altar candlesticks, which are Jacobean and worthy of inspection.

The beautiful stone village nestles among the Hambleton Hills and together with Felixkirk (6), its bells would provide a satisfying detour for a touring band between Thirsk and Northallerton. There is no incumbent in either parish at present but the churchwardens and Rural Dean, who is the Vicar of Thirsk, readily gave permission for the restoration and would be glad to allow visitors to ring at both these interesting churches.

On December 10th, the work being completed, a representative band rang the bells to a good 720 of Plain Bob Minor. There is no lighting in the church or a quarter peal would have been rung. The ringers were: Elsdon Metcalf 1, John Brown (president, Northern District, Yorkshire Association) 2, Arthur Bashforth (Yorkshire committee) 3, Tom Cox (president, Cleveland and North Yorks Association) 4, Edward Hudson (secretary, Northern District) 5, Fred Hodgson (Ringing Master, Northern District, cond.) 6.

The proceedings were watched by a barn owl perched silently, high up in the roof. Was he thinking 'One hoot and I'm oot'?

A. B.

Open Evening At Crayford

Relatives and friends of the ringers of St. Paulinus', Crayford, were invited to an open evening on December 6th, organised by Mr. E. A. Barnett.

The evening began with demonstrations in the tower in raising the bell, hand-stroke and back-stroke, by young beginners. Next several course of Plain Hunt, Rounds and Plain Bob were rung.

The rest of the evening was spent in the Parish Hall, where cakes and tea were provided by Mesdames Barnett and Bond. The guests were shown a simple method in ringing Plain Hunt on handbells and also tune playing. The very enjoyable evening concluded with parents trying, rather unsuccessfully, to ring handbells.

I. M.

New Five For Essex

The three bells at All Saints' Church, Shrub End, Colchester, are to be made into a ring of five with a tenor weighing about 6 cwt. The work is being carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and it is hoped that the bells will be ready for ringing by the beginning of next November. The existing three bells were put in by the same foundry, about 1844, and were originally hung for ringing, but they have been in an unringable state for many years.

SERVANTS OF THE EXERCISE - No. 52



MR. HERBERT LANGDON,
London.

London has provided the Exercise with many famous ringers, but none more so than Herbert Langdon, easily the best known and best loved figure in the Metropolis. He is a wonderful link with those giants of the past such as Matt Wood, James Pettit, W. T. Cockerill, W. Prime, Sam Joyce, H. Springall, E. Horrex, C. Burden, Tom Benney, W. Tanner, Bob Newton, J. N. Oxborrow, J. W. Golding, Challis Winney, G. N. Price, the brothers Pasmore, and many others, with all of whom he rang many peals.

His stories of these great men of past generations are always most entertaining and are listened to with great respect by all who are lucky enough to enjoy his friendship. To give even a modest account of his ringing career would take up the whole of the space in 'The Ringing World' and we are only able to deal with some of the highlights, which will give our younger members some idea of his stature as a ringer.

Mr. Langdon is the youngest of four ringing brothers, and son of Henry Langdon, who was also a well known London ringer. The oldest brother, Harry, did not attain the same degree of prominence as the other three, Thomas, William and Herbert. Born in London in 1881, Herbert Langdon first learned to ring at St. Giles', Camberwell, being taught by his brother, William—who also taught T. H. Taffender to ring. After a period of call changes at Lambeth, he went to Chelsea and Fulham for his first experience of change ringing, and later migrated to St. Margaret's, Westminster, where Tom and Bill were already members.

RANG AT ST. PAUL'S FOR 58 YEARS

In 1900 he became a College Youth, and in February of that year first rang at St. Paul's Cathedral. His performance evidently satisfied the older members of the band and he was appointed as a substitute ringer, serving as such for 10 years. In 1910 he was elected a full member of the St. Paul's Guild, and he rang there continuously until 1958, having been conductor since 1938, when he succeeded W. T. Cockerill. He rang his first peal (Holt's Original) at St. George's, Camberwell, in 1899, which was conducted by G. E. Symonds, who also conducted his next three peals. His fifth peal, Stedman Caters, at Beddington, was conducted by that great ringer, Harry Barton, who had evidently taken a great liking for this promising youngster, who before long was appointed conductor of the St. Margaret's band.

Mr. Langdon never kept a record of his peal performances, but recent research kindly undertaken by Mr. Edwin Jennings, of Braintree, and Mr. L. Stilwell discloses that his peal total is 549, of which he conducted 237.

Peals of which he can justly be proud are the record 21,363 Stedman Caters at Appleton in 1922, Carter's odd bob one-part Stedman Triples, both of which he conducted, and the silent performance of the latter on handbells—one of the greatest achievements yet. In 1923 he conducted the attempt for the record length of 12,675 Stedman Cinques at Southwark, which was 13 years later discovered by one of the band to be false. Langdon umpired the first handbell Surprise peal, Superlative, conducted by Harry Pasmore, with whom he rang many handbell peals, including Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Treble Bob on 8, 10 and 12 bells. Pasmore and Winney were the principal conductors. In 1904 he joined the Yorkshire Association, and struck up a life-long friendship with the brothers Woodhead, who were so impressed with his ability that they invited him to conduct the last peal on the old bells at Leeds Parish Church, and the first peal on the new bells.

Among many other notable peals in which he took part was the first and only peal of Cambridge Maximus at St. Paul's, with A. B. Peck on the tenor, and conducting. Langdon rang the 11th—always the problem child at St. Paul's. She was in her worst mood, and after 24 courses Langdon told Peck he was doubtful if he could finish. 'Well,' said Peck, 'you say "stand" when you've had enough.' He continued to the end of the 3rd course and thought he detected a slight improvement in the 'go.' He tried another course and she went a bit better. Deciding to carry on, he found that the 'go' deteriorated, but he stuck it out until the end. He said afterwards that had it not been for the wonderful rhythm attained by the rest of the band, he could never have rung that bell that night.

Herbert Langdon has been associated with Westminster Abbey bells since their augmentation in 1919, and he and A. B. Peck are the only survivors of the band who rang the opening touch there. He has rung more peals with Peck and the late C. F. Winney and has probably rung more peals of Stepney than anyone. His other hobby is cricket—he is a staunch supporter of Surrey, and if he had not taken up ringing there is no doubt he would have been a star performer in that game.

By profession he is a shipping agent, well known in the City and renowned for his reliability. He is as methodical and reliable with his work as he is with his ringing.

He has friends not only in London, but all over the country, particularly in Birmingham, and it is a great joy to see him in the company of his dear old friend Albert Walker. May they both be spared to us for many more years!

JAFUS.

A WET AFTERNOON IN OXFORDSHIRE

On the afternoon of December 3rd a party of ringers from Radley College and village, Abingdon, Oxford, and even one from Cheshire, went on an outing to three Oxfordshire towers.

Our first stop was at Dorchester Abbey, where we were joined by two of our friends from Oxford, and the Chaplain of Radley College. Here we all enjoyed ourselves, ringing on the heavy eight (16 cwt.), of deep, melodious tone. After about an hour's ringing we proceeded to Brightwell Baldwin. Here, after a welcome tea in the Village Hall, we did justice to the fair-going six (9 cwt.). We then pressed on to Warborough, where some of the best ringing of the day was had on this pleasant eight (10 cwt.). Ringing here ranged from rounds to Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Major.

We are very grateful to Miss M. R. Cross for very kindly arranging the outing, to all incumbents and tower captains, and to all those who so very kindly provided transport.

R. N. G.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, AVINGTON, HANTS

By PETER DICKINSON

IT was whilst talking to a visiting band of ringers at my home tower recently I heard that the bells of Avington Church were to be sold. I knew that they had been unringable for many years but now the Rector and churchwardens had applied for a faculty to sell five of the six bells.

As this was to be the end of another ring of six bells in this part of Hampshire I went to Avington to find out some details about the bells and the events leading up to their being sold.

Avington is a pleasant village on the River Itchen, about 4½ miles from Winchester and is one of the smallest villages in Hampshire. At the present time it consists of the Manor House and nineteen cottages and the church.

The Church of St. Mary is a red brick building in the Georgian style dating from 1770. On entering the church I found one of the ladies of the parish was engaged in putting some new candles on the altar and she soon asked if I had been to the church before. As it was several years since I had been there, she told me of the restoration work that had been carried out on the roof and windows and the considerable sum of money that had been raised to carry out the work. She also pointed out several interesting features such as the two-decker pulpit, the high box pews, the elaborate carving over the altar and the western gallery, all in mahogany, a 'vinegar Bible' in a glass case, the 'flower vase' font and the barrel organ in the gallery.

I said that I had heard the bells were being sold and could I have some details of them? Apparently one of the bells was broken in pieces, another one badly cracked and to put the bells in order was beyond the resources of the parish, so, reluctantly, they had decided to sell five of the bells and have the tenor rehung for the service bell.

I asked if I might go up into the belfry and have a look at the bells and get any inscriptions that might be on them. The lady replied that she did not allow anyone up into the bell chamber without the Rector's permission as it was considered unsafe, but I was welcome to go up to the ringing chamber and view the church from the gallery. This I did and as I stood in the gallery I could visualise the old 'choir' as described by Thomas Hardy in his novel 'Under the Greenwood Tree.' In the ringing chamber there was little of interest—several old hatchments and the bell ropes, one of which came through the tread of the stairs to the bell chamber. On the floor were several old footstraps.

Back in the church the lady said she could not tell me any more of interest at present but if I would call at her house one evening she would furnish me with more details.

ON SAXON SITE

The following week I called at her house and both she and her husband were eager to help me find any interesting details. A former Rector, the Rev. H. Wright, went to great trouble about 1900 to trace the history of Avington and very interesting reading it makes. There has been a church on the present site since A.D. 961. This Saxon building was dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul and was built in the time of St. Swithun, who used to draw taxes from it.

In the year 1768 the Marchioness of Carnarvon and the Rev. Ellis Jones Clerk, Rector, applied for a faculty to build a church to replace the old Saxon church as 'the old church is a low building and is dark and inconvenient for the parishioners of the said parish to attend Divine Service in and in several parts thereof is become ruinous and decayed.'

The faculty was granted. The Church to be furnished with a new altar piece and communion table with suitable ornaments, a new pulpit and reading desk, new pews and seats and a font for the use of himself and family and inhabitants, likewise a new set of bells.

The new church was built at a cost of £2,500 and consecrated on February 23rd, 1770.

The details of the new set of bells are set out in the parish register as follows:—

Avington St. Mary's Church Bells.

Peal of Six Bells supplied by Pack and Chapman, A.D. 1771.

Diameters		Weights		
		cwt.	qr.	lb.
40"	Tenor	11	0	13
36½"	V	8	3	6
33½"	IV	7	0	27
31½"	III *	5	2	20
29"	II *	4	3	25
27½"	Treble *	4	3	5
Total weight		42	1	12

Cast at Whitechapel Bell Foundry, London.

* Bells marked thus are cracked through inferior ringing.—H. W.

There is no indication of the date that this footnote was added but in the 'Hampshire Chronicle,' of early 1959, the following note appeared in the '50 years ago' column:

Avington: The Bellringers of Tichborne Parish Church paid a visit to Avington Church and spent the evening ringing Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob on the Church bells. They afterwards went to the Plough Inn, Ithen Abbas, and spent an enjoyable hour!

Following the list of diameters and weights is a list headed: 'Mottos on the Bells in the Tower'

Treble: I mean to make it understood

That though I'm little I am good.

Second: If you have a judicious ear

You'll own my voice is sweet and clear.

Third: Whilst thus we join in cheerful sound

Let love and loyalty abound.

Fourth: Ye people all that hear me ring

Be faithful to your God and King.

Fifth: Such wondrous power to music's given

It elevates the soul to Heaven.

Tenor: Ye Ringers all that prize your health

and happiness

Be sober, merry, wise and you'll find the same possess.

Now after 190 years five of the bells are to be taken down from the tower and sold back to the Foundry whence they came. The money raised by their sale will be used partly to restore the fabric of the tower which has housed them for so long. It is many years since they have been rung and it will be interesting to know where they will go. Maybe they will be recast as a ring for another new church as they were before, but one thing is certain: they will not sound through the Itchen Valley as they did the night Tichborne ringers rang them fifty years ago.

BARNSELY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Fourteen towers were represented at the monthly meeting of the Barnsley and District Society, held at St. Peter's, Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on December 10th. A warm welcome was given to all present by the Rev. Gerald Barber, and then, because of another appointment, he vacated the chair to Mr. Noel F. Moxon. The present officers were nominated for submission to the general meeting at St. Mary's, Barnsley, on January 14th. The usual vote of thanks was offered by Mr. Frank Brunt.

J. B.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

Northern District

The combined attraction of Immanuel, Streatham, bells and a special performance of 'Son et Lumiere' in Croydon Parish Church in the evening brought an unusually high attendance to the nomination meeting of the Northern District on November 26th.

During the afternoon Immanuel bells were put to good use in a variety of methods under the supervision of the Master, Mr. F. E. Collins. The service, to the Association's form, was taken by the Vicar, the accompaniment to the hymns being played by a visiting ringer from Tonbridge. Tea followed in the New Church Hall and Mrs. Collins, with two helpers from Croydon Parish Church, put on a first class spread.

The business meeting was dealt with in the usual brisk manner so that the 50 people present were not kept away from Croydon bells too long. Four new members were elected and all the existing officers were nominated for 1961. In addition, Mr. Tony Clayton, of Putney, was nominated for a place on the committee. The sum of £5 5s. was voted from the District Funds to the A. H. Pulling Memorial Fund, without a dissenter. The Bell Fund collection amounted to 28s.

By 8 p.m. more ringers and friends had gathered for the performance of 'Son et Lumiere,' especially arranged for the ringers by Mr. F. E. Collins. This proved to be a most impressive history of Croydon Parish Church over 1,000 years, shown in light and by sound recordings.

The show is the church's contribution to the celebrations taking place in Croydon this year to mark its millenary. It was a privilege much enjoyed by all to have a special performance arranged, and concluded another most happy meeting.

W. P.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Eastern District

The Eastern Branch held its winter meeting at Gorleston-on-Sea on December 3rd, when 31 members and friends attended. Gorleston Parish Church is a popular one for weddings and because there were two ceremonies during the afternoon, ringing was of necessity restricted. The new ring at St. Nicholas', Great Yarmouth, was, however, made available for an hour so that ringers did not have to be idle for long, or be disappointed.

The service was conducted by the Vicar of Gorleston, Canon E. L. Corbell, R.D., Mr. Tucker being organist. A hot meat pie tea prepared by Miss Barbara Smedley, of the local company, was held in the Church Hall, the meeting, which followed, being presided over by the branch chairman, Mr. E. R. Goate, who was supported by Association and branch officers.

Mr. H. W. Barrett thanked the members for their kind wishes conveyed to Mrs. Barrett and himself on their recent silver wedding anniversary. The belfry election of Patrick Bird, Michael Sprackling and Tudor Davies to non-resident life membership was ratified. It was proposed that the 1961 branch annual meeting be held at Loddon on February 11th, subject to suitable arrangements being made.

The meeting was told that the bells at Kessingland were being augmented to six and would be opened after Christmas, also that the rehanging of ten at Aylsham would be opened on December 10th. Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar, the organist, Mr. Bird (Master of the local company) and Miss Smedley for the excellent tea arrangements.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

METHOD NOMENCLATURE

Dear Sir.—When the peal in 29 Major methods was arranged at Heptonstall, with unusual method nomenclature, it was realised that we might shock a few people, but we never dared to hope that we should be an inspiration for poetry, and under the circumstances I should like to clarify certain details.

The peal report is, of course, quite genuine. The composition and details of new methods were sent to 'The Ringing World' with the report, so perhaps the figures will be published in due course.

The composition itself has no special merit, and the methods included are all simple variations of well known methods, but as 10 of them had never been rung before, we were faced with the problem of finding quite a large number of names. Eight of the new methods, although acceptable as methods, are not in the Central Council Collection, so there was no question of just giving them a C.C.C. number. As it might have proved difficult associating names with methods we named eight of them after members of the band and two after places and in fact in that way we were able to associate the method structure and name quite easily.

We don't claim credit for all the exotic place names in the peal, several of them had already been chosen by previous bands, but surely your correspondent should find out more about places like Lesser Wopping before he decides that they are inappropriate for methods!

In the days of College Exercise, Shipway's Court and London Scholars' Pleasure, etc., when, perhaps, ringers had not settled into an unalterable routine, names given to methods usually had a significance, and did not simply copy the names of places, in many cases not in any way associated with the methods they gave their names to. At present we are probably the only band ringing the offending methods, so maybe we can on this occasion be permitted to copy this very early tradition.

We don't intend to ring a full peal in any of the methods, but if any ringers do, we shall be pleased to accept any names they choose for them.—Yours faithfully,

DEREK OGDEN.

Sale, Manchester.

THE PROFESSOR'S INVESTIGATIONS

Dear Sir.—With reference to Mr. W. Shepherd's letter, page 515 of 'The Ringing World' for July 29th last, upon the above ('R.W.' leader, July 15th), I made a few notes at the time concerning the questions he raised but circumstances then conspired to prevent my completing them. I hope I am not now too late, and that they may be of some assistance.

The Professor's investigations are sound enough in the main but in handling the various equations we must bear in mind that for reliability only definitely known values may be ascribed. Now in giving his examples the Professor was dealing with imaginary ringers and so could obviously only assume or suppose particular values. Had he been dealing with real ringers it will be seen, from a careful study of his equations, that he would, by the application of these methods, have been in very great danger of making many enemies for life. Any reader doubting this should try it out.

The celebrated Herr Taubenhaus, who strode across the stage of international chess for so many years, used a similar method for assessing the potentials of his many opponents, and stopped at nothing in order to obtain any information over and above his first-hand experience concerning them, which he considered to be necessary.

It is not known how this fact got abroad, but get abroad it did, and it is recorded that in a raid upon his hotel room during the great tournament at Baden-Baden (presumably by people who had suffered at his hands) all his papers disappeared. Nothing else was touched. When the worked examples of his methods were studied in the light of named individuals such a howl of rage went up that Herr Taubenhaus packed hurriedly and fled, and it was quite a while before he dared appear in another top-ranking tournament.

Now, the Theory of Equations—that every numerical equation has a root, i.e., some quantity in a numerical form, real or imaginary, which, when substituted for the unknown quantity in the equation, shall render the said equation a numerical identity, is by no means self-evident, nor is it easy to afford evidence for it which shall be at the same time convincing and free from limitations. The argument of Cauchy, however, in his demonstration consists in showing that the quantity which it is wished to prove capable of being reduced to zero, can be exhibited as the product of two factors, one of which is incapable of assuming a minimum value or, in other words, that a less value than one assigned can always be found, and that therefore it is capable of acquiring the value zero. The argument is not completely free from objections, but is perhaps less objectionable than any of its forbears.

The solution of simultaneous equations of the first degree, two or three unknowns, may be presented under the form of a set of fractions, the numerators and denominators of which are symmetric products of the co-efficients of the unknown quantities in the equations. These products were called resultants by Laplace but are now known as determinants, a name first applied to certain of them by Gauss.—Yours faithfully,

Stourbridge. BERNARD C. ASHFORD.

LEADING PEAL RINGERS

Dear Sir.—Soon the annual list of 'Leading Peal Ringers' will be published again. I suggest that this year you publish not only the name and number of peals, but also the tower with which each ringer is associated for service ringing purposes. This would not only help to connect our leading peal ringers more with Sunday service ringing, but also give readers some idea of the homes of these disembodied names. Always this list is a mere repetition of names that have become familiar through reading the peal columns. The additional information would at least help us to associate a band or group of peal ringers with a particular tower, town or city, which should add to the interest of the peal columns next year.

I know of peal ringers (last year we were told that there was a group of them) who withhold their names from this list. Their main reasons seem to be that no one else wants to know this information and they are not publicity seekers. Perhaps they can be persuaded to send details this year. There are people who want to know, both friends and strangers. The column is news—please don't help to strangle it.—Yours faithfully,

Bristol. PATRICK J. BIRD.

B.B.C. TIME SIGNAL

Dear Sir.—With Mr. Herbert Langdon and Mr. C. W. Roberts cannot we add the name of Thomas H. Taffender, senior (Taff), to those associated with the B.B.C. time signal?

We should be grateful if the actual list, names of ringers and positions taken up, were to be published soon—in 'The Ringing World'. I remember 'T.H.T.' telling me a year or two ago that the bells went rather badly at the time.—Yours sincerely,

Swindon. P. MINCHIN.

OBITUARY

MR. A. J. SKELDING

The Worcestershire Association has lost one of its oldest members by the passing of Mr. Albert J. Skelding, on November 23rd.

He was elected a member of the Association at its annual meeting, Easter, 1895, and became Northern Branch secretary in 1920, and held this office until 1933, when he was succeeded by Mr. W. B. Cartwright, now the Association's Master.

For many years he rang at St. Thomas', Stourbridge, but around 20 years ago, just prior to his retirement, he left Stourbridge to reside at Oldswinford and became a member of the band at St. Mary's.

He was elected a Freeman of the Association in 1950, but indifferent health and failing sight put a stop to his ringing activities although he maintained a keen interest in the affairs of the Association.

The funeral took place at Oldswinford, on November 26th, and was conducted by the Rector, Archdeacon Hurley. After the interment handbells were rung over the grave by members of the Northern Branch, followed by a quarter peal, half-muffled, of Grandsire Triples by a band representative of the four Stourbridge towers and Brierley Hill.

MR. W. SMITH

Ringers of the Melton District were very sorry to hear of the death, on December 11th, of Mr. William Smith, of 123, Kings Road, Melton Mowbray. Born at Hose, 58 years ago, he learned to ring in that tower under the guidance of Mr. Willie Sharpe. He also rang at Long Clawson, and rang the tenor to the first peal on these bells in May, 1927. Mr. William Smith (his namesake), from Turra Murra, New South Wales, rang the treble on that occasion.

He joined the Framland Society of Change Ringers in 1919 and had been chairman for the past six years. He was also a member of the Leicester Diocesan Guild and was District chairman from 1948-49. He had taken part in four peals—two for the Framlands and two for the Leicester Guild.

The funeral service took place in Melton church on December 13th and was conducted by the Vicar, Canon C. M. S. Clarke. Mr. J. Gilson and Mr. F. Sheppard represented the Framland Society and Leicester Guild. A wreath was sent by the former.

J. H. C.

MR. ARTHUR HAIGH

AN APPRECIATION

It was with deep regret that I learned of the passing of Arthur Haigh, of Blackpool. I leave to someone who has a more intimate knowledge of his life and career the writing of his obituary, but I feel I must express appreciation as one of those who, when stationed at Blackpool during the war, was made welcome at the haven, in East Topping Street, by a perfect lady and a perfect gentleman.

Many are the happy hours that I, and others in similar circumstances, have spent there, ringing handbells, talking about ringing and making music, whilst Mrs. Haigh prepared the coffee or altered the buttons on my greatcoat to make it fit, or gave us a solo from the 'Messiah'.

I have no doubt that all those who had the privilege to know Arthur Haigh will feel, as I do, a sense of deep personal loss. Our sympathy goes out to Mrs. Haigh and Mary. May he rest in peace.

H. C.

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PUTNEY RINGERS IN SUSSEX

A fine day being provided on November 19th. Putney ringers and friends set out for a day in Sussex. Bolney (8) was the first stop, where we were particularly pleased to meet the Vicar, a former Putney curate. The 'go' of these bells is quite good, but the tone poor. At Hurstpierpoint (8), the bells were excellent, both for tone and 'go.'

Arriving at Brighton, on the ten at St. Peter's we managed Grandsire Caters, for the first time on a Putney outing. Bob Royal, despite the fact that the fifth had no stay! After lunch and a look round the town we went to St. Nicholas' (10). This ring must be among the best toned productions of the Croydon Foundry.



ST. NICHOLAS', BRIGHTON, visited on the recent Putney outing.

The splendid Norman church at Shoreham was the next call, where we added Double Norwich to the usual repertoire of the four standard methods. By now it was dark, and after a much-needed tea we circumnavigated country lanes to the delightful village of Amberley (5), with its castle, which formerly belonged to the Bishops of Chichester, and pleasant old ring of bells. Here various madcaps rang Orpheus Doubles, which we were informed was Stedman before Stedman invented Stedman! Our last stop was at Billingshurst (8), where the bells are very noisy in the ringing chamber. After a few hitches, Cambridge Major was rung for the first time.

Our thanks go to all incumbents and tower captains who helped to make this, perhaps, the most successful outing we have ever had.

A.C.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—'D.O.' 5s., 'Dee Vee' 3s. 6d., Franks 6s.

Peals.—Rowberrow 3s., Darley Dale 10s., Llandaff 2s. 6d., Wragby 3s., North Bradley 4s., Brentwood 5s., Bitton 3s. 6d., Bristol 1s. 6d., Tunstall 4s., Great Rivermore 2s. 6d., Stratton St. Margaret 3s., Minety 3s.

Quarter Peals.—Bristol 3s., Littleton 3s., Bournemouth 2s. 6d., Nailsea 3s., Buckland 2s. 6d., Romsey 3s., Burstow 3s. 6d., Leicester 3s., Loughborough 6s., Melton Mowbray 5s., Norton Canes 3s., Petersfield 3s., St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London 2s., Putney 3s. 6d., Wollaton 3s., St. Clement Danes' 5s.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Chew Deanery Branch

The annual meeting of the Chew Deanery Branch was held at Yatton, on December 3rd, when approximately 50 members and friends representing most of the towers in the Branch attended. The fine ring of eight bells was put to good use prior to the service, which was conducted by Rev. W. Paton, in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar. An excellent tea, prepared and served by Branch lady members in the Church Hall, followed the service.

At the business meeting those present first stood in silent memory of members of the Branch who had passed away since the previous annual meeting. These were Rev. A. J. Hobbs (Winford), E. Goldstone (Portishead), H. Marshall (Yatton) and F. Derrick (Clapton-in-Gordano). Arising from the minutes, it was agreed to defer the question of a corporate attendance at Evensong, one Sunday, until the next meeting.

The accounts for 1960 proved satisfactory and officers for 1961 were elected as follows: Chairman and Ringing Master, H. W. Knight; vice-chairmen, C. Bishop and L. Derrick; secretary, D. Yeo, and reporter, M. Horseman. Two new members from Yatton, three from Portbury and one each from Nailsea and Kingston Seymour were elected, and it was agreed (provided permission was forthcoming) that the April quarterly meeting should be held at Backwell, with monthly practice meetings at Easton-in-Gordano, Chew Magna and Weston-in-Gordano, for January, February and March, respectively. The half-yearly Corporate Communion was arranged for Portishead on the fourth Sunday in April.

A welcome was extended to Mrs. Strong, of Nailsea, after her illness and the business concluded with Rev. W. Paton, who had acted as Chairman, proposing a vote of thanks to all who had contributed to such an enjoyable meeting.

Further ringing took place under the direction of the Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Knight. M. J. H.

SCHOOL RINGING SOCIETIES MEET

Through items appearing in 'The Ringing World' the bands from Shebbear College, North Devon, and Cirencester Grammar School knew of each other's existence and met for the first time on Advent Sunday, at Holy Trinity, Watermoor, Cirencester. The Shebbear party, consisting of three masters and 15 boys, started at dawn in charge of Mr. J. Queen (ringing organiser). The Cirencester Grammar School band has no Master attached. Peter J. Lewis was the leader.

After ringing Grandsire Doubles and rounds at Watermoor, the party went to Cirencester Parish Church and rang rounds on the 12 and Grandsire Doubles on the back eight with three bells covering. Both school bands, 37 in all, piled into six cars and proceeded to St. Mary's, Meyseyhampton, where good use was made of the six bells for an hour. Methods rung were Grandsire, Plain Bob Doubles and Minor and Reverse St. Bartholomew's.

A sandwich lunch was partaken of in the schoolroom at Lechlade, and the ringing afterwards was more successful. Stedman Doubles was added to the ringing repertoire at South Cerney. An adjournment followed to Cirencester Grammar School canteen, where the ringers were welcomed by the headmaster and Mrs. I. V. Barnett. Tea was served by the girls of the Cirencester band and speeches followed. In these Ian R. Snee, on behalf of Shebbear, thanked Cirencester for their hospitality and invited them to make a return visit to North Devon. Peter J. Lewis replied with hopes of a return visit. Shebbear College was reached safely by 9.30 p.m.

Marston (Oxon) Ringers' Outing

On December 3rd, a very windy and wet day, Marston and other ringers had an outing into Buckinghamshire. Towers visited were Wootton Underwood, Waddesdon, East and Steeple Claydon, Twyford, Launton and Marsh Gibbon.

At Launton they had the pleasure of ringing with the Deputy Master of the Guild (Mr. Frederick Sharpe). A warm welcome was accorded them at every tower. Home was reached at 10 p.m., some of the band looking as if they had been on a cross-country run.

RINGERS' CROSSWORD (No. 4)

CLUES ACROSS: 1 and 9. Eminent 18th/19th century ringer; author of 'The Campanologia.'

5 and 13 Down. Usually known as his 'Original,' this was his masterpiece.

8. One of the Greek dialects.

9. See No. 1 Across.

10. Genus of birds including the shelducks.

11. Prime mover in the augmentation of Wrington bells from 6 to 10 in 1911.

12 and 17. Used to ornament the new Bow bells.

14. Stains.

17. See No. 12 Across.

19. His compositions included the record length of Stedman Caters, rung at Loughborough, in 1909.

22. 1958 venue of the Central Council.

23. A weight of about 31 cwt., used in the East Indies.

24 and 25. Norfolk's ring of 6, tenor 12.

DOWN: 1. Middle portion of a bell(e).

2. Brothers with long St. Paul's connection.

3. Become liable for.

4. Yorks octave, tenor 14.

5. Tubular bells only at this Norfolk church.

6. Fourth president of the Central Council.

7. You soon get over this characteristic in the belfry.

12. A mode of ringing changes on handbells.

13. See No. 5 Across.

15. One added.

16. Often gets bumped.

18. Goddess of Peace.

20. A Mogul Governor.

21. Narrow arm of the sea.

BURT SUTTON.

A LANCASHIRE CLUB CORNER

By FRED TAYLOR

'Ah see they're buryin' Jemmy Lofty today, th' bellringer,' said owd Dick as he cut up his usual pipeful.

'Why, is he deud?' asked little Tommy, holding his hands over the cheery, welcome blaze of the fire.

'It he deud?' went on owd Dick. 'Wot art axin' a question like that for? Would they bury him if he weren't deud?'

'Nowe,' Tommy chirped. 'yo've gotten me in a knot this time. Anyroad, ah'm very sorry to 'ear that. Nice chap, was Jemmy. He'd bin a bellringer a good number o' yers. He'll be missed, will Jemmy, 'cause they're not blessed with too mony bellringers at th' churches these days. It doesn't seem to attract th' youngsters, ah reckon they want a bit o' summat moor excitin'. Poohin' a rope with a bell at th' end is not excitin' enough fer a lot o' young folks today. Ah see vicars are cryin' eawt for 'em up an' deawn th' country. They've a shortage o' young bellringers an' they're findin' it very difficult to fill th' gap. It'll be a pity if bellringin' dees eawt, because ah allus think they've a sweet soothin' seawnd somerod to th' ear.'

Owd Sam struck a match and held it for a second or two over his pipe before he spoke. 'There's nowt nicer,' he mused, 'than to listen to th' church bells pealin' o'er th' countryside on a summer Sunday neet. Th' sun just nestlin' behind th' trees, a gentle breeze blowin' th' strains o' the bells fra some owd parish church o'er th' meadows, th' corn fields, th' pasture lands, an' even o'er th' hills an' across th' dales. Wot does tha sey, Bob?'

Bob leaned back in his chair and grinned broadly. 'Th' seawnd of a church bell is appealin', he exclaimed. 'no matter wheer yo' 'ear it, Sam. Ah know there's lots o' folks who look on 'em as owd fashioned an' eawt o' date, but fer mesel ah'd be sorry to see 'em go. Ah've listened th' bells 'ere in Wigin fer donkeys yers an' they seawnd nicer every time ah 'ear 'em.'

Owd Dick, perched in the opposite corner, nodded approval. 'Ah quite agree with thi, Bob,' he murmured, 'an' owt that's beautiful to th' eye an' th' ear should be classed as an art, an' Jemmy Lofty, whom they buried today, 'as given me an' thousands of others pleasure with his bellringin'. He's devoted aw his spare time to this job in th' belfry fer th' biggest part of his life an' ah reckon Jemmy will land at heaven's gate awreet. Wot do yo' think, Sam? Don't yo' agree?'

'Of course, ah do,' replied the old fellow. 'an' yo' must remember this. That th' bellringin' is not just poohin a rope an' makin' a din. It's a art, an' a gradely art, an' one that ah reckon owt to be encouraged. Thee travel th' district an' listen to church bells in every locality an' that'll discover heaw each church seems to send eawt a little message, a little S.O.S. of its own. Anybody with a bit of imagination can decipher some inner meanin' that comes fra them tuneful chimes of a Sunday neet. 'Ave yo' ever tried gooin' on a tour of th' Wigin district some Sabbath evenin' an' translated th' message they seem to broadcast?'

Owd Dick smiled. 'Nowe, ah've ne'er thowt abawt it that road, Sam. But ah can fancy a chap could get a lot o' pleasure by so doin'. We'll 'ave a trip reawnd this summer, thee an' me an' Tommy an' Bob 'ere. We met pick summat up. Those bells met sey summat we've never yerd befor. Aye, we'll 'ave a saunter reawnd, owd lad, if God spares us.'

'Well, ah've 'ah some experience of it,' owd Sam went on. 'an' ah tell thi that these bells 'ave a language of their own. Ah went reawnd the teawn one neet this last summer an' ah wrote deawn me thows in a laht verses as ah was gooin' along. Yo' met think it was quare thing to do, but further ah went an' moor ah loved it.'

'Go on,' chirped little Tommy. 'let's 'ear a bit o' Shakespeare fra a Wigin ex-coaler. Hraast off, Sam.'

'Well,' began Sam. 'ah didn't write 'em in th' dialect but in th' Queen's English. So yo' must sort it eawt for yorsels. 'Ere goes,

'Church bells have a language
Yes, they speak to us, you know,
Have you ever heard their messages
As on your way you go?

"Oh come to church, good people, come,"
The sweet bells seem to say,
I hear them on this Sabbath
As I plod my silent way.

For on this Sunday evening
I decided I would seek,
To translate their precious meaning
In the language that they speak.

And I'm travelling round the countryside,
Surrounding Wigan Town,
To listen so attentively
Then write each message down.

"Ye shall walk and not faint,"
Said the Wigan All Saints'.

"Do not build upon sand,"
Said the bells of Up Holland.

"Build your house on a rock,"
Replied the bells of Poolstock.

"Come into the fold,"
Said the bells of Parbold.

"For I am the way,"
Said the church bells of Haigh.

"You can't live as you wish,"
Said the bells of Standish.

"God's laws are in full,"
Said the bells of Aspull.

"Come, worship your God,"
Said the bells of Blackrod.

"Come workman or prince,"
Said the bells of Ince.

"Yea, come doubly or singly,"
Said the sweet bells of Hindley.

"For you, Christ has suffered,"
Said the church bells of Rufford.

"So repent of your sins,"
Called the bells of Billinge.

"Then the battle's half won,"
Replied the bells of Ashton.

"What say ye that I am?"
Asked the bells of Abram.

And on this lovely evening,
This glorious Sabbath day,
I listened to the messages
These sweet bells have to say.

Little Tommy knocked the ash from his cigarette. 'Well,' he muttered, 'it's not so bad fra an owd pit lad. Ah'm just reminded of an owd bellringer ah once knew very weel, an' wen he retired he bowt a nice little bungolow an' cawd it "The Chimes." Ah allus used to think wot a lovely name it was, an' one that browt back happy memories of past experiences.'

Bob gave a chuckle. 'Ah shall ne'er forget owd Chippy,' he mused, 'he ran a chip shop, biggest part of his life, an' wen he an' his wife retired, they bowt a bungalow too, an' wot does tha think he named it?'

Tommy shook his head and smiled.

'Dunchippin,' replied Bob. 'an' ah thowt he couldn't 'ave hit on a better name. Anyroad, ah think we'd better go an' see if th' chips are ready. Ah'm leavin' yo'.'

'Tak' thi time,' shouted Dick. 'we're aw gooin' one road. Pooh th' dor to, Sam. Look after yorsels, folks. Be careful, Tommy. Keep smilin' everybody, an' don't forget, if yo' want to get into business wheer yo're sure to get a foothold—it's easy. Become a chiropodist. Cheerio!'

Mr. Ranald Clouston has had Part II of 'The Church and Other Bells of Lancashire' published. He is joint author with the late Dr. F. C. Feles, and is at present engaged on the third and final part which will cover the city of Aberdeen, and review the work of the various founders in the county.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD Chertsey District Dinner

The Chertsey District scored a very successful 'first in the method' on December 10th, when a District dinner was held at 'The Ship Hotel,' Weybridge. Fifty-six ringers and friends sat down to an excellent meal, under the genial chairmanship of the Guild's Master, Mr. C. W. Denyer.

Proposing 'The continued prosperity of the Chertsey District,' Mr. Denyer said how pleased he was to note the spirit of the district, particularly in view of the days when it was seriously considered dividing the area between the other districts. The Farnham District would have to look out if it wished to remain the leading district!

The District Ringing Master, Mr. R. Collins, replied, and paid tribute to those who had worked so hard, often in face of great disappointments. He mentioned, in particular, Messrs. W. Shepherd, J. B. Hessey, F. J. Dodson and F. E. Hawthorne, who was still giving the benefit of his experience to learners.

Mr. Hawthorne proposed 'The Ladies and Visitors,' and hoped that ringers' wives would be considerate when their husbands went off for an occasional peal! He welcomed those visitors who were not ringers, and had a special word for Mr. W. Goldstone, the oldest ringer present.

Mrs. Kitty King replied on behalf of the ladies and thanked Mr. Hawthorne, pointing out that at Hersham it was quite common to have 'bellies' at both ends of the rope.

A varied programme of entertainment followed, under the direction of Mr. J. King, including handbell ringing, also piano solos from Colin Chinnery.

ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD

The quarterly meeting of St. David's Guild was held at St. Dingad's, Llandovery, on December 10th. Members attended from Llandilo, Carmarthen, Barry Port, St. David's, Llanelli, Llandovery College and our friends from the Swansea and Brecon Guild. The Vicar, the Rev. C. Thomas, officiated at the service and the members were entertained to a very nice tea by the Mothers' Union.

At the business meeting, with the Vicar in the chair, all present stood as a token of respect to the late Mr. C. H. Hawkins, who had passed away since our last meeting. The Vicar then welcomed the Guild to Llandovery and opened the meeting. A touch on the handbells was given by the Swansea and Brecon members and the collection for the Bell Restoration Fund realised £1 4s. The suggestion of a joint meeting with the Swansea and Brecon Guild was passed to the committee. Also the place of the next quarterly meeting. This is due to the fact that Cardigan bells are being restored and it is possible that they will be ready by next Easter.

The Ringing Master, Mr. R. Warburton, gave the good news that there is a possibility that Nevern bells are going to be restored. This will mean an extra two rings of six in the Diocese. It was also suggested that the annual meeting should be made a full day's ringing, starting at 11 a.m. instead of the usual 2.30 p.m.

Four new probationary members and two life ringing members were proposed. Mr. W. Williams, Carmarthen, then proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and the Ringing Master, and to the ladies who provided tea. The Vicar responded and closed the meeting with a prayer. Members then returned to the tower to ring until 7 p.m. E. T.

5,040 THRUSSINGTON SURPRISE ROYAL

By SHIRLEY BURTON
M W H 23456

—	—	2	24536
—	—	3	54632
—	—	2	42635
—	—	3	34625
—	—	2	65243
—	—	2	23456

First rung at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, on November 7th, 1960, conducted by Brian G. Warwick.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

Meetings: 3/6 (minimum) for 30 words, afterwards 1½d. a word. Each additional insertion half charge.

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

Displayed: 7/6 per single column inch.

No guarantee of insertion after Monday, first post.

BIRTH

SMITH.—On December 15th, 1960, to Pauline (nee Sprackling) and Alan, a daughter (Rachel Ann). 7053

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Michael and Kathleen Chilcott is now 21, Godalming Avenue, Wallington, Surrey. 7061

The new address of H. David Holland is 139, Firs Road, Sale, Cheshire. 7040

The address of Mr. Alan R. Pink is now No. 7, Evelyn Close, Eynsham Road, Oxford. 7057

HANDBELLS WANTED

Set of handbells wanted for a youth fellowship.—Rev. S. P. Burtwell, St. Hilda's Clergy House, Cross Green Lane, Leeds 9. 7038

PERSONAL

LET your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. (Phil. iv, 5.)

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

To all members of our Guild, and ringing friends near and far, a merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.—Les BRETT, Framsden, Suffolk. 7042

Christmas greetings to Nutfield, Redhill and Blethingley bands of ringers.—Edwin ('Ted') RUSSELL. 7044

To ringers the world over, with best wishes for Christmas and successful ringing in 1961.—Ringers of ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, Melbourne. 7041

Mr. A. E. SELLERS of 3, Elwell Avenue, Beverley, wishes all his ringing friends, especially those of the Beverley and District and Eastern District of Yorkshire Association, a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. 7045

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RINGERS' DIARY

Apologies for slow dispatch of some parcels of Ringers' Diaries, due to production difficulties. If you haven't already ordered send for yours now. For prices, etc., see last week's advertisement. 7054

MISCELLANEOUS

All correspondence for Hughenden belfry should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, Miss M. Newton, 'Chulmleigh,' 45, Guinions Road, High Wycombe, Bucks. 7051

PEAL CARDS AND QUARTER PEAL CARDS, minimum 12 in set, price 6s. 6d. post free. For quarter peal cards, second copy written out in style of a peal is essential.—'The Ringing World' Office, Guildford.

MEETINGS

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Quarterly meeting on December 31st, at Stanmore. Ringing from 3.5 p.m., followed by service. Tea and short business meeting in the Church House, then further ringing until 8 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. Leversuch, 21, Abercorn Road, Stanmore. Gentlemen cordially invited. 7140

LADIES' GUILD.—Beds and Northants Branch.—Meeting, Saturday, December 31st, at Finedon. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Please send names for tea to Miss K. Rivett, 117, Stagsden Road, Bromham, Beds. Please support. 7043

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD.—The annual general meeting of the Guild will be held at Mirfield (10), on January 7th. Names for tea, please, to The Caretaker, Church House, Mirfield. All welcome. 7105

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly general meeting. Ilkeston (8), Saturday, January 7th. Committee meet 4 p.m. Bells available from 3.15. Tea 4.45 p.m., for those who notify Mr. E. Fletcher, 30, Margaret Avenue, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, not later than January 3rd.—B. P. Morris, Sec. 7048

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.E. Division.—Annual general meeting at Writtle, on January 7th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by January 4th, to P. W. Saltmarsh, Sycamore Cottage, Danbury. 7145

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kingston District.—Annual meeting at Lyonshall, on Saturday, January 7th. Bells (6). Service. Tea. Usual times.—J. Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster, Herefordshire. 7050

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Tonbridge District) and LADIES' GUILD (Kent Branch).—Meeting at Edenbridge, on Saturday, January 7th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Names with cash (2s. 6d.) by Tuesday, January 3rd, to Hon. Dis. Sec., W. H. Dobbie, 13, Baltic Road, Tonbridge. 7146

MAIDSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOL SOCIETY.—Meeting at Aylesford (8), Saturday, January 7th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names, please, to Mrs. Pamela J. Osborne, 315, Loose Road, Maidstone. 7049

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The annual branch meeting on Saturday, January 7th, at St. George's, Colegate. Bells (6) and St. Miles' (8) from 2 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Ringing at St. Peter Mancroft, in the evening. Names for tea by January 4th, to C. Bird, Hon. Sec., 27, Warwick Street, Norwich. NOR 48 F. 7059

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Annual meeting, January 7th, in St. Martin's Church Hall, at 4.30 p.m. St. Martin's bells (12) 3.30 p.m. Cathedral (12) after meeting.—G. E. Fearn, Hon. Sec. 7039

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—Annual meeting at St. Gwendoline's, Talgarth, on Saturday, January 7th, at 2.30 p.m. Teas 2s. 6d.—G. P. Davies, Dis. Sec. 7060

DEVON GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—Annual meeting, Saturday, January 14th, Teignmouth. Bells: St. James', 3 p.m.; St. Michael's, 2.30. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to D. J. Roberts, 84, Westhill Road, Torquay. 7052

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Saturday, January 14th, annual dinner, at The Culverden Arms, Tunbridge Wells. Tickets 14s. 6d. Names, with cash, by January 7th, to Mr. E. Brunger, 107, Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. St. Peter's bells 4-6 p.m. Dinner at 6.30 p.m.—C. A. Bassett. 7130

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.—The date of the annual dinner is January 28th and not as printed in last issue of 'The Ringing World.' 7142

RINGING STORIES

By G. E. SYMONDS

At Christmas, 1900, the Thornham (near Eye, Suffolk) ringers went 'boxing' with handbells. On December 31st they visited the Hall. After ringing in the entrance the owner gave his subscription and ordered cakes and beer to be brought. Upon preparing to leave he thanked them very much. As the next day would be January 1st, 1901, he said: 'I wish you all a happy new century,' whereupon old Ted blurted out: 'Same to you, sir, and many on [of] 'em.'

The following shows how unenlightened are some people when listening to bell-ringing.

Overheard in St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, churchyard during the 'firing' after a wedding: 'What strong men those ringers must be to pick up all the bells and bang them together.'

This was a long time ago. The Bishop was visiting St. Mary-le-Tower the next day. The Vicar asked the Master to have the bells rung for the occasion. The Master explained that the ringers were scattered in different parts of the town and it was impossible to get them together. To this the Vicar replied: 'There are plenty of men standing idle on the Cornhill with nothing to do who would be glad of a job.'

The late William P. Garrett told a clergyman that the peal he accomplished at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London, was the first rung by electricity. His Reverence said: 'You had an easy job.' Mr. Garrett then corrected himself, saying: 'It was the first rung with electric light.'

Years ago, a writer to one of the Ipswich papers often criticised three subjects, viz.: Prams on the pavements, teachers' salaries as compared with that of clerks, and, of course, bell-ringing. He mentioned that he received 750 letters of complaints—he must have counted all the letters in one epistle, finishing by stating 'what sense anyone can see in banging two pieces of metal together he could not understand.'

The writer replying to a toast to the ringers mentioned this, and said: 'What sense about 1,000,000 people can see in watching two pieces of leather knocked about on football fields on Saturdays I cannot understand.'

Being somewhat hard of hearing, a young ringer said to me what sounded like this: 'After a week's tour and finishing with a peal at Debenham I had 15 whiskies'; to which I replied: 'It would have been cheaper to buy a bottle.' He answered: 'What good would a bottle be for 15 blisters?' Got it?

AN IMPORTANT OCCASION AT ECCLESTON

Still hale and hearty at 92, Mr. Sam Jones, of Eccleston Cheshire, celebrated his birthday on December 10th, when a band representing several branches of the Chester Diocesan Guild assembled in the afternoon and rang a well-struck peal of Plain Bob Triples on the fine eight at St. Mary's Church.

This was followed by high tea at the house when our veteran occupied the place of honour at a table laden with good things, having as its centrepiece a magnificent cake made by his granddaughter. Nearby, lay a greetings telegram from the Bishop of Chester which read: 'On behalf of myself, personally, as well as of the ringers of the Chester diocese I send you heartiest congratulations on your 92nd birthday.' Mr. Jones treasures this greeting as he remembers when he rang 120 Grandsire Doubles with the Bishop. The toast of the evening was given by Mr. S. Jones junior, who conveyed the sincere wish of all present—'Many happy returns.'

A pleasant hour was spent afterwards round the fire with the customary talk of bells and towers, ringers and peals. All too soon the time to depart arrived and with renewed good wishes the visitors left Sam to his cosy fireside. The whirl of self-starters was soon heard beneath the great yew tree against the churchyard and one by one the visitors left the sleepy village. J. W. C.

5,184 JARROW SURPRISE MAJOR

By A. KNIGHTS

23456 M W H

62534	2	1	2
65324		1	2
62453	2	1	1
26354	2		2
23564	1		2

2x repeated.

Rung at Willesden, June 30th, 1960.

Also rung at Willesden, October 27th, 1960.
as the first peal of Zeals Surprise Major.**5,088 WATFORD SURPRISE MAJOR**

By W. ERIC CRITCHLEY

23456 M B W H

34256	—	X	—	2
64523	—		2	—
35426	—			—
54326	—	X	—	2
64235	2	X		—
64352		X	3	—
62453		X		—
62534		X	3	—
23645		X		—
53246		X		3
52436				2
45236	—	X	—	—
23456				—

Rung at Harmston, Lincolnshire, November 19th, 1960.

ABINGDON, BERKS.—On Dec. 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss M. R. Cross 1, Miss J. M. E. Dixon (first quarter) 2, Miss M. A. Carter 3, Mrs. A. E. Lock 4, J. W. Bevit 5, W. A. Smith (cond.) 6. Rung as a thanksgiving for the 89th birthday of Mrs. A. E. Carter, grandmother of the ringer of the third.

BLACKHILL, CO. DURHAM.—On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: G. Wall 1, J. Vickery 2, R. Oliver 3, N. Errington (cond.) 4, C. T. Lamb 5, R. Skelton 6, W. Tyson covering. For Evensong, and visit of Bishop of Durham for 75th anniversary.

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