


THE RINGING WORLD



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

No. 1,757. Vol. XXXIX

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24th, 1944.

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

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These famous bell-founding firms have kindly consented to this adaptation of their advertisements to meet the pressure on our space, due to the compulsory reduction in the number of our pages this week.

'KINDRED SOCIETIES.'

When, at the recent luncheon of the College Youths, Mr. Albert Hughes pointed out that it was long after the foundation of the society that there was anything like a toast of 'Kindred Societies,' he was not merely mentioning an alteration in the ritual of the annual 'feast,' but was, in effect, calling attention to one of the most important changes which have taken place in the Exercise as a whole during the course of its long history. Until fifty or sixty years ago the spirit and intentions which lie behind such a toast were almost entirely lacking among ringers. It was not that they were any worse as men than their present day successors, or less kindly. It was that they had inherited traditions which had come down through the old societies from the guilds of the Middle Ages. They felt that a society could only exist and prosper so long as it looked after its own interests and treated as hostile rivals other companies whose activities might in any way come in contact with its own. If a society, in fact, was to gain anything, it could only be at the expense of another society.

There is nothing very strange about that feeling. It is founded on one of the deepest instincts of humanity. You will find it in business competition, and you will find it in the spirit of nationalism, which, pushed to extreme limits, ends in such a war as the world is now suffering from. The struggle for existence and the survival of the fittest, so it is said, is the law of nature; each for himself and the devil take the hindmost. It sounds harsh and brutal enough when put down in words like these, but it can easily present itself in more attractive form, and the ringers of old did not lack plausible justification for the jealousy and rivalry with which they regarded other bands, and especially those who might be suspected of aiming at the possession of some belfry or the beating of some record. It is stated on the authority of a still enforced rule of one of the oldest societies that this rivalry promoted the interests of change ringing; and so it did, but the price had to be paid.

It is instructive and amusing to open a volume of 'The Bell News' of fifty or sixty years ago and to turn to the correspondence columns. You will find that in nearly every letter the writer is attacking someone or some company, or is hitting back at a writer who has attacked him. It may be about the authorship or originality of a composition, or about the truth or quality

(Continued on page 482.)

of a peal performance (these were the favourite things to wrangle about), or about anything else which could bring two men into opposition. And the combatants did not mince their words. They slung insults and innuendoes at each other in a way which ought to have made them lifelong enemies.

The Exercise has got beyond that stage to-day. Men are not now so anxious to proclaim that other people's peals were badly struck, or that other people had 'stolen' someone's else composition. They do not write the old sort of letter, and if they did it would not be printed in 'The Ringing World.' It would hardly be true to say that individual ringers are any better than they were, but it is true, fortunately, that the Exercise as a whole is beginning to learn that, though struggle and rivalry may be important factors in life and progress, co-operation and mutual help are still more important. What has brought about the change is hard to say. It may partly be due to improved travelling facilities which have brought ringers so much more together. The influence of leading men has done much and the Central Council has borne its share. But whatever the cause, it is an excellent thing. Anything which helps, whether it be a joint meeting or a toast at a dinner, is all to the good. The Exercise may congratulate itself that it is beginning to learn the lesson, for there is much of the spirit of Christianity in it, as well as sound common sense. When the world as a whole has learnt it (and not until then) there will be an end of wars.

TEN BELL PEAL.

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 11, 1944, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

At the Cathedral,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt.

THOMAS H. REEVES Treble	JOHN BOOTH... .. 6
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY 2	GEORGE R. NEWTON 7
THOMAS R. BUTLER 3	DAVID VINCENT 8
FRANK W. PERRENS 4	ARTHUR D. BARKER 9
JAMES W. GROUNDS 5	EDWIN C. BIRKETT Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by F. W. PERRENS.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 5, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

At 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5065 CHANGES;

ALBERT J. WALLMAN 1-2	MRS. J. THOMAS 5-6
JOHN THOMAS 3-4	ERIC A. DENCH 7-8
* PHILIP J. COWARD 9-10	

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, November 7, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5081 CHANGES;

ALBERT J. WALLMAN 1-2	CHARLES W. ROBERTS... .. 7-8
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	ERIC A. DENCH 9-10
JOHN THOMAS 5-6	DENNIS H. LANGDON 11-12

Composed and Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 8, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

In the BELFRY of the Cathedral,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

ERIC A. DENCH 1-2	JOHN THOMAS 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	WALTER AYRE 7-8

HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH 9-10

Arranged and Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

LONDON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 10, 1944, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

In the VESTRY of CHRIST CHURCH, REGENT'S PARK,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

JOAN HOULDSWORTH 1-2	DOROTHY T. RICHARDSON 5-6
GEORGE R. H. SMITH... .. 3-4	* DENNIS N. LAYTON 7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by GEORGE R. H. SMITH

* First peal.

KINSON, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 11, 1944, in One Hour and Fifty Minutes,

At WEYMANS, MILLHAMS ROAD.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty six-scores, ten different callings, and one 240 Morris' arrangement.

MISS JESSIE C. CHICK... .. 1-2	MRS. F. JOHN MARSHALLSAY 3-4
FRANCIS S. WILSON 5-6	

Conducted by Mrs. F. JOHN MARSHALLSAY.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, November 14, 1944, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,

In the VESTRY of CHRIST CHURCH, REGENT'S PARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor size 15 in C.

DOROTHY T. RICHARDSON 1-2	JOAN HOULDSWORTH 5-6
GEORGE R. H. SMITH... .. 3-4	VERNON J. BENNING 7-8

Conducted by GEORGE R. H. SMITH.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 15, 1944, in Two Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

At 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

MRS. J. THOMAS 1-2	JOHN THOMAS 5-6
ERIC A. DENCH 3-4	* PHILIP J. COWARD 7-8

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, November 16, 1944, in Three Hours,

At 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5015 CHANGES;

ALBERT J. WALLMAN 1-2	WILLIAM L. B. LEESE... .. 7-8
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	* MISS JOAN HOULDSWORTH 9-10
JOHN THOMAS 5-6	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 11-12

Composed and Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

* First peal of Maximus.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 18, 1944, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

In the CHOIR VESTRY of ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor size 15 in C.

ANDREW I. PEARMAIN... .. 1-2	ARTHUR V. DAVIS 5-6
MRS. F. JOHN MARSHALLSAY 3-4	* BRUCE B. ROGERS 7-8

Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

* First peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 11, 1944, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5136 CHANGES;

No. 36 C.C. Collection (adapted).

Tenor 16½ cwt.

MRS. SYLVIA R. E. PIPE ... Treble	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... 5
GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 2	CHARLES CLARKE ... 6
WILLIAM S. KINSEY ... 3	GEORGE E. SYMONDS ... 7
KEITH WHITTELL ... 4	GEORGE MORE ... Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by G. E. SYMONDS

RIPLEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 11, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM THORNLEY, SEN. ... Treble	CYRIL JENNINGS ... 5
JOHN E. HOBBS ... 2	WILLIAM LANCASTER ... 6
ALFRED MOULD ... 3	ALEX. HUTCHINSON ... 7
FREDERICK A. SALTER ... 4	EDWARD F. GOBEY ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. F. GOBEY.

FARNHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 18, 1944, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

H. EARLE BULWER'S IRREGULAR TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt. in E flat.

ALFRED H. PULLING ... Treble	WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 5
FREDERICK A. H. WILKINS 2	ERNEST J. MUNDAY ... 6
WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 3	EDWARD R. COLES ... 7
GEORGE L. GROVER ... 4	FRANK C. W. KNIGHT ... Tenor

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

Rung on the 73rd birthday of Mr. R. Hasted, captain of the local band.

MILVERTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

DONALD G. CLIFF ... Treble	CLAUD TARR ... 5
*HENRY FLOYD ... 2	CYRIL J. STEVENS ... 6
ALEC WALKER ... 3	ARTHUR H. REED ... 7
HERBERT WALKER ... 4	STANLEY N. BRISTOWE ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR H. REED.

* First peal in the method.

WINSCOMBE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1944, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*MONICA J. RICHARDSON ... Treble	†EDWARD E. FISHER ... 5
NORMAN H. COOMBS ... 2	JOHN H. B. HESSE ... 6
THOMAS W. KIMBER ... 3	*EMLYN F. HANCOCK ... 7
CLEMENT GLENN ... 4	†GEORGE LILLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

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

SIX BELL PEALS.

HESSLE, EAST YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 11, 1944, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in F sharp.

*PHILIP H. SPECK ... Treble	ARTHUR H. FOX ... 4
FRANCIS W. DALE ... 2	*RONALD PEARSON ... 5
*FRANK C. LISTER ... 3	*GEORGE R. HESSEY ... Tenor

Conducted by RONALD PEARSON.

* First peal. First peal on the bells.

HEIGHINGTON, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 11, 1944, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

E. Bankes James' Arrangement.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

WILLIAM OLIVER ... Treble	ROBERT T. SIMPSON ... 4
JAMES T. TITT ... 2	ROLAND PARK ... 5
RICHARD BUSBY ... 3	W. NORMAN PARK ... Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

Rung half-muffled for Armistice Day.

GROBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 11, 1944, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Single Court, Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

VICTOR GEARY ... Treble	*DEREK DODSON ... 4
*STANLEY GARDNER ... 2	*DENNIS DODSON ... 5
ERNEST GEARY ... 3	†REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... Tenor

Conducted by REDVERS F. ELKINGTON.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

RICHMOND, YORKS.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge, York, Durham, Wells and London.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

RICHARD BUSBY ... Treble	GEORGE W. PARK ... 4
WILLIAM OLIVER ... 2	ROLAND PARK ... 5
ROBERT T. SIMPSON ... 3	W. NORMAN PARK ... Tenor

Conducted by W. NORMAN PARK.

First peal of Surprise on the bells.

ST. MARY REDCLIFFE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The bells of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, which were dismantled early in the war, have now been rebung by Messrs. Taylor, the first Sunday service ringing taking place on November 12th, when touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters were rung.

There has not been a regular band at the church for upwards of 40 years. This fact has just been widely advertised in the local Press by the Vicar, Canon S. E. Swann, and a great effort is being made to form a regular band. The late Stephen H. Wood had started to teach a band here some time before his untimely death.

In the meantime, the bells will be available for service ringing on the second and fourth Sundays in the month at 5 p.m.

D. G. OLIFT.

21, Wathen Road, Bristol.

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'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official Journal of the Central Council or
Church Bell Ringers.

President of the Council: EDWIN H. LEWIS, M.A.

Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.

The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.

Treasurer of 'The Ringing World': A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,
34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

All communications for this journal should be addressed to:—

The Editor,

'The Ringing World,'

c/o The Woodbridge Press, Ltd.,
Guildford, Surrey.

Owing to increased paper supply we are now able to accept orders for the delivery of 'The Ringing World' by post. They should be sent to Mr. G. W. Fletcher, The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk, accompanied by remittance. The charge is 4s. 3d. per quarter.

Arrangements have also been made for larger supplies through the trade, and newsagents in any part of the country will be able to obtain copies through their wholesale firms.

Cheques and remittances should be made payable to 'The Ringing World.'

The peal of Stedman Caters at Chester Cathedral was rung by a band of Freemasons on the occasion of the visit of the Earl of Harewood, the Grand Master, to consecrate the St. Thomas Preceptory in the refectory of the Cathedral.

Mr. G. E. Symonds, the conductor of the peal at Ipswich, has now called every number of changes up to and including 5,184 of Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Major. He has called 40 different numbers of changes of 5,000 and over.

HIGH WYCOMBE.

On Sunday, November 5th, in the belfry of All Saints', High Wycombe, a peal board was dedicated by the Vicar. It records a peal of Stedman Cinques rung by the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths on Empire Day, May 24th, 1939, and was presented by Mr. A. C. White, who was Mayor of Wycombe for three years. This is the fourth tablet given to the belfry by mayors of the town.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT LONGTON.**

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association, held at Longton on November 4th, was attended by 40 members from Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke, Hanley, Kingsley, Othead, Brown Edge, Crewe, Burslem, Norton, Bucknall, Leek, Norwich and the local belfry.

The ringing, which was half-muffled for the Archbishop, consisted of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob and rounds. The next meeting will be held at Stoke on December 2nd.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.**MEETING AT ALVERSTOKE.**

A meeting of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Alverstoke on November 11th, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the dedication of the bells. Among those present were the Master (Mr. George Williams), the hon. general secretary (Mr. F. W. Rogers), the treasurer (Mr. W. Linter), the secretary of the Portsmouth District (Mr. R. J. Stone), and members and visitors from Alton, Alverstoke, Fareham, Gosport, North Stoneham, Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's), Titchfield, Guildford and Chester.

The ringers were entertained to tea by the Rector, Canon G. Landon, who gave an account of how the original three bells were increased to eight by Messrs. Taylor as part of a war memorial. He praised the ringers for what they had done and wished the Guild continued prosperity.

The Guild service, conducted by the Rector, was held in the church. The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Plain Bob, Double Norwich, and Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major.

PEAL RINGING IN WAR-TIME.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have been interested in the opinions expressed in your editorial of October 27th and in your correspondence columns about the desirability of peal ringing at the present time.

My own feeling is one of amazement that peals are rung at all, and I include even those rung recently, muffled, for the late Archbishop of Canterbury. My newspaper publishes daily lists of war casualties, and there is hardly a spot of England unrepresented. I wonder what the bereaved people think if they are compelled to listen to a peal. You, sir, tell us 'the voices of the bells are more likely to bring consolation than regret and to be a blessing.' I wonder? At least I don't wonder at all, if the 'consolation and blessing' lasts three hours or more. Would it be soothing if one had just received a telegram from the War Office? And who wants to listen to three or four hours of half-muffled ringing? A quarter-peal if you like, but a 5,000! Not on your life.

There are places and places I know. Some where three peals a day have been rung, and half a century or more ago one read in 'The Bell News' after a peal at Warnham, Sussex, 'the bells came round at 6 a.m.' But there are not a lot of these places, and I am quite sure, in the future, the 'man in the street' will have to be considered.

Then, too, there are others, as well as the bereaved, to be thought of. Where I live we have had five years of battle training on the doorsteps and on top of the chimneys. Right round the clock, all day, all night, artillery, machine guns, dive bombers and other aircraft and all the rest, firing at targets on land and sea, and the great bombing armadas going out and returning from operations. People living outside such areas have no idea what it is like, and we are sometimes tempted to envy the totally deaf. No; we are not wishing for peals in this region, but rather for a little peace and quiet.

A quarter-peal is ample for practice purposes and enough to keep us in trim for victory ringing. Peals will come along all right when times are more suitable, and those times are not yet. For security reasons, sir, I had better sign myself—

'B'

THE HIGHEST HUNG BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reference to Mr. Alsop's letter, the site level of Queensbury Parish Church, near Bradford, Yorkshire, is 1,142ft. above sea level. The tower is 100ft. high and the bells stand approximately 70ft. from the ground, making the bells at a height of just over 1,200ft. I have, moreover, heard it said that Queensbury has the highest active ring of eight bells in the country, although, of course, this is open to controversy.

There are, no doubt, towers with bells higher than this, but the question seems to be if they are rung regularly or ringable.

I should think it doubtful if there are any active rings in Derbyshire about 1,000ft.

Perhaps someone else, however, may be able to surpass these figures.

PAUL BIRKETT.

Queensbury, near Bradford.

WELDING BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I read Sgt. Kenneth Arthur's letter about the proposal to weld the Liberty Bell in America. He says perhaps American welders have something to teach us on this point. I wonder whether it should not be the other way round in reality, for I believe that our old five bells (four cast in 1623 and one in 1604) were welded by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston as part of the restoration in 1933 at Acle, Norfolk. The bells were, I understand, cracked in the crowns and were repaired by welding in order to preserve the old bells.

The welding appears to have been successful, for the bells have been rung regularly since except during the ban, and they are quite pleasant to listen to from the outside. The effect inside is not so good, but I think that is due to the frame with its girders running down to the belfry floor. Perhaps Messrs. Gillett and Johnston or some ringers will be able to give more information about the welding of bells.

DENIS A. BAYLES.

Tatfield, Co. Durham.

'CURIOUS TOWERS.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The bells at Hutton, near Weston-super-Mare, do not have a rope circle falling 1-3-2-5-4 as stated by Mr. Davis in Mr. Morris' article on 'Curious Towers' last week. When I rang there in September, 1938, the treble rope fell in the centre of the tower with the others falling one more or less in each corner and in perfect anti-clockwise rotation. It was possible to stand with backs to the walls and ring these four, but it is quite possible that the ropes may have been 'thrown' from the walls by alteration of the ceiling rings since the days referred to by Mr. Thomas. The only real peculiarity was the treble, whose ringer could face any direction he chose, but would be unable to see more than two of the other four ropes at any time.

WILLIAM A. STOTE.

Coundon, Coventry.

HENRY COOPER.

BY JOHN DAY.

(Written in the year 1895.)

I believe Cooper is the first Birmingham composer who ever left any authenticated composition behind to perpetuate his name.

Charles Shuter, Fieldhouse, Pugh and several others appear in St. Martin's record book as composers of peals, but as far as I can trace nothing at all is left to show what they were like, except in the case of the Pugh (Taylor's so-called) six-part peal of Grandsire Triples.

Cooper's name first appears as composer and conductor about 1812.

He composed and conducted the opening peals on the ten bells at Aston in 1814, one of which—the Grandsire Royal—was false. He was also credited with conducting the Treble Bob Maximus at St. Martin's in 1820, but as a fact he only called the last course.

My uncle used to say that Thurstans became exhausted towards the end of the peal, that B. Pugh hearing how matters were going went up into the belfry and assisted Thurstans in the last course, the latter at the time calling to Cooper, 'Go on, Harry,' meaning him to finish calling the peal, and he did so.

Cooper bore a middling name among the old ringers, and chiefly for two reasons—firstly, his plagiarism of T. Day's peal of Stedman Triples, and, secondly, his dishonourable conduct in regard to the silver cup won by the St. Martin's Youths at the opening of the twelve bells at St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool.

First as to the Stedman Triples—T. Day quite early in his ringing career began to show considerable ability as a composer, his well-known peal of Grandsire Triples being rung at Kidderminster—conducted by himself—in 1827 when he would be in the twenty-fourth year of his age. The peal of Stedman Triples must have been produced soon after, as I have old letters by me showing that he was in correspondence with Squire Powell, of Quex Park, Isle of Thanet, and Mr. J. Tebbs, of Leeds, on that important subject, about that period and prior to 1830.

When it was noised abroad that Young Tom Day had got a peal of Stedman Triples that surpassed all previous ones Cooper did not believe it, so he prevailed on Mr. J. Hopkins, then a rising man in the neighbourhood and a mutual friend, to go and ask Day for the peal. Day was somewhat reluctant, knowing something of Cooper's character; however, he eventually gave the peal to Hopkins, at the same time informing him that Squire Powell also had a copy of it.

One may judge how indignant Day would be, when, some little time after, in 1830, a peal of Stedman Triples was rung on the front eight at St. Martin's, conducted by Mr. Joseph Powell, and published with a great flourish as the production of 'that able composer, Mr. H. Cooper'—indignant because when he saw the figures he found it was his own peal with the observation bell altered. He at once severed his connection with the St. Martin's Youths and did not enter the belfry again for more than twenty years.

The society showed their opinion of the affair, on entering the peal in the record book, by awarding the peal to T. Day.

Time, however, smoothed matters down, and in my early career, when Cooper and Day met, as they did on one or two occasions, they never showed other than friendly feeling, and occasionally, as opportunity offered, Cooper would find his way to St. Martin's for a pull with the young ones. He always rang the seventh, and on one or more of these occasions I rang the tenor, and was rather proud of it too.

Now as to the silver cup. At the opening of the twelve bells at St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, ringers were present from Sheffield, Birmingham, and—of course—other places, but there was no complete twelve bell band. To ensure good ringing the authorities had arranged to give two prizes for the best touches or peals—one a silver cup, value twenty guineas, and the other twenty guineas in money.

On the opening day the ringing, I believe, was not thought deserving of the prizes, but on the day following a band was made up of Sheffield and Birmingham visitors, and a peal of 5,016 Grandsire Cinques was rung, composed and conducted by Cooper. On the completion of the peal the two prizes were handed over to the band to divide as they thought best.

Then the question arose as to which party should have the cup and which the money, so it was decided to settle the matter by the toss of a coin. Cooper won the toss, and, acting on the expressed wish of his men, chose the cup.

I suppose Cooper was treasurer to the society in those days, but he that as it may, he had charge of the cup and for some years always produced it when required.

About the year 1830 he opened a beerhouse, 'The Bell,' in Ravenshurst Street, and some time when he was keeping that house—I never heard the exact date—the cup vanished. Cooper said it had been stolen, others said he had pawned it and could not redeem it. My uncle used to say he had melted it and plated buckles with it. Whatever was done with it, it was never found, although Mr. Hopkins caused all the pawnbrokers who had a plate licence to be questioned about it, and spent a great deal of time and some money in the hopes of its recovery, but nothing ever came of it.

On one occasion a flutter of excitement was caused by J. Newbold (a member of the society) saying he had seen it in a pawnbroker's shop window in Digbeth, and although Mr. Hopkins expressed his doubt, Mr. Johnson and he went to the shop and were shown a cup, but it was not 'the' cup.

On seeing Cooper, Mr. Hopkins mentioned this circumstance to him, when the other consoled him in this wise—'Ah! John, I am afraid you will never find it.' And so the cup was lost.

Cooper was a stout built man, about middle height, a silver plater by trade—hence my uncle's remarks as to the disposal of the cup. He did not succeed as a publican, and when the Midland Railway was opened he was fortunate enough to get an appointment as guard in that company's service, and I never saw him but in that uniform.

He told us that he used to get occasionally a pull at Sheffield, such opportunities generally occurring on a Sunday, until one of the clergy, noticing his uniform, gave orders that he was not to be admitted to the belfry again unless differently attired.

He held the position of guard until, through age, he was appointed stationmaster at Salfley, and held that post until his death, which occurred rather suddenly. He was about 72 years of age.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—In reading this unfavourable account it should be remembered that it comes almost entirely from Thomas Day, who clearly had a lasting grudge against Cooper. Quite likely there may have been another side to the story.

Henry Cooper gained a high reputation as a composer in the early years of the nineteenth century, not only in Birmingham, but throughout the country. Shipway, in the third part of his 'Campanalogia' published in 1816, gives the figures of five of Cooper's compositions—one each of Grandsire Caters, Royal and Cinques; and Stedman Caters and Cinques. They include the Cinques rung at Liverpool in 1814 as related by John Day. Shipway expresses his desire 'to make public the abilities of so young a person in the art, especially in composing a peal in the uncommon method' of Stedman Caters. The peal, however, was false, as were many more of the early peals in the method.

Cooper's best composition is his Stedman Triples, which was rung at Shifnal in 1819. It is a very irregular one part production with 582 calls (350 bobs, 230 common singles and two Doubles). The composer called it from the manuscript sitting in the belfry. As printed in C. D. P. Davies' 'Stedman' the peal is false, but that may be due to faulty transcription, for the original record was partly illegible. The peal, as restored or corrected by Mr. J. W. Parker, was rung in recent years, the conductor being Mr. W. H. Barber. It has the distinction, almost unique in Stedman Triples, of keeping the observation bell entirely out of the calls from start to finish.

Cooper's action over Thomas Day's peal, if correctly related by John Day, does not strike us favourably, but it was the sort of thing that other men frequently did. William Sottanstill was a most unblushing offender, and even Shipway, whom there is not the slightest reason to regard as otherwise than a strictly honourable man, puts his name to what is nothing but Holt's Ten-part begun at a different lead end.

SERVICE TOUCHES.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

There is a plan by which most excellent touches of Stedman Triples of any length can be called by a man who has no knowledge of conducting the method and only just enough knowledge of Bob Major to call the well-known touches produced by Wrong and Home only.

In Stedman the man will have two calling positions—one when he is dodging in 4-5 down before going in slow, and the other at the hand-stroke of the thirds place after making the last whole turn before going out of the slow. He will call a bob in the first position when there is a Wrong in the Bob Major touch, and a bob in the second position when there is a Home.

It does not matter which bell he rings, but if it is the second or the third, and there is a bob at the Wrong in the first course of the Major, he must leave that until the last course of the Stedman, for he is already in the slow. He may use singles to double his touch or to join two together, and if he keeps to the Bob Major his touch will be true.

When the seventh is the observation bell the calling positions are 3 and 8, and 6-7 are kept together throughout.

Here are three touches on the plan:—

504				1,260			
231456	3	8		231456	3	8	
135426	—			431256	S	—	
432156	—	—		231546	—	—	
235146	—	—		534216	—	—	
134256	—	—		234156	—	—	
435216	—	—		135246	—	—	
231456	—	—		235416	—	—	
1,260							
231456	3	8		435216	S	—	
135426	—			235146	—	—	
132456	—	S		135426	—	—	
432516	—	—		432156	—	—	
532146	—	—		132546	—	—	
432156	S	—		532416	—	—	
Twice repeated.				431526	—	—	
				531246	—	—	
				231456	—	—	

BINFIELD, BERKS.—On Saturday, November 18th, 720 Bob Minor: *Mrs. B. Cowley 1, *Mrs. B. C. Castle 2, B. C. Castle 3, C. W. Bailey 4, R. Elliott 5, A. J. N. Rance (conductor) 6. *First 720.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

AMERSHAM.—On Sunday, November 5th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. Edwards 1, C. J. Chalwin 2, E. C. Ayres 3, L. Haddon 4, W. E. Redrup (conductor) 5, W. A. Holmes 6.—On Sunday, November 12th, 720 London Surprise Minor: W. E. Redrup (conductor) 1, C. J. Chalwin 2, E. C. Ayres 3, L. Haddon 4, W. A. Holmes 5, W. Edwards 6.

CHEADLE, STAFFS.—On Tuesday, November 7th, at the R.C. Church, 720 Bob Minor, 7.8 covering: *G. Darbyshire 1, A. Plant 2, T. Hawley 3, *D. Steel 4, *E. Steel 5, A. W. Hall (conductor) 6, *A. A. Hall 7, *H. Fieldhouse 8. * First 720.

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET.—On Thursday, November 9th, 720 St. Clement's: H. Bradley 1, Miss D. M. Hawley 2, Mrs. E. Bradley 3, L. Scarth 4, A. Sheppard 5, E. Bradley 6. Half-muffled for Mr. G. Thornton.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM.—On November 9th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor: R. Rippingale 1-2, T. Bird (conductor) 3-4, A. Catterwell 5-6.—On November 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: H. Wiseman 1, A. Catterwell (conductor) 2, F. Wiseman 3, S. Dace 4, B. W. Pettit 5, R. Rippingale 6, C. J. Barker 7.

TRURO.—On November 11th at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. E. Matthews 1, W. Sanders 2, V. Williams 3, P. J. Hitchens 4, R. A. Watts 5, Rev. A. S. Roberts (conductor) 6, W. H. Southard 7, P. R. C. Williams 8. Rung half-muffled.

MORECAMBE.—On November 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. Clifford 1, E. Swain 2, R. K. Barnes 3, J. Woods 4, N. M. Newby 5, F. Postlethwaite 6, J. E. Burles (conductor) 7, J. Skeats (first quarter) 8. Rung for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Woods.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—On Saturday, November 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: *J. Weadon 1, A. H. T. Parker 2, *J. Button 3, A. J. Peacock 4, *G. Vicary 5, E. J. Avery 6, *G. Prescott (conductor) 7, E. E. Fisher 8. * First quarter-peal.

BEACONSFIELD.—On Saturday, November 11th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: M. Wingrove 1, D. R. Fletcher 2, J. Harrison 3, Rev. R. F. R. Routh 4, W. Hanley 5, W. Lee 6, R. Buckland 7, H. Wingrove (conductor) 8. Rung half-muffled for Remembrance Day.—On Tuesday, November 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor on handbells: H. Wingrove (conductor) 1-2, W. Lee 3-4, D. R. Fletcher 5-6.

STAVERTON, NORTHANTS.—On Saturday, November 11th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: John B. Fitzhugh (first 720 in the method) 1, Mrs. Powell (first 720 inside in the method) 2, Rev. E. S. Powell 3, Joseph W. L. Linnitt 4, George Care 5, Ronald Noon (conductor) 6.

TEMPSFORD, BEDS.—On Sunday, November 12th, 720 Bob Doubles: *Miss F. Reed 1, R. Houghton 2, *Miss B. King 3, H. Harding 4, Cpl. J. Stubbs, R.A.F. (conductor) 5, *Miss M. Hull 6. * First 720.

RODBOURNE CHENEY, WILTS.—On Sunday, November 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: *J. C. Smith 1, W. B. Kynaston (conductor) 2, *T. I. Holborow 3, *D. Bounds 4, W. M. Greenaway 5, *P. A. Hunt 6. * First quarter-peal.

LEWISHAM.—On Sunday, November 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Warnett, sen. 1, Miss H. Oakshett (conductor) 2, C. H. Walker 3, H. Warnett, jun. 4, J. Bennett 5, E. Mounter 6, G. R. H. Smith 7, P. J. Spice 8. First quarter-peal as conductor.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Sunday, November 12th, 1,280 Bob Major: E. Paveley (first quarter-peal) 1, G. Joyce 2, R. Stannard 3, J. Carrot 4, E. Groves 5, S. Bailey (first quarter-peal as conductor) 6, J. Cornford 7, F. Freestone 8.

SPRINGFIELD.—On Sunday, November 12th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Myhill 1, Miss A. White 2, E. J. Runter (conductor) 3, H. Bradley 4, H. Shadrack 5, A. Simmonds 6.

ST. IVES, HUNTS.—On Sunday, November 12th, 720 Bob Minor: J. P. Stocker 1, L.A.C. E. Nobles 2, H. W. Pratt 3, L. W. Fisher 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6.—On Tuesday, November 14th, 720 Bob Minor: J. P. Stocker 1, L.A.C. E. Nobles 2, H. W. Pratt 3, A. E. Flatters 4, L. W. Fisher 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: E. Nobles 1, F. Warrington (conductor) 2, P. S. Skipworth 3, A. E. Flatters 4, L. W. Fisher 5, J. Perkins 6.

HEREFORD.—On Wednesday, November 15th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Davis 1, W. E. Williams 2, C. Gimbert 3, W. H. Symonds 4, J. D. Worsley 5, W. F. Moreton 6, A. W. Davis (conductor) 7, S. C. Milton 8.

SUNDERLAND.—On Thursday, November 16th, at St. Ignatius', 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. W. Parker 1, R. Bell 2, J. A. Brown 3, W. Oxley 4, R. Walker 5, R. L. Patterson 6, F. Ainsley (conductor) 7, G. Harvey 8.

HITCHAM, BUCKS.—On November 18th, 720 Oxford Bob: W. Sparrow 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, *J. M. Gayford 3, *G. W. Morris 4, H. W. Barrett 5, G. Gilbert (conductor) 6. * First in the method.

WESTHOUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.—On November 18th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. Ford 1, Miss A. Potter 2, L. Wood 3, J. Potter 4, A. Greenhalgh 5, P. Crook 6, Rev. F. F. Rigby (conductor) 7, W. Smalley 8.

RATBY, LEICS.—On Saturday, November 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Wilfred Geary 1, T. E. Gardner 2, J. H. Spencer 3, E. R. Whitehead 4, Ernest Morris 5, W. Smith 6, George S. Morris (conductor) 7, Josiah Morris 8.

RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, November 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. H. C. Colyer 1, F. Blondell 2, P. Thrift 3, W. Bunce 4, A. Hunter 5, W. S. Beaumont 6, T. Collins (conductor) 7, H. Ive 8.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

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The charge for notices other than that of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Meeting at Ashted, Saturday, Nov. 25th. Service 4.30. Tea at Peace Memorial Hall 5.15.—A. H. Smith.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at St. Mary's, Ealing, Saturday, Nov. 25th, 3 p.m. Business in belfry 5 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec. Perivale 5320.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Powick, Saturday, Nov. 25th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by tea and business.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at St. Michael's, Wood Green, Saturday, Nov. 25th, 2.30 p.m. Service and tea. Two minutes' from Wood Green Underground Station.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport and Bowdon Branch.—Meeting at Hyde, Saturday, Nov. 25th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—T. Wilde, 23, York Road, Hyde, Cheshire.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Practice, Cookham (6 bells), Saturday, November 25th, 4.30 p.m. Bring tea; none can be obtained locally.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting at Sandridge, Saturday, Nov. 25th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea in Parish Hall 5 p.m. Frequent buses from St. Albans.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Meeting at Cheshunt, Saturday, November 25th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15 p.m.—G. Radley, Dis. Sec., 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon, Herts.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Meeting at Houghton-le-Spring (8 bells), Saturday, Nov. 25th, 2.30 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided.—Frank Ainsley, 30, Aysgarth Avenue, Grangetown, Sunderland.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—Annual meeting at Wimborne Minster, Saturday, Nov. 25th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business, Gush's Restaurant, 5.15.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Annual meeting at Westbury, Wilts (8 bells), Dec. 2nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names before Nov. 29th.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham. Phone 297.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Meeting at Olney, Saturday, Dec. 2nd. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 3.30, followed by tea and business. Names by Nov. 27th.—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bletchley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Penshurst, Saturday, Dec. 2nd. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names to G. Edwards, Elliott's House, Penshurst, by Nov. 29th.—T. Saunders, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Tenterden, Saturday, Dec. 2nd, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names to P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting, Saturday, Dec. 2nd, 3 p.m., Whitechapel Bell Foundry, E.I. Ringing at All Saints', Poplar, 4.30.—A. B. Peck.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Meeting at Dallington, Saturday, Dec. 2nd. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea provided.—R. S. Cowley, 83, Beech Avenue, Northampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Holy Trinity, Blackburn, Saturday, Dec. 2nd, 2.30 p.m. Business in the tower 6 p.m.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Meeting at Battle, Saturday, Dec. 2nd, 2.30 p.m. Half rail fares up to 1s. 6d. Names to John Downing, 2, Hughenden Road, Hastings.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Annual meeting, Royston, Saturday, Dec. 2nd, Tea 5 p.m.—A. E. Symonds, Dis. Sec., The Cottage, Windmill Hill, Hitchin.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Bilston, Dec. 2nd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 followed by tea at the Odeon Cafe (opposite church). Names by Nov. 29th.—F. Colclough, Sec., 27, Hall Park Street, Bilston.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS (12 bells).—Open practice on Saturday, Dec. 2nd, 6.15 to 8.30 p.m.—Ralph Coles, 27, Priory Road, High Wycombe.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Annual meeting at Wraxall, Saturday, Dec. 2nd, at 3 p.m. Divine service 4 p.m. Tea and business 4.30 p.m.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Meeting at Pinchbeck on Saturday, Dec. 2nd. Bells (8) 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, 28th, to W. A. Richardson, Glenside, Pinchbeck, Spalding.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting at Godmanchester, Saturday, Dec. 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—Meeting at Bispham, Saturday, Dec. 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Bring food.—J. H. Foster, Hon. Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Stoke-on-Trent, Saturday, Dec. 2nd. Names to C. H. Page, 57, Oxford Street, Penkhill, Stoke-on-Trent, by Nov. 28th.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Christchurch District.—Annual meeting at Christchurch, Saturday, Dec. 2nd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m., in the Warren Cafe. Business follows. Names by Nov. 29th.—G. Preston, Hon. Sec., Christchurch.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting at Standish, Saturday, Dec. 2nd, 2.30 p.m. Bring food; cups of tea provided. Business after tea.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—Meeting at Carshalton, Saturday, Dec. 9th, 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at the Greyhound 5 p.m. Beddington bells available 7-9 p.m. Names by Dec. 6th to Mr. L. Reece, 9, Carshalton Place Terrace, Carshalton.—D. Cooper, Acting Hon. Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Horsham St. Faith, Saturday, Dec. 9th, 2 p.m. Tea at Vicarage, 4.30. Business meeting to discuss future policy, including holding of branch meetings. Buses leave Norwich 1.35, 2.15, 3.40. Leave St. Faith 5.53 and 6.6.—A. G. G. Thurlow, 52, The Close, Norwich.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—Rededication of Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton, bells, Saturday, Dec. 16th, 3 p.m. Details later.—D. E. Beamish, 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

BIRTH.

CROSS.—On Nov. 18th, 1944, at the Sussex Maternity Hospital, Brighton, to Irene, wife of Instructor Lieut.-Commander R. G. Cross, R.N.—a daughter (Jane Elizabeth).

HANDBELLS WANTED.

SET OF HANDBELLS, any number, medium or small size; must be in good condition.—Knight, Pernet, Broomleaf Road, Farnham, Surrey.

WANTED.—Set of 12 to 16 handbells, in good condition.—Gummer, Steeple Ashton, Trowbridge, Wilts.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.

MEETING AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

There were many young ringers present at a meeting of the East Grinstead and District Guild, held at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, on November 11th. Twenty-five persons sat down to tea in the Parish Hall, which was presided over by the Vicar, the Rev. J. W. Walker, supported by the churchwardens. The towers represented were Aylesford, East Grinstead, Hartfield, Lamberhurst, Rotherfield, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Uckfield, Wadhurst and the local belfry, with Mr. T. E. Sone. Mr. B. Collison was thanked for making the arrangements. It was proposed to hold meetings at Coleman's Hatch on December 9th and at Redhill on January 13th. The methods rung included Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,

MEETING AT AXBRIDGE.

A meeting of the Axbridge Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, held at Axbridge on November 4th, was attended by ringers from Mark, East Brent, Bristol, Weston-super-Mare, Kewstoke, Clevedon, Yatton, Worle, Congresbury, Wrington, Cheddar, Badgworth, Nailsea, Axbridge, Shipham and Churchill.

The methods rung were Grandsire, Plain Bob, Union, Stedman and St. Simon Doubles, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

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