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REVERBERATING

'We have all been impressed by the length of time during which the reverberating hum of a great bell will linger on the air,' writes 'The Age,' Melbourne's daily newspaper, in an editorial on bells. The phenomenon intrigued the fancy of Charles Lamb, and Lord Frederic Hamilton, in his 'Here, There and Everywhere,' comments upon it most entertainingly. It has been the subject of scientific research, and we know there are competent pens within the Exercise who could give the correct answer to this question from Australia.

The immediate concern of 'The Age' is not so much an enquiry into physics as into the realm of romanticism. Whence do bells derive their distinctive genius for spanning the tyrannical chasms of time, they ask intriguingly, and quote the autobiography of Frank T. Bullen, in which he states that in his early days before the mast, nothing made him so homesick as the sound of bells. As the ship lay at anchor in some unfamiliar port, the bells from a nearby belfry would send his mind flying back across the oceans and across the years; his rough and roving sea life would be left worlds behind, and the surge of emotion would be almost uncontrollable.

This annihilation of both space and time is even more pronounced to-day by the introduction of broadcasting on a world-wide basis. 'The Age' reminds us of the poet of the African jungle expressing his sensations as his wireless set reiterated the chimes of Big Ben:—

Who shall appraise the hidden tears,
Born of the loneliness that sears,
As once more, sonorous and deep,
We hear the chimes that never sleep?
It sounds to us across the foam,
The beating heart of all that's home;
The very core of England's heart
That holds us close, though far apart!

Other poets have come under a similar spell. Longfellow, in his 'Golden Legend,' describes Prince Henry and Elsie standing in the twilight on the terrace of the old castle at Vautsberg on the Rhine. Suddenly they catch the strains of distant bells and Elsie asks the Prince what bells they are. He replies that they are of Geisenheim and ring out the curfew, and then, with a touch of sentiment (and who can escape the spell?), adds:—

Dear Elsie, many years ago,
Those same soft bells at eventide
Rang in the ears of Charlemagne
As, seated at Fastrada's side,
At Ingleheim, in all his pride,
He heard their sound with secret pain.

In fantasy, the vibrant hum of the bells is deathless. Another essayist, Mr. Arthur Scammell, in his 'Cheap-side to Arcady,' points out that, long after the last stroke of the bell is heard in the building beneath the tower, the sound survives in the belfry in a protracted diminuendo. These lines are not for the practical ringer whose outlook is bounded by the accuracy of his peal and the mechanical perfection of the bell. Most of us have a grossness of our perceptive faculties and are unable to find any logic in Mr. Scammell's argument, but to the poet the tower may be alive with the thin ghosts of all the joyous and mournful notes that have endeared and embittered the sound of bells to human hearts. Thank you, Melbourne 'Age,' for this incursion into the realm of fantasy, and giving to your readers a new interest in British bells that ring out from your cathedral in the traditional British manner of change ringing.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tues., July 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5011 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. in C.

GEORGE F. SWANN ... <i>Treble</i>	THOMAS J. LOCK 7
*DANIEL T. MATKIN ... 2	ALBERT WALKER 8
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... 3	SIDNEY O'C HOLLOWAY 9
PALL K. WILLIAMSON ... 4	JOHN PINFOLD 10
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD... 5	GEORGE E. FEARN 11
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY 6	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN
* 50th peal on twelve bells.

TEN BELL PEALS

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., July 8, 1947, in 3 Hours and 32 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. 99 lb. in C.

GEORGE A. SPARKS ... <i>Treble</i>	*ERNEST H. MASTIN ... 6
ERNEST G. SHORTING ... 2	ARTHUR G. BASON ... 7
F. CHARLES GOODMAN ... 3	CECIL V. EBBERSON ... 8
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	GEORGE SAYER 9
FRANK DEWEY 5	CLIFFORD BIRD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method and of Caters. Rung as a send-off to the Rev. A. R. Freeman to the rectorate of St. Margaret's in the city, after four years on the staff of St. Peter Mancroft.

EWERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5083 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in D.

*MISS BETTY BROWN ... <i>Treble</i>	†WALTER TOMLINSON ... 6
KENNETH S. B. CROFT 2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... 7
†STANLEY E. BENNETT ... 3	KENNETH W. MAYER ... 8
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 4	HAROLD MARCON 9
JACK F. HODSON 5	†CHARLES BROWN ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.
* First peal of Stedman and first on ten bells. † First peal on ten bells. ‡ Fiftieth peal. First peal in Stedman as conductor. A birthday compliment to Miss Janet E. Mayer and Mr. Sydney A. Chambers.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 28½ cwt.

GEORGE LATHAM <i>Treble</i>	TREVOR PRITCHARD ... 6
THOMAS NEWMAN 2	WILLIAM COX 7
GEORGE GOULDING 3	THOMAS WITTS 8
FRANK T. WAITE 4	LESLIE BARRY' 9
EDWARD EVANS 5	CLIFFORD LAUNDER ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by W HUDSON. Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.
In honour of the engagement of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

MOORSIDE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 5, 1947, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 18 lb.

*EILEEN H. BASTOW ... <i>Treble</i>	FRED DUNKERLEY 5
*JOAN HOULDSWORTH ... 2	JOSEPH WHITTAKER ... 6
ALAN A. POTTS 3	DAVID VINCENT 7
FRED SEAGER 4	JOHN WORTH <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
* First peal in the method. First peal of Yorkshire on the bells.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 9, 1947, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Five Parts. Tenor 30½ cwt. in C sharp.

*SILVIA COKER <i>Treble</i>	CECIL A. SMITH 5
FRED HAYES 2	SYDNEY M. BAILEY... .. 6
†DOREEN COKER 3	WALTER LEE 7
ROWLAND BIGGS 4	RALPH COLES <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by FRED HAYES.
* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF LINGOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb.

JAMES A. MILNER <i>Treble</i>	JOSEPH WHITTAKER ... 5
JAMES FERNLEY 2	DAVID VINCENT 6
WILLIAM FERNLEY 3	JOHN WORTH 7
ALAN A. POTTS 4	PETER LAFLIN <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells and for the Guild. This composition is now rung for the first time.



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PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
 AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
 Tenor 25½ cwt.
 *MARGARET D. PILCHER *Treble* | HAROLD A. NOBES... .. 5
 AUBREY D. MILLS ... 2 | WALTER C. ROSE 6
 STANLEY E. COOK ... 3 | JOHN H. HUNT 7
 PHILIP H. SPECK ... 4 | FREDK. W. BURNETT ... *Tenor*
 Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by F. W. BURNETT.
 * First peal in the method.

HARPENDEN, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
 Tenor 15 cwt.
 ARTHUR DAY *Treble* | H. E. C. GOODENOUGH 5
 CHARLES F. SAYER ... 2 | THOMAS J. SOUTHAM ... 6
 DENIS A. BAYLES ... 3 | *ROLAND NEWSON 7
 ALAN WHITE 4 | GEORGE W. DEBENHAM *Tenor*
 Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by G. W. DEBENHAM.
 * First peal in the method 'inside.'

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 18½ cwt.
 OLAVE BROYD *Treble* | ERNEST W. BRIGHT ... 5
 CECIL BARKER 2 | EDWIN JENNINGS 6
 ALBERT CATTERWELL ... 3 | ROBERT H. YOUNG 7
 JOSEPH C. JENNINGS ... 4 | CHARLES H. SMITH ... *Tenor*
 Conducted by EDWIN JENNINGS.

CHATHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 25 cwt.
 RONALD E. NORRIS ... *Treble* | FRANCIS J. CHEAL ... 5
 *TREVOR A. CROSS ... 2 | THOMAS BEAUMONT ... 6
 FREDERICK RICHARDSON 3 | WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT... 7
 FREDERICK A. CLURETT 4 | CHARLES E. J. NORRIS... *Tenor*
 Conducted by WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT.
 * First peal of Triples. Rung on the 1,000th anniversary of the building of the church, also for Princess Elizabeth's and Lieut. Philip Mountbatten's engagement.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
 Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.
 HERBERT G. ANDREWS ... *Treble* | *HAROLD F. WOOD ... 5
 ALFRED H. PULLING ... 2 | CHAS. W. R. GRIMWOOD 6
 H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... 3 | WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 7
 HAROLD A. MAY 4 | CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... *Tenor*
 Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.
 * First peal in the method. Rung as a compliment to Princess Elizabeth on her engagement.

LIVERPOOL.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., July 14, 1947, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
 AT EMMANUEL CHURCH,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
 Tenor 8 cwt. in A.
 LESTER L. GRAY *Treble* | ERIC J. GILBERT 5
 NORAH M. BIBBY 2 | GEORGE LEDSHAM 6
 GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 3 | GEORGE H. RANGLES ... 7
 RALPH G. EDWARDS ... 4 | JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... *Tenor*
 Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by JAMES C. E. SIMPSON.
 The first peal of Major and of Surprise on the bells.

HASTINGS, SUSSEX.—At All Saints' Church on June 22nd, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: E. G. Fenn 1, W. H. Joiner 2, J. A. Downing 3, R. H. Dove (first in method) 4, J. Pennells 5, S. G. Smith 6, C. A. Levett (conductor) 7, G. S. Piper 8.

BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Mon., July 14, 1947, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
 AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
 Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in F.
 JOHN SCOTT *Treble* | SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY 5
 JOHN PINFOLD 2 | J. FRANK SMALLWOOD... 6
 G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY 3 | HENRY H. FEARN 7
 *ALBERT WALKER 4 | GEORGE E. FEARN *Tenor*
 Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.
 * First peal of Yorkshire Major.

ANSTEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., July 15, 1947, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
 Tenor 10½ cwt.
 HAROLD J. POOLE *Treble* | PETER J. STANFORTH ... 5
 REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 2 | ERNEST MORRIS 6
 JILL POOLE 3 | WILLIAM BOTTRILL 7
 HAROLD G. JENNEY ... 4 | FREDK. J. MILNER *Tenor*
 Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
 A compliment to Sheila Jenney, granddaughter of Harold G. Jenney, on her 19th birthday.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., July 15, 1947, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
 Tenor 12½ cwt.
 WALTER M. GODDARD ... *Treble* | ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... 5
 JACK BRAY 2 | FRED JEFFERY 6
 ARTHUR W. HOODLESS 3 | GEORGE W. MOODY 7
 *ARTHUR CROWDER ... 4 | PHILIP BARNES *Tenor*
 Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JACK BRAY.
 * First peal of Treble Bob Major. Rung in honour of the royal engagement.

BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Wed., July 16, 1947, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
 AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,
A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
 Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb.
 ARTHUR D. COOK *Treble* | J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 5
 *ALBERT WALKER 2 | SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY 6
 JOHN PINFOLD 3 | PAUL K. WILLIAMSON ... 7
 EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... 4 | GEORGE E. FEARN *Tenor*
 Composed by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by GEO. E. FEARN.
 * 600th peal.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS

CARBROOKE, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., July 5, 1947, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
 Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.
 FREDK. C. JOHNSON ... *Treble* | *FREDK. G. WILLIAMS ... 4
 ALBERT E. DIXON 2 | GEOFFREY W. SMITH ... 5
 EDWARD A. ETHERIDGE... 3 | THOMAS A. A. POTTER *Tenor*
 Conducted by FREDERICK C. JOHNSON.
 C.C. Collection, 28, 29, 37, 36, 34, 35, 49.
 * First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor. Rung for the wedding of Mr. F. Bryant and Miss B. Hewson (sister-in-law of the conductor).

ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., July 9, 1947, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
 Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 11 cwt. (approx.).
 DR. E. L. TAYLOR ... *Treble* | DR. A. M. CUNNINGHAM 4
 DR. W. L. B. LEESE ... 2 | DR. J. D. OGILVIE ... 5
 DR. F. S. POOLE 3 | DR. P. SPENCER-PHILLIPS *Tenor*
 Conducted by DR. J. D. OGILVIE.

This is the first peal ever rung by doctors only, and is dedicated, 'In grateful memory of the doctors, nurses and personnel of all the medical services, who gave their lives in the late war.'

BRAFIELD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., July 11, 1947, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 each of Stedman, St. Simon's, Antelope, London, Canterbury, Plain Bob, Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt. 7 lb.

RONALD C. NOON... .. <i>Treble</i>	*WILLIAM R. HAMMONS	3
PHILIP JONES 2	*ERIC NOBLES	4
GEORGE CARE	Tenor	4

Conducted by PHILIP JONES.

* First peal of Doubles in seven methods. In honour of the engagement of Princess Elizabeth.

HIGH HALDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 13½ cwt.

HARRY BAKER <i>Treble</i>	RICHARD J. LANCEFIELD...	4
MARK W. MARSHALL 2	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ...	5
WILLIAM C. MARSHALL... .. 3	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD... <i>Tenor</i>	

Conducted by ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD,

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

FOY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

JOHN D. ROCK <i>Treble</i>	*REGINALD T. JONES	4
LESLIE EVANS 2	JOHN J. WEBB	5
WILLIAM T. POSTON 3	WILLIAM POSTON <i>Tenor</i>	

Conducted by W. POSTON.

* First peal of Minor.

DUBLIN.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., July 13, 1947, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 30 extents of Plain Bob and 12 of Grandsire. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*WARREN JONES <i>Treble</i>	NAT SAVAGE	4
ADA C. DUKES 2	FRED E. DUKES	5
JOAN ROWE 3	ARTHUR DARLINGTON ... <i>Tenor</i>	

Conducted by FRED E. DUKES.

* First peal. First peal by all in two Doubles methods and the first in two Doubles methods in Ireland. Rung as a compliment to Princess Elizabeth on her betrothal to Lieut. Philip Mountbatten. Also as a wedding compliment to the ringer of the tenor.

MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., July 13, 1947, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising two 2,160's and one 720. Tenor 8 cwt. 13 lb. net.

*THOMAS W. PRATT ... <i>Treble</i>	*C. WILLIAM NUTT... ..	4
GEORGE E. LARGE 2	†FREDK. A. MERRICK ...	5
WILLIAM RANFORD 3	REGINALD WOODYATT ... <i>Tenor</i>	

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Minor and on an 'inside' bell.

MISTERTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Mon., July 14, 1947, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 13 lb. net.

ERNEST MORRIS <i>Treble</i>	CECIL E. CARR	4
E. CHARLES TURNER 2	WILLIAM A. WOOD	5
ERNEST W. TIPLER 3	ALFRED BALLARD <i>Tenor</i>	

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

First peal on these bells recently augmented from four to six. The 123rd tower in the Leicester Diocese in which the conductor has rung peals.

HANDBELL PEALS

LENTON, NOTTS.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., June 13, 1947, in 1 Hour and 35 Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*K. WAGSTAFF 1-2	P. NIX	3-4
*L. BERRY		5-6

Conducted by K. WAGSTAFF.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Fri., June 20, 1947, in 1 Hour and 55 Minutes,
AT ALEXANDRA ROAD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents of Kent, three of Oxford and one of Plain Bob.
ALBERT CATTERWELL ... 1-2 | ERNEST W. PYE 3-4

OLAVE BROYD 5-6

Conducted by ERNEST W. PYE.

First peal in three methods as conductor.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., July 8, 1947, in 1 Hour and 53 Minutes,
AT VICTORIA VILLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob.

EDWIN JENNINGS 1-2	ERNEST W. PYE	3-4
OLAVE BROYD		5-6

Conducted by EDWIN JENNINGS.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 9, 1947, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF FELSTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS 1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	7-8

Composed and Conducted by HAROLD G. CASHMORE.

The first peal in the method.

CRETINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thurs., July 10, 1947, in 2 Hours and 28 Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF G. WIGHTMAN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN 1-2	WILLIAM WIGHTMAN ...	5-6
*FRANK L. FISHER 3-4	GEORGE WIGHTMAN ...	7-8

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

Witness: Miss A. Wightman.

* First peal on handbells.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 12, 1947, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MARGARET'S,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 1-2	ERNEST MORRIS	5-6
CHARLES MARSHALL 3-4	*THOMAS W. SHEPPARD ...	7-8

EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD 9-10

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Caters. Specially composed and rung to mark the 80th birthday of Josiah Morris, father of Ernest and George Stedman Morris.

HOVE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 16, 1947, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT 18, SECOND AVENUE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.

ALBERT W. BOND 1-2	R. GORDON CROSS	5-6
FREDERICK PAGE 3-4	*DAVID GALLOP	7-8

Conducted by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by R. GORDON CROSS.

* First peal.

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WHITCHURCH, SALOP.

We have experts visiting all parts of the British Isles, and shall be pleased to carry out restorations or give reports regarding any make of Tower Clock

ALMONDSBURY, GLOS. — On July 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Turner 1, Mary P. Hilliar (first quarter in method and first as conductor) 2, H. Atwell 3, H. Robbins 4, J. Hilliar 5, S. Poole 6, V. J. Wills 7, W. Cook 8.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—On July 6th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. Layton (first in method) 1, Margaret Pitstow 2, Jill Brittain 3, Winifred Adams 4, A. E. Cheesman 5, M. E. H. Pitstow 6, A. J. Adams (conductor) 7, E. T. Woolloff 8. Birthday compliment to 2, 4 and 7.

BARTON SEAGRAVE, NORTHANTS.—On July 10th, 1,320 Doubles, being 480 of Grandsire and 840 of Plain Bob: B. Cape 1, B. Austin 2, Miss E. Walklate 3, P. I. Chapman 4, G. E. Watson (conductor) 5. First quarter of Doubles by 1, 2 and 3.

BENHILTON, SURREY.—On July 9th, at All Saints' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Insp. C. W. Ridgway 1, P. C. A. F. Lancaster 2, ex-Supt. E. Hilton 3, Sergt. C. Willmington 4, S. C. Gosden 5, P. C. N. Bagworth 6, ex-P. C. W. Claydon (conductor) 7, ex-Sergt. F. Miller 8.

BISHOP'S CANNINGS, WILTS.—On July 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss J. Grant 1, E. G. Swift 2, W. A. Swift 3, G. Winter 4, F. W. Hale 5, W. G. Mortimer 6, S. G. Grant (conductor) 7, G. Oram 8.

BRIGHTON.—At Varndean School for Boys, July 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (handbells): J. R. Clapperton 1, J. T. Murphy 2, J. W. Reynolds 3, M. O. Ades 4, S. E. Armstrong (conductor) 5-6. First quarter for 1, 2, 3 and 4.

BURFORD, OXON.—On July 13th, 1,264 Bob Major: M. Collett (aged 13) 1, Miss F. M. Hope 2, F. Soden 3, B. S. Nichols (conductor) 4, F. W. Soden 5, T. W. Timms 6, W. J. Dixon 7, W. A. Godwin 8. First quarter of Major by all except 2 and 8. In honour of the engagement of H. R. H. Princess Elizabeth.

CHIPPENHAM, WILTS.—At St. Paul's on July 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Heath 1, S. Wiltshire 2, R. Tigwell 3, T. Davison 4, W. Page 5, H. Marsh 6, T. C. Lovelock (conductor) 7, J. Martin 8. In honour of Canon Cornwall's installation as Archdeacon of Swindon.

QUARTER PEALS

CRANFORD, MIDDLESEX.—On July 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Bettridge 1, Barbara Thrush (first quarter) 2, P. J. Woodgyer 3, Joan S. Sansom 4, J. B. Sansom 5, H. Belcher (conductor) 6. A 21st birthday compliment to the ringer of the fourth.

DEVIZES, WILTS.—At the Church of St. John on July 10th, 1,264 Bob Major: T. Merritt 1, G. Winter 2, E. G. Swift 3, W. A. Swift 4, F. W. Hale 5, R. Swift 6, W. G. Mortimer 7, S. G. Grant (conductor) 8.

DUNSTER, SOMERSET. — On July 13th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Pugsley 1, Mrs. F. W. Housden 2, F. W. Housden 3, G. Maidment 4, H. W. Lloyd 5, I. Farmer (conductor) 6, A. R. Tudball 7, J. Haydon 8.

ELVEDON, SUFFOLK.—On July 11th, at the Memorial Tower, 1,280 Kent Major: W. Stannard (conductor) 1, A. S. Atkins 2, J. G. Stannard 3, D. Rowland 4, J. W. Banks 5, A. W. Bowers 6, W. Paul, sen. 7, T. Paul 8. First quarter by all except the conductor.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX. — At Christ Church on July 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Waymark 1, R. Oliver 2, R. Percy 3, G. Beeney 4, E. Gower 5, F. Dallaway 6, H. Reynolds (first quarter as conductor) 7, W. Erridge 8.

FULHAM, LONDON. — At All Saints' on July 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. W. Badrick (first quarter) 1, J. H. Allsop 2, W. J. Paice (conductor) 3, W. S. Langdon 4, G. R. Allsop 5, J. Stephenson 6, H. M. Page 7, F. H. Asprey (first quarter) 8.

HARWELL, BERKS. — On July 8th, 1,232 Double Norwich Major: Miss M. R. Cross (first as conductor) 1, C. Lay 2, Mrs. A. E. Lock 3, L. Blond 4, J. Nobes 5, H. White 6, B. Brown 7, A. R. Pink 8. First in method by 2, 4, 6 and 7.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX. — On July 10th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: P. Bettridge 1, W. T. Godfrey 2, W. W. Webb 3, D. Thomas 4, W. A. Lewis 5, J. B. Sansom (conductor) 6, E. R. Gladman 7, B. A. Rose 8.

IBSTOCK, LEICS. — On July 10th, 1,440 Minor (720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob): Miss Ivy Jordan 1, H. O. Over 2, J. H. Dean 3, W. T. Goodby 4, R. E. Manton 5, A. E. Rowley (conductor) 6. In honour of Princess Elizabeth's engagement.

KETERING, NORTHANTS. — On July 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. Cope 1, B. Austin 2, Miss E. Walklate 3, P. I. Chapman 4, C. W. Bird 5, J. Bell 6, G. E. Watson (first in method as conductor) 7, H. Clark 8. First in method by 1, 2 and 3. In honour of the royal engagement.

MATLOCK, DERBYS.—On July 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Scott 1, G. W. T. Smith 2, B. Allsop 3, R. Greatorex 4, H. W. Gregory 5, G. H. Paulson 6, H. E. Taylor (conductor) 7, N. Hotchin (first quarter) 8.

ROSTREVOR, N. IRELAND.—At Kilbroney Parish Church, on July 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Pratt 1, A. E. McGrath 2, W. A. Patterson (first quarter) 3, J. T. Dunwoody 4, F. E. Dukes (conductor) 5, H. J. McGrath (first quarter) 6. First of Grandsire Doubles by 1, 2 and 4.

STOKE-UNDER-HAM, SOMERSET. — On July 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. M. Powell 1, R. Mores (first of Doubles) 2, J. Drew (first as conductor) 3, H. Pester 4, B. Warr 5.

SHOREHAM-BY-SEA, SUSSEX. — At St. Mary's on July 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Drinkwater (first quarter) 1, Bob Challon 2, G. Church (first on inside bell) 3, F. Marsh 4, M. Thomas 5, F. Howe (conductor) 6, H. Stallham 7, B. Challon 8.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—At St. Thomas' on July 6th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: D. Watson (first quarter) 1, Miss F. L. Wright 2, G. C. Cookson 3, F. V. Nicholls 4, F. W. Gibbs 5, R. Smith 6, J. W. Smith (conductor) 7, D. W. Turner 8.

WANDSWORTH, SURREY.—On July 6th, at Holy Trinity Church, West Hill, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: W. S. Langdon 1, H. R. Newton 2, H. Belcher 3, R. Green 4, W. H. Pasmore 5, J. F. Smallwood 6, R. F. Deal 7,

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH



The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

*The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers*

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

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

A heavy postbag can be expected by that Birmingham veteran, Mr. Albert Walker, on ringing his 600th peal at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, on July 16th. Two days previously Albert rang his first of Yorkshire Surprise Major.

Mr. E. Jennings of Braintree, Essex, has called his 100th peal.

We do not as a rule feature 720's, but congratulations on two firsts—Arthur Rogers (15) and John Cottingham, at St. Mary-the-Virgin's, Elland, Yorks, on July 3rd. It was Kent Treble Bob Minor.

Varndean School for Boys has its own Ringing Society, which has now been in being a year. Tower bells are rung at Brighton churches and it is hoped shortly to score the school's first quarter on tower bells.

Mr. T. Jull, of Bobbing, near Sittingbourne, celebrated his 75th birthday by ringing the fourth to a quarter-peal of Minor (720 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Oxford, 180 Plain Bob) at St. Bartholomew's, Bobbing, on June 29th. Ringers: B. W. May 1, Miss D. Dobbie 2, S. Dobbie 3, T. Jull 4, G. Gartman 5, W. H. Dobbie (conductor) 6.

Dragged from his supper table to complete the band for handbell practice, Mr. David Gallop found that a course of Bob Major developed into a peal of 5,040 changes. He stuck to his task in spite of badly blistered hands on heavy bells. A product of Oxford University, he should go far.

Featured in the national newspapers is the dispute between 70-year-old Mr. W. Smith, who has been ringing at St. John-the-Baptist's, Knowle, since 1895, and the Vicar (the Rev. J. W. Sharp). The bells were only silent on one Sunday and were rung on July 20th. These disputes make sad reading for all who love church bells, and we trust that a happy solution will be quickly discovered.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Dublin honoured the royal engagement by a peal of Doubles in two methods. They take risks in Eire, for No. 2 had never rung Bob Doubles before, and No. 3 had never attempted Grandsire. The morning was spent looking up the rules, and in the afternoon the peal was rung and went off very well. The day was the 13th of the month!

The Ladies' Guild has decided to publish at an early date a list of names and addresses of members. Will Cupid keep quiet for the next few months to save author's corrections!

Congratulations to Miss Betty Brown, aged 14—a pupil of Mr. Fred Stokes, of Blankney, Lincs—who rang Caters for the first time in a peal of Stedman Caters at Ewerby, Lincs, on July 12th. Her only previous ten-bell experience was a course of Cambridge Royal at a Lincoln Cathedral practice. Miss Brown's father shared her success, ringing the tenor to this peal.

Mr. William H. Male, of Warwick, who a few months ago accomplished Holt's Six-Part peal of Grandsire Triples on his violin, has now tapped Holt's Ten-Part on the piano in the key of F sharp. This was on July 3rd, in three hours and three minutes, and was the fourth attempt. The 'peal' was read from the figures in the same way as the previous one on the violin.

Forty towers in a week's ringing tour in Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Berkshire was the record of the following members of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild: Messrs. Eric Nobles, K. R. Holtom, Sydney G. Osborne, Stanley Ruddlesden, Victor Perry and E. Orland and a visitor, E. J. Rowe (Gospel Oak). The company express their indebtedness to all incumbents and to steeplekeepers, many of whom had everything in readiness.

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OXFORD GUILD FESTIVAL

ENTHUSIASM FROM ALL DISTRICTS 191 NEW MEMBERS
 SUBSCRIPTION PROBLEM CANON COLERIDGE'S WONDERFUL
 RECEPTION

Except on the occasion of the 50th anniversary, there was a record attendance at the 65th annual festival of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, held at Oxford on July 12th.

The festival opened with a service at the Cathedral, conducted by the Bishop of Dorchester (Dr. G. B. Allen), who is a vice-president of the Guild. The preacher was the Bishop of Oxford (Dr. K. E. Kirk), who is the Guild's president.

The Master (the Rev. C. E. Wigg) presided at the business meeting, held in the Chapter House, supported by Capt. A. B. Poyntz (Deputy Master), Mr. A. D. Barker (hon. treasurer), Mr. W. Hibbert (hon. secretary), Canon G. F. Coleridge (vice-president) and the Bishop of Dorchester. Visitors included Messrs. G. E. Fearn, H. Fearn, J. Harvey and several other Birmingham ringers, G. E. Lewis (Worcester), J. Hemming (Evesham), S. T. Holt, C. Gardiner, R. B. Speed, F. Newman, J. Cople, Capt. Samson, Miss Mary Davis and others from Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Bristol, London and other centres.

The meeting decided to send a congratulatory telegram to Princess Elizabeth on her engagement, the hope being expressed that the bells in all towers in the diocese would be rung on the occasion of her wedding. Later in the day the following reply was received: 'Please convey the Princess Elizabeth's sincere thanks to all who joined in your message on the announcement of Her Royal Highness's engagement.'

A telegram of congratulation was also sent to the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths on their bicentenary meeting.

191 NEW MEMBERS.

The Master's report stated the notable increase of membership (191 were confirmed) was an indication of the general enthusiasm of branch secretaries and tower foremen in all parts of the Guild. Oxford continued to be the centre of progressive change ringing, where practice in almost any method could be had for the asking. Good, steady progress was being made from many other towers in three counties. Of these he should like to mention Winslow, Eynsham (under the leadership of Mr. Harry Floyd) and the keen band at Sunningwell.

Several restorations had been carried out, notably at Bloxham, where the noble ring of eight bells could again be heard; Deddington, where two trebles had been added to make another fine ring of eight.

In the South Oxon and Mid-Bucks Branch, Mr. F. Woodwards had retired from the secretaryship after very many years of hard and painstaking work. His successor is Mr. H. Badger, of Thame. Great keenness was being shown in several towers in this branch, including Shabbington, where the bells had been pronounced safe to ring after 30 years of chiming and where a keen young band was under instruction. Congratulations were extended to Miss Stella Davis and Mr. Farmer on having each completed a full year of office as secretaries of the Newbury and Witney and Woodstock branches respectively, in each case with conspicuous success.

The report contained a reference to the death of Mr. R. T. Hibbert, general secretary for nearly 30 years, stating: 'We continue to miss his inspiring leadership at Guild meetings most sorely, but we can feel thankful that his son, and successor in the office, is a chip off the old block.'

Miss Marie R. Cross presented the librarian's report, which mentioned that there had been a steady demand for the loan of books, especially for the bound volumes of 'Bell News' and 'The Ringing World,' which were presented

by Canon G. F. Coleridge. If any member had any ringing books which were no longer required, would he inform the librarian before disposing of them elsewhere? There were still a large number of old books which the Guild did not possess, especially the type of 'The Bells of Gloucestershire' and 'The Bells of Cornwall.'

NEARLY 100 PEALS.

The secretary's report said it had been a sad year owing to the resignation of Canon Coleridge from the Mastership and the death of the secretary, and he must leave other pens to portray the valuable work his father did from 1917 until his death in March, 1946.

Nearly a hundred peals were rung during 1946, with Walter F. Judge well in the lead as conductor and with G. Gilbert still going strong with his lassies at Burnham. Two outstanding performances were the 12,663 Stedman Cinques at Christ Church, conducted by Walter Judge, and a peal of Stedman Triples at East Ilsley, conducted most admirably by James Higgins, of Oxford, aged 15 years; also seven different Surprise Major methods were rung and the first peal of New Cambridge Surprise Royal.

The hon. treasurer's report stated that the general funds of the Guild amounted to £491 16s. 8d., of which £415 17s. was in the Restoration Fund. The appeal to Parochial Church Councils resulted in £34 7s.

Officers elected were: Master, the Rev. C. E. Wigg; Deputy Master, Capt. A. B. Poyntz; trustees, the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge, Mr. W. Evetts and Mr. A. D. Culium; hon. treasurer, Mr. A. D. Barker; hon. secretary, Mr. W. Hibbert; librarian, Miss M. R. Cross; committee, Messrs. C. J. Hibbert, G. Caudwell, W. Dixon, J. T. Fowler, R. White, A. D. Cullum, H. Sear, J. W. Wilkins, G. Holifield, W. F. Judge and A. Pink and Miss D. R. Fletcher; Central Council representatives, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Barker, Mr. A. E. Locke and Mr. F. D. Boreham.

It was decided that the festival should again be held at Oxford next year. The meeting agreed to 15 guineas restoration grants to Cuddesdon, St. Paul's, Wokingham and Slough.

After a long discussion on suggestions that the increased cost of printing the reports should be met by members paying 6d. for every peal they rang, or that the subscription to the Guild be increased from 1s. 6d. to 2s., the question was referred to a special sub-committee.

THE LUNCHEON.

A company of 258 sat down to luncheon at Christ Church Hall, which was attended by the Bishop of Oxford and the Bishop of Dorchester, both of whom welcomed the ringers and expressed the hope that the Guild would prosper.

The Master presided and the toast list included 'The Visitors,' proposed by Mr. W. Hibbert and responded to by Mr. J. Harvey (St. Martin's Guild) and Mr. R. Speed (president of Cambridge University Society); 'The Oxford Diocesan Guild,' proposed by Mr. J. Hemming (Worcestershire and Districts Association) and replied to by the Master.

Canon Coleridge, now in his 91st year, was present, and all were pleased to observe that he had recovered from his illness when on his way to the Central Council meeting. Having the chance of a ride home to Crowthorne, he left immediately after lunch, and as he walked down the long hall the company rose and with a spontaneous gesture of love and affection for a grand old English gentleman sang 'For he's a jolly good fellow.' The Canon, very much moved, wished the meeting a very happy day and the Guild long life and prosperity for the future.

The Ladies' Guild

NEW DISTRICTS BEING FORMED.

The annual meeting was held at Manchester on July 5th, when 38 members attended from Bowden, Burton-on-Stather, Caister-on-Sea, Duffield, Ealing, Epsom, Flixton, Halstead, Hyde, Leicester, Leeds, London, Macclesfield, Norbury, North Mymms, Nottingham, Pebmarsh, Scunthorpe, Stockport, Todmorden and Wallasey.

The bells of Manchester Cathedral and Town Hall afforded the members a good opportunity of trying their skill on heavy bells, and at the Cathedral rounds, Grandsire Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal were rung by Guild members entirely.

Evensong at the Cathedral was conducted by the Precentor, the Rev. W. Megicks, and the lessons were read by the Rev. F. F. Rigby, president of the Lancashire Association, and the Rev. Canon H. F. Woolnough.

After tea, attended by 63 ringers, the Rev. F. F. Rigby welcomed the Guild to Manchester on behalf of the Lancashire Association, to which Mrs. R. F. Deal replied.

Through the unavoidable absence of Miss E. Steel, president of the Guild, the chair at the meeting was taken by Mrs. R. F. Deal, vice-president of the London District. The retiring president, Miss E. Steel, had notified the secretary that she would not seek re-election, but the members felt they would wish her to be present when she handed over the office which she had held for 20 years, and she was therefore re-elected. Mrs. G. W. Fletcher was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Richardson and Miss Steel representatives on the Central Council.

A long discussion took place regarding the new districts in course of formation, and it was eventually decided to form a North-Eastern and North-Western District in place of the present Northern District, a Midland District to replace the North Midland District, and to restore the former Lincolnshire District. The London District would revert to the original title of Central District. It was left to the members of the Southern and Central Districts to discuss divisions with the newly-formed branch in Sussex and Kent, and to report at the next meeting.

It was decided to hold the next meeting in London and if possible to arrange a reunion dinner the same day.

HIGH WYCOMBE'S TWINS

High Wycombe's twin sisters—the Misses Sylvia and Doreen Coker—are in our peal columns. At the age of 15 they first visited All Saints' belfry in the summer of 1945, and by the following spring were hunting the treble to Grandsire Doubles.

Then Sylvia injured her arm in the playing field and for nearly 12 months she dared not touch a bell rope. All this time she continued to attend the weekly practices watching her sister's progress and keeping in step so far as possible on handbells.

Eventually came the day when she was allowed to handle a bell rope and the sequel is to be found in our peal columns.

5,152 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

By C. K. LEWIS.

First rung at Norbury (Hazel Grove), Cheshire, July 12th, 1947, conducted by John Worth.

23456	M	W	H
52436	3	—	—
35426	3	—	—
42356	3	—	—
53624	—	—	—
43526	2	3	—
32654	—	2	—
34256	2	3	—
23456	3	—	—

4th Pl. Bob

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Council Guidance Wanted

ON DELINQUENT PEALS.

Dear Sir,—May I most heartily endorse and add to Mr. F. W. Housden's remarks in your recent issue. The Exercise naturally expects to have the Council's guidance on obscure and difficult points, however debatable or tedious they may be, and, in shirking the issue of the three 'delinquent peals' (varied and rung under diverse sets of circumstances as they obviously were) without considering each one on its merits and in relation to the existing rules, I feel that the Council failed to do its job.

Stunts there are and always will be, in ringing as in everything else. Some, no doubt, are quite unnecessary and serve no useful purpose, others (such as the peal of Stedman Sextuples and that conducted from outside a tower some years ago) are extremely clever and interesting performances, whilst yet others are born of necessity or owing to peculiar local circumstances, and it is with the latter I am principally concerned.

Since I first wrote you regarding the Basingstoke 'peal' over a year ago, I have received many letters from ringers in various parts of the country, several of which I regret I have been unable to answer, but all of which at least imply that there is certainly no lack of interest in this subject. A most significant factor, I find, is that all those ringing friends who disagree with my views hail from such districts as London, Birmingham or Leicester, where, from the word 'go,' anyone with reasonable aptitude and keenness is assured of a comparatively successful ringing career and not from any tower where to start any change ringing at all involves a long, bitter and uneven struggle against powerful local influences and prejudices such as a well-established 'stoney' hand.

I wonder if Mr. P. J. Johnson and those other gentlemen who talk so glibly of what the public want and do not want have ever in actual fact made any unbiased auditory test in this connection. I have and, as a result, am perfectly satisfied that the majority of non-ringers have, for instance, a distinct preference for Doubles, Minor and Major with a cover rather than without, but do not care a very great deal anyway. I suggest that Mr. Newman's dislike of Kent Minor with a cover is not actuated by any true musical consideration at all, but is solely because, as a ringer, he first became used to hearing it without.

No, sir, in my submission our art is brought into ridicule far more by the Council's inconsistent rejection of a peal which is similar to one it has recognised previously and by illogical rules which veto a peal on nine bells in the diatonic scale, but accept one on five which are cracked or out of tune. Does Mr. Smallwood seriously consider that a thorough overhaul of such a farcical situation (and there are others as ludicrous) is not required?

Finally, in fairness to Mr. Felstead, I would point out that, although he may be a comparative newcomer to the Exercise, several of his supporters are by no means as 'raw,' and, whilst perhaps they are in a minority, minorities have very frequently throughout the ages proved to be right, in the end.—Yours faithfully,
T. R. BUTLER.

27, Lynwood Gardens, Orrell Park,
Liverpool, 9.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER.

Quarterly subscribers are reminded that remittances should be sent without delay to Mr. H. J. Eldred, 26, Springfield Road, Corleston, Great Yarmouth.

The Rings of Pembrokeshire

Dear Sir,—Referring to the above in this week's 'Ringing World,' as regards Haverfordwest bells, to say only one peal has been rung on the bells is not correct. Prior to the peal of Superlative as quoted, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, in which your humble took part, and conducted by Mr. A. J. Pitman, on Easter Monday, April 5th, 1926 (see 'The Ringing World,' April 9th, 1926). It was the first peal on the bells, which were rung in 1923 by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.—Yours faithfully,
J. W. JONES.

Newport, Mon.

LITTLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR

Dear Sir,—If the footnote to the peal of Little Bob Major rung at Balcombe on June 29th is complete as published, it is not correct. The first peal in this method was rung for the Hertford County Association at King's Langley on February 22nd, 1936, conducted by Walter Ayre.—Yours faithfully,
E. A. B.
Crayford, Kent.

ALSO IN CHESHIRE

Dear Sir,—The footnote to the peal of Little Oxford Bob Major rung at Balcombe, Sussex, on June 29th, and recorded in this week's 'Ringing World,' does not seem to be correct.

A peal in this method was rung for the Chester Diocesan Guild at Malpas on Nov. 3rd, 1936, and no claim was made that this was the first in the method, although it was the first for the Chester Guild.—Yours faithfully,
J. W. GRIFFITHS.

Upton-by-the-Bache, Chester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL'S INTEREST.

The Lord Bishop of Liverpool took part in the ringing at the monthly meeting of the Wigan Branch at the Church of Emmanuel, Southport, on July 5th, and gave an address at the choral service. In his address the Bishop said how English bellringing was, and how appropriate this meeting was, it being on the eve of the Day of National Prayer.

After the service tea was held in the schools. Here the Bishop told of an old ringing book which had been presented to the Cathedral. It was a record of peals rung by the Liverpool Youths, who used to ring at St. Peter's, the old Pro-Cathedral of Liverpool. He brought the book with him, and members admired the beautiful penmanship. Votes of thanks were proposed by Mr. G. Newton and seconded by Mr. J. Ridyard.

Although there were not as many present as expected, it was a good meeting, with methods from rounds, Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent and Double Norwich and Cambridge. The next meeting will be at Ha'sall on August 9th.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

FIRST POST-WAR CONTEST.

Six teams entered for the first post-war contest of the Association, held at All Saints' Church, Almondbury, Huddersfield, on July 5th. The adjudications of Mr. E. Betts were as follows:—

Friezland, 15 penalties, 138 faults, 153.

Longwood, 20 penalties, 210 faults, 230.

Silkstone, 10 penalties, 174 faults, 184.

Shelley, 20 penalties, 200 faults, 220.

Liversedge, 0 penalties, 95 faults, 95.

Meltham, rung out.

Liversedge were declared the winners and received the challenge cup from the Rev. T. A. Youngmire, curate of Almondbury, in the absence of the Vicar.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Liversedge on September 27th. A vote of thanks to the Vicar and all concerned was proposed by Mr. E. Earnshaw, seconded by Mr. H. Roberts.

OBITUARY

MR. JOSEPH WOODS.

The death is announced with regret on July 10th of Mr. Joseph Woods, of Padeham, in Blackburn Royal Infirmary after a very short illness.

Though not a prolific peal ringer, he was a regular service ringer, an excellent striker and a stalwart attendant at branch meetings, where he was always ready to pour oil on troubled waters. He learnt to ring at Helmshore, Lancs, and took part in the first peal of Bristol for the Lancashire Association. His last peal—Double Norwich—was on June 11th at Church, Lancs, at which tower he was for some years a member of the band.

His character was admirably summed up by the inscription on an anonymous floral tribute placed on his grave, which read, 'To a real British gentleman.' Representatives of the three towers to which he had been attached acted as bearers and at all towers the bells were rung muffled.

Only 58 years of age, the last call, 'This is all,' came very suddenly. We remember him with affection and sympathise with his wife and two daughters in their bereavement.

L.J.W.

A memorial peal of Kent Treble Bob was rung at Church, Lancs, on July 19th.

MRS. H. BEER.

Mrs. Harriet Beer, widow of the late Mr. W. Beer, who was for many years a ringer at St. George's Parish Church, Gravesend, died on July 9th. Mrs. Beer took a great interest in ringing and was an honorary member of the Kent County Association. The bells of St. George's Church were rung half-muffled in the evening of July 14th as a mark of respect.

THE LATE MR. C. R. WALKER

TABLET UNVEILED AT HIGHWEEK.

The tablet, which has been erected in the belfry of Highweek Parish Church, Newton Abbot, by the Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild of Ringers, in memory of the late Mr. Christopher R. Walker, of Kingskerswell, one of its members, was unveiled on July 12th in the presence of members and friends from Okehampton, Teignmouth (St. James'), Newton Abbot, Paignton, Dartmouth, Ashburton, Totnes, Buckfastleigh, and Plympton St. Maurice, as well as visitors from Willesden, Middlesex, and Beeston, Notts.

The service was conducted by the Rev. J. A. Durling (Rector), who was assisted by the Rev. W. R. D. Mills (chairman of the Mid-Devon Branch). The tablet was unveiled by the Rector, and in an appropriate address the Rev. W. R. D. Mills remarked that the late Mr. Walker always did his best, whether it be in connection with bells or music or otherwise.

The bells were rung before and after the service, touches of Grandsire Doubles and Triples, and Stedman Triples, rounds for the less experienced ringers, and call changes by the local ringers. Handbells were also rung over the grave of the late Mr. Walker and the late Mr. C. R. Lilley, this consisting of two courses of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. A. L. Bennett 1-2, J. F. Lilley 3-4, A. Newman 5, C. F. Austin 6, and E. J. Taylor 7-8.

After tea, Mr. A. L. Bennett, branch secretary, voiced the thanks of the branch to the Rector and church authorities of Highweek for allowing the tablet to be erected in their belfry; to Mr. J. Case for doing the necessary fixing; to those who had subscribed; and to Mr. H. V. Jones, the Buckfastleigh U.D.C. surveyor, for the advice he had given.

The Rev. J. A. Durling, in his reply, expressed his great pleasure at having the tablet erected at Highweek. He thanked the branch officials for the efficient manner in which the memorial had been carried out. The tablet is of bronze with cream lettering, and is mounted on a mahogany block.
A.L.R.

Devon & Somerset Combine

JOINT MEETING AT UFFCULME.

An event of great interest in the West was the joint meeting held at Uffculme, Devon, on July 5th, of the North-East Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers and the Taunton Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Association. The meeting was arranged by Mr. C. G. Dymond, and the interest aroused was evidenced by the attendance of 70 members and visitors from 25 towers affiliated to the two associations.

The Devon members were pleased to meet again the Rev. E. S. Powell, who was their president from 1924-1932, and Mrs. Powell, and Mr. F. C. Small, general secretary of the Guild. Among the visitors were ringers from Walsall and Daventry.

Ringing during the afternoon was followed by service, conducted by the Rev. H. Alexander (Vicar), and the lesson read by the Rev. E. S. Powell. The Vicar in his address also drew attention to points of interest in this grand church and invited all to visit the gardens and grounds of the Vicarage.

After the service tea, arranged by a local committee, was laid on the lawn and full justice was done.

The Rev. E. S. Powell, elected to the chair, then read a letter from Preb. E. V. Cox, president of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, expressing regret at his inability to be present. The Chairman, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Uffculme for the use of the bells and taking the service and to all who had helped make this such a pleasant meeting, said the attendance must be very gratifying to those who had made the arrangements.

Mr. Arthur Reed (secretary, Taunton Deanery), in seconding, said that the meeting was the result of hints passed on by members visiting each other's quarterly meetings, and was envisaged at a meeting held at Ashbrittle last year, and that they had been looking forward to it for months, and hoped that at some future date the event would be repeated.

Mr. A. G. Selley (Ringing Master, N.E. Branch), in associating himself with Mr. Reed's remarks, said that big things usually had small beginnings, and suggested a definite date and place and then proposed that another meeting be arranged on the first Saturday in July, 1948, and that the venue be Milverton in Somerset. This was carried unanimously. Touches on handbells by Somerset and Devon men jointly and separately ended the meeting.

The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain and Kent Bob Major, and the Somerset men are to be congratulated on a splendid touch of Double Norwich, many present not often having the opportunity of listening to this grand method.

The meeting was marked throughout by a grand spirit of friendliness, which can do nothing but good, both from a social and ringing point of view. The duty of Ringing Master was ably carried out by Mr. Poole, of Yeovil. The bells are a grand ring, tenor 24 cwt.

Kent County Association

AT HAWKHURST.

Ringing took place in the bomb-damaged Church of St. Lawrence, Hawkhurst, which possesses a peal of eight, and methods ranged as far as Superlative Surprise. The service was held at the Church of All Saints some 1½ miles away in the centre of the village and was followed by tea and the business meeting.

Mr. V. Kinch, of Leigh, and the Rev. I. G. Jones, of Hawkhurst, were elected as practising members, and the Vicar, the Rev. Harrison Thornton, was elected an honorary member. There being no other business, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the curate for conducting the service, to Mr. W. Gorringe, the local captain, for making the arrangements, and the lady helpers for serving the tea. Members then adjourned to St. Lawrence's Church for further ringing.

AT EAST PECKHAM.

East Peckham Church has a pleasant ring of six, which were usefully employed by the members on the occasion of the quarterly meeting on July 5th. At the service members were given an impressive address by the Vicar, the Rev. J. C. Starky, and after the service they were entertained to tea by Mr. T. Saunders, the local captain, and the local band.

At the meeting that followed Messrs. F. Acott, G. Acott, E. Drawbridge, J. Harris, W. Harris and L. Cutchife were elected members of the Association and the Vicar was elected an honorary member. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for the service, to the organist, and Mr. Saunders, the local band and the ladies who had provided the tea.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

About 80 members and friends from most of the towers in the district and some from the Canterbury and Maidstone Districts visited this fine old Minster Church at the Isle of Sheppey on July 5th.

The ringers' service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. O. H. Brasier), who is an honorary member of the Association and was ably assisted by the young members of the local Guild. The organist was S. Evans (the young Master), and the lesson was read by G. Rooke (a local ringer). The remainder of the male members assisted with the distribution of books and also took the collection for the Benevolent Fund, which amounted to £1 9s. 1d.

The Vicar, in his address, welcomed the ringers to the Minster and also stressed the importance of this branch of church work. He also thanked his own local Guild for their loyal co-operation in the work of the church.

Tea at the Blue Bird Cafe was kindly given to the members of the Association by the parents of the local Guild.

Upon taking the chair for the business meeting, the Vicar said that it was 17 years since their last visit and he hoped that they would not leave it so long before coming again.

The secretary reported that he had received two notices of motion from the Lewisham District to come up for discussion at the annual meeting. Mr. G. H. Spice, the general secretary, explained these to the members and further action was postponed to the next meeting to be held at Rochester Cathedral in October.

It was decided to hold a bi-meeting at Hoo on the second Saturday in August. Mr. E. Allen proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and the local Guild for making the meeting such a great success.

More ringing was enjoyed after the meeting on the Minster bells, while others made their way to Eastchurch and Queenborough.

NOTICES

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MISCELLANEOUS

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KENT COUNTY ASSN.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting Margate, Sat., July 26th. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting.—B. J. Lack Hon. Dis. Sec. 1653

KENT COUNTY ASSN.—Lewisham District.—Meeting Shoreham Sat., July 26th, 3. Service 4.15 Tea 2s. 1654

LADIES' GUILD and MIDDLE SEX COUNTY ASSN.—Joint meeting Monken Hadley, Sat., July 26th Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea.—Mrs E. E. Davis and T. J. Lock, Hon Secs., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts. 1676

YORKSHIRE ASSN.—Northern District.—Meeting Helmsley (8) Sat., July 26th.—Edward Hudson Hon. Dis. Sec. 1696

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD—Summer meeting at Hoar Cross (6) July 26th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15 Tea 5 p.m.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal 1724

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSN.—Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Bennington (8) Sat., July 26th, 3. Short service 4.30 Tea 5.15, followed by short business meeting.—G. Radley, Dis. Sec., 6 Nursery Road, Turnford, near Hoddesdon, Herts. 1701

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Next meeting Hitcham (6), Sat., July 26th, 5.30. No tea.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 1718

ELY ASSN.—Wisbech District.—Meeting Northwold (8), Sat., July 26th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please bring food.—W. Buckenham, Marham. 1721

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Chippenham Branch.—Meeting Colerne (8), Sat., July 26th. Tower open at 3.30. Tea 5.—H. Marsh, 4, Hawthorne Road, Chippenham. 1708

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting Harlaxton, July 26th. Bells (6) 2.30. Tea.—B. H. Dalton, Hon. Sec. 1693

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Arksey July 26th, 3, Tea available. 1738

GUILDFORD DIO. GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Re meeting Hershams, July 26th. Owing to unforeseen circumstances, there will be no service, and it has been impossible to arrange tea as had been expected.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec. 1734

ST. AUGUSTINE'S, THORPE BAY, ESSEX.—Dedication of new ring of eight bells (John Taylor and Co.), by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, on Thurs., July 31st, 8 p.m. 1703

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSN.—Northern District.—Meeting at Barkway, Sat., Aug. 2nd. Bells 3. Tea 5. Names for tea by July 30th to C. A. Bysouth, Barkway, Royston.—A. E. Symonds, Dis. Sec. 1740

OXFORD GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Whaddon (6), Sat., Aug. 2nd, 5.—R. H. Howson. 1736

DEVON GUILD.—Ringing practice (Stedman and Major), Heavitree, Sat., Aug. 2nd, 3. Tea. Visitors invited.—Frederick C. Smale, Hon. Sec. 1733

SUSSEX ASSN.—Northern Division.—Practice meeting Worth, Sat., Aug. 2nd, 3. Tea. Names for tea to G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley. 1729

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Bristol City Branch.—Aug. 2nd, monthly meeting. Christ Church, City (10), 3-4; St. James' (10), 4 to 4.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15, Church House. 1732

OXFORD GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Combined practice at Sonning (8), Sat., Aug. 2nd, 6 to 9 p.m.—B. C. Castle. 1725

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Eye District.—Meeting at Eye, Sat., Aug. 2nd. Bells (8) available 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5, followed by business meeting. Yaxley (6) from 7 to 8.30. Names for tea must reach me by July 30th.—W. A. Lock, Dis. Sec., Reed Cottage, Yaxley, Suffolk. 1743

LEICESTER GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Claybrooke, Aug. 2nd, 3. Cups of tea; bring own food.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec. 1741

KENT COUNTY ASSN.—Tonbridge District.—By-meeting at Sandhurst (6), Aug. 2nd, 3. Service 4.30. Please make own arrangements for tea. Half travelling expenses (not exceeding 2s.) will be paid to members attending. There will be an interval from approximately 5 to 6 for tea, followed by the business meeting. 1730

ELY DIOCESAN ASSN.—Cambridge District.—Sawston (8), Sat., Aug. 2nd, 3. Service? Tea 5 in the Church Institute.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 1727

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Next meeting at Burgh-le-Marsh on Sat., Aug. 2nd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea, White Hart Hotel, 5. Names for tea by Mon., July 28th, to W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs. 1722

CUMBERLAND AND NORTH WESTMORLAND ASSN.—Meeting St. Andrew's Parish Rooms, Penrith, 2, Mon., Aug. 4th. Names for meals before Sat., July 26th.—S. Richardson, Hon. Sec. 1720

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Aug. 4th. Privett, 11 to 2; West Meon, 2 to 4 and after tea; East Meon, 2 to 4.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Tea for those who notify by July 29th.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Eastleigh. 1712

GUILDFORD GUILD (Leatherhead District) and SURREY ASSN. (N.W. District).—Joint meeting at Leatherhead, Mon. Aug. 4th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.45 at Duke's Head. Numbers for tea to G. Mariner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead, by Aug. 1st.—A. H. Smith. 1709

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Rotherham (10), Mon., Aug. 4th, 3. Tea obtainable at British Restaurant. All welcome.—H. Chaddock, Sec. 1726

HERTS COUNTY ASSN.—St. Albans District.—Joint practice nights: Tues., Aug. 5th, St. Albans Cathedral, 7.30 p.m.; Mon., Aug. 18th, St. Peter's, St. Albans, 7.45 p.m.; Wed., Sept. 3rd, Harpenden, 7.45 p.m.—T. J. Southam, Dis. Sec. 1739

KENT COUNTY ASSN.—Ashford District.—Appledore, Sat., Aug. 9th, 3. Tea 5. Names for tea by Aug. 5th to P. Page, 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent. 1731

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Chichester, Aug. 9th. Ringing at Campanile, 3.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate. 1736

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—I of W. District.—Quarterly meeting, Ryde, Aug. 9th. Bells 2.30. For tea write Mrs. Guy, Merriemeade, Watergate Road, Newport, I of W., by Aug. 6th. 1737

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Meeting at Isleworth, Sat., Aug. 9th, 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged if possible. Names to Mr. Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth, by Wednesday, 6th.—E. E. Davis, Dis. Sec. 1742

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSN.—East Norfolk Branch.—Meeting at Norton Subcourse (6), Sat., Aug. 9th. Ringing 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. Please notify G. Walpole, Norton Subcourse, Norwich, for names or numbers for tea.—J. Harwood, Sec., 189, Palgrave Road, Great Yarmouth. 1744

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

NORTH-EAST MEETING AT COLCHESTER.

A very successful meeting was held at St. Leonard's on July 12th, when over forty members and friends attended and made use of the fine-toned six bells.

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. R. Johnston), who in his address extended a welcome to the ringers. After an excellent tea, the business meeting was held, with the Master (Mr. C. Ellis) in the chair, supported by the district secretary (Mr. H. J. Millatt).

Harwich was selected for the next meeting on September 13th, and Mrs. Joan Warner was elected a ringing member. The company were entertained by some amusing reminiscences from Mr. A. J. King, of Grantham.

Votes of thanks to the Rector and all who had helped were moved by Mr. C. Ellis and seconded by Mr. G. Waterman.

Members then returned to the tower for more ringing, which despite delays caused by a broken rope and a faulty clock hammer, was kept up till 8.30 p.m. in methods from Bob Minor to York and Cambridge Surprise.

WISBECH, CAMBS.—On July 6th, 1.259 Grandire Caters: A. Upsal 1, Miss M. Longbottom 2, F. Wigmore (conductor) 3, H. Piggins 4, W. Jarvis 5, J. Phillips 6, W. Storey 7, W. Freeman 8, H. Means 9, F. Moyes 10.

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