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MEDIEVAL FOUNDRIES

IN 1947 we published an editorial dealing with the survey of Mr. Frederick Sharpe in the 'Church Bells of Radnorshire.' This survey has now been completed and the six parts are bound in one volume (price 10s.). This work is not merely an illustrated archæological catalogue. Mr. Sharpe has pieced together the data found among the little known bells of Radnorshire and, with the aid of explanatory notes, throws considerable light upon the activities of medieval foundries. There are also histories of the three main firms in industry today, which are of topical interest.

Two bells of the 13th century remain in Radnorshire, one at Bryngwyn being still sound after seven centuries of continuous use. This bell has no founder's marks. The other at Llanfaredd can be definitely ascribed to the Gloucester founders, on account of the initial cross. There are eleven bells in this county of the medieval period (1300-1540), one of the transitional period (1540-1600) and 24 of the seventeenth century. This wealth of data is full justification for Mr. Sharpe's survey.

There were three medieval foundries of note in the West Country. The Bristol foundry can be traced back to 1296, with Walter le Bellyetar as the craftsman, followed by Johannes Bellezettare between 1300 and 1325. Records of the Gloucester founders also extend back into the 13th century. The name of Hugh, the bell founder, occurs in 1270, and that of his daughter, Christiana la Belyutere, in 1303. They were followed by Sandre of Gloucester, *circa* 1320, and John of Gloucester, *circa* 1346.

Much of this early information is due to the research of Mr. H. B. Walters. He places the Worcester Foundry also in the 13th century, the first name mentioned being Simon le Belyetere, who is mentioned in a charter of Worcester dated 1280; the seal of Richard le Belyetere occurs in a deed of 1306 and John le Belyetere is mentioned in a document of 1347. No existing bells can be definitely ascribed to these men, but they were succeeded by a founder whose bells, dating from about 1400 to 1420, are fairly numerous.

The Worcester founders flourished in the early 17th century with John Green and Zachery Green, Godwin Baker, Simon Baker and Richard Dawkes. Between 1590 and 1700 there was a foundry at Wellington, Shropshire, worked by the Clibury family, and at Shrewsbury

between 1685-1700 by Ellis Hughes. Contemporary with them were John Finch, of Hereford, John Merton, of Worcester, the Chepstow Foundry and, of course, the Rudhalls, of Gloucester, from 1679 until 1830.

TEN BELL PEALS

LEEDS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB CATERS, 5093 CHANCES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

DORIS E. COLGATE ... <i>Treble</i>	*THOMAS E. SONE ... 6
WILFRED W. RING ... 2	FREDK. G. HUCKSTEPP... 7
ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD... 3	THOS. CULLINGWORTH... 8
WILLIAM A. OLDFIELD... 4	ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... 9
*REGINALD E. LAMBERT... 5	ROBERT COLLINS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by F. NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
* 50th peal together. First peal of Caters in the method for all the band and the Association.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;
Tenor 28½ cwt. in D flat.

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... <i>Treble</i>	THOMAS W. SHEPPARD ... 6
HENRY H. FEARN ... 2	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ... 7
JOHN S. WALTON ... 3	LEONARD TREVOR ... 8
FRANK E. PERVIN ... 4	PAUL K. WILLIAMSON ... 9
J. EDWARD CAWSEY ... 5	GEORGE E. FEARN ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSEY.

WESTMINSTER, LONDON.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., July 31, 1948, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANCES;
Tenor 26 cwt.

MRS. E. E. DAVIS ... <i>Treble</i>	THOMAS G. FOX ... 6
MRS. R. F. DEAL ... 2	CECIL J. MATTHEWS ... 7
*MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS... 3	RICHARD F. DEAL ... 8
MISS PATRICIA HOLMES ... 4	JOHN PHILLIPS ... 9
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 5	THOMAS H. FRANCIS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by RICHARD F. DEAL.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., July 16, 1948, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STANTON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANCES;

JOHN H. BAILESS ... <i>Treble</i>	SHIRLEY BURTON ... 5
HAROLD J. POOLE ... 2	HERRICK B. BOWLEY ... 6
ALAN CATELL ... 3	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 7
FRANK K. MEASURES ... 4	ALFRED BALLARD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

First peal in the method. Rung without previous practice.

ST. ANNE'S-ON-SEA, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;
Tenor 17 cwt.

E. ROGER MARTIN ... <i>Treble</i>	JOHN H. FOSTER ... 5
THOMAS BARKER ... 2	JOHN JACKSON ... 6
JOHN CHARNOCK ... 3	JOHN H. GARTSIDE ... 7
CHARLES SHARPLES ... 4	ARTHUR HATCH ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by G. W. DEBENHAM (V7). Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

A farewell to the ringing of the fourth.

SKIPTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;
Tenor 22 cwt. 17 lb. in E flat.

HARRY DAVISON ... <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM BARTON ... 5
WILLIAM H. SENIOR ... 2	GORDON BENFIELD ... 6
*DONALD R. MARSHALL ... 3	ALFRED SMITH ... 7
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS... 4	EDWARD JENKINS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

* First peal in the method. Mr. E. Jenkins' 500th peal.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;
Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

WILFRED NICHOLSON ... <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM H. BARBER ... 5
JOHN ANDERSON ... 2	WILLIAM F. ROBINSON ... 6
JOHN A. BROWN ... 3	SAMUEL C. WALKER ... 7
ROBERT BELL ... 4	ADAM DEAS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by F. CLAYTON. Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

Rung as a welcome to the Rev. O. N. Gwilliam, recently inducted as Rector; also a birthday compliment to John A. Brown.

DARESBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;
Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. in E.

WILLIAM E. ALLMAN ... <i>Treble</i>	JOHN E. BIBBY ... 5
OSWALD CLAYBROOK ... 2	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... 6
DENNIS MADDOCK ... 3	THOMAS ROGERS ... 7
WALTER ALLMAN ... 4	RALPH G. EDWARDS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by R. G. EDWARDS.

First peal of Major as conductor.

NORTHOP, FLINTSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. EURGAIN AND PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;
Tenor 11½ cwt.

*MISS NANCY P. BIRKS <i>Treble</i>	HARRY PYE ... 5
PERCY SWINDLEY ... 2	HENRY O. BAKER ... 6
JOHN W. BEST ... 3	JOHN W. GRIFFITHS ... 7
†FREDERICK H. BIRKS ... 4	*DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by JOHN W. GRIFFITHS.

* First peal. † First peal of Stedman.

CROWAN, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CREWENA,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;
Parker's Twelve-part (7th the observation). Tenor 11½ cwt.

*F. DUDLEY TEAGUE ... <i>Treble</i>	CYRIL E. LANXON ... 5
R. GORDON CROSS ... 2	EDWARD SANDERS ... 6
MISS JOAN E. WITHEY... 3	REV. ARTHUR S. ROBERTS ... 7
MRS. A. S. ROBERTS ... 4	R. GEORGE CLEMENS ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by REV. ARTHUR S. ROBERTS.

* First peal on eight. The conductor's 75th peal for the Guild.

First peal on the bells.

SEFTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., July 25, 1948, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN.

A PEAL OF KENT & OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

SYD. FLINT ... <i>Treble</i>	THOS. HERRIDGE ... 5
GEO. SKELLAND ... 2	DENNIS BOOTH ... 6
PHYLLIS BOOTH ... 3	ROBERT GUY ... 7
THOS. HAMMOND ... 4	WM. DEACON ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by E. C. GOBEY. Conducted by WM. DEACON.

A birthday compliment to Phyllis Booth.



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ANSTAY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., July 26, 1948, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Mrs. H. J. POOLE ... <i>Treble</i>	† JILL POOLE 5
*GORDON H. ARGULE ... 2	† PETER J. STANFORTH ... 6
HAROLD J. POOLE ... 3	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... 7
*MICHAEL D. STANFORTH ... 4	ALBAN DISNEY <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by R. F. ELKINGTON.
* First peal of Major. † First in the method. Tenor 10½ cwt.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., July 26, 1948, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Johnson's Variation. Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in F.

H. JAMES TURNER ... <i>Treble</i>	*HENRY H. FEARN 5
ALBERT WALKER 2	EDWARD T. LLOYD 6
FRANK E. HAYNES 3	† HARRY BOSWELL 7
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ... 4	*GEORGE E. FEARN ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

* 250th peal together. † First peal of Surprise Major. Rung on the conductor's birthday.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., July 27, 1948, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb.

EDWIN G. MOORE ... <i>Treble</i>	HARRY P. FLOYD 5
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS ... 2	† PHILIP WALKER 6
*NORA HONEY 3	CHARLES COLES 7
KATHLEEN HIGGINS 4	ALAN R. PINK <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal in the method. † First peal of Major in the method.

BLOXWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Fri., July 30, 1948, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALBERT D. COLLINS ... <i>Treble</i>	† EDWARD J. CHIVERS ... 5
*HARRY BOSWELL 2	EDWARD T. LLOYD 6
GEORGE E. FEARN 3	HOWARD HOWELL 7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.
* First peal of Kent T.B. Major. † First peal in the method.

CODSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., July 31, 1948, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

HARRY BOSWELL <i>Treble</i>	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 5
RICHARD J. WARRILLOW ... 2	THOMAS HEMMING 6
*ALBERT D. COLLINS 3	*BARNABAS G. KEY 7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.
* First peal of Cambridge Major. A compliment to Mr. Herbert Knight on his retirement after 40 years as lay secretary of the Society.

WYE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Sat., July 31, 1948, in 3 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. GREGORY AND MARTIN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

STANLEY B. DOBBIE ... <i>Treble</i>	JAMES S. WEBB 5
DORIS G. DOBBIE 2	WALTER H. DOBBIE 6
ALFRED H. PULLING 3	BENJAMIN F. BAKER 7
*GEORGE F. CANTRILL 4	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.
* First peal of Major. Tenor 20½ cwt.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 31, 1948, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, PORTSEA,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Comprising 2,560 London, 1,216 Bristol and 640 each Cambridge and Superlative with 122 changes of method. Tenor 17 cwt. 7 lb.

*MISS HAZEL DALE ... <i>Treble</i>	TOWER R. TAYLOR 5
*ERNEST F. SALMONS ... 2	*FREDK. W. BURNETT ... 6
*TOM PAGE 3	FREDK. W. ROGERS 7
*JOHN H. HUNT 4	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by JAMES TOPP. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.
* First peal of Spliced Surprise.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Aug. 1, 1948, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5064 CHANGES;

ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... <i>Treble</i>	*LEONARD H. BOWLER ... 5
GEORGE M. KILBY 2	*WILLIAM J. ELLIS 6
*J. E. LEWIS COCKEY ... 3	*ALICK CUTLER 7
*ARTHUR JONES 4	*FREDK. A. FINCH ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

In honour of the visit of the Rt. Rev. Goodrich R. Fenner, Bishop of Kansas, U.S.A., and as a birthday compliment to him from the ringers. Tenor 13 cwt.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Pitstow's Variation. Tenor 21 cwt.

DORIS G. DOBBIE <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE KENWARD 5
WALTER H. DOBBIE 2	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 6
ALFRED H. PULLING 3	STANLEY B. DOBBIE 7
ARTHUR S. BOAR 4	GEORGE WOOD <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

DOLGELLEY, MERIONETHSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDK. G. BEDDOW ... <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM A. FARMER ... 5
E. DENNIS POOLE 2	GEORGE JONES 6
Mrs. E. D. POOLE 3	JAMES EVANS 7
JOHN F. BUTLER 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

PULHAM MARKET, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

GEORGE W. HOWLETT ... <i>Treble</i>	ERNEST C. STAFF 5
THOMAS SIMMONS 2	*CHARLES V. ORVES 6
ERNEST A. HEAD 3	L. EDWARD ETHERIDGE ... 7
FREDK. J. ROOPE 4	ERNEST WHITING ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.
* First peal of Oxford T.B. Tenor 13 cwt. 50 lb.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WALTER LEE <i>Treble</i>	*MISS ANN SMITH 5
DAVID COX 2	HARRY C. JONES 6
MISS KATHLEEN FLETCHER ... 3	ROLAND BIGGS 7
A. REGINALD BLABY 4	RONALD NEWTON <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by ROLAND BIGGS.

* First peal.

ST. DAVID'S, PEMBROKESHIRE.

THE ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD

On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL BELL TOWER,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHN T. WILLIAMS ... <i>Treble</i>	TREVOR M. RODERICK ... 5
HARRY BOYCE 2	G. WILLIAM MORRIS ... 6
ERNEST STITCH 3	JACK R. WORRALL 7
ALFRED HANNINGTON ... 4	GWYN I. LEWIS <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.
First peal of Major on the bells, also first peal of Major for the Guild. Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in C.

ST. IVES, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

THE FLY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 4 lb.

GERALD NICHOLLS ... <i>Treble</i>	STANLEY GILBERT 5
ERIC SMITH 2	CLAUDE GIMBETT 6
DEREK SANDERSON 3	LESLIE W. FISHER 7
STANLEY SHIPP 4	FRANK WARRINGTON ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. S. Gilbert on their wedding anniversary.

SIX BELL PEALS

WRENBURY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 17, 1948, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents of Plain Bob and two extents each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY PARKERTreble	ALBERT CRAWLEY 4
JOHN E. BROUGH 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... 5
DAVID SMITH 3	HARRY W. HOWARD ... Tenor

Conducted by HARRY PARKER.

ASTON CLINTON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., July 19, 1948, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 13 cwt.

DONALD CARTWRIGHT ...Treble	†OLIVE M. MARTIN 4
*BRENDA FELS 2	W. H. J. HOOTON 5
PAMELA A. MARTIN 3	CHRISTOPHER BADRICK... Tenor

Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

* First peal on tower bells. † First peal of Minor.

WHICKHAM, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

E. Banks James' Arrangement. Tenor 8 cwt.

*STEPHEN THOMPSON, JUN.Treble	*RAYMOND OLIVER 4
*STEPHEN THOMPSON 2	†MISS MARGARET FIDDLE ... 5
*CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB... .. 3	*THOMAS W. DODD ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS W. DODD.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Cambridge Minor. For the marriage of Mr. Derrick Wade and Miss Joyce Allen.

RAMPTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's. Tenor 9 cwt.

HENRY WILLOWSTreble	MISS K. BURCHNALL 4
ARTHUR B. CRAWFORD 2	MISS G. BURCHNALL 5
MISS JOSEPHINE SALT 3	HAROLD DENMAN Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD DENMAN.

ASHBRITTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

EDGAR QUICKETreble	HARRY COMINS 4
STANLEY BRISTOW 2	HARRY PURCHASE 5
CLAUDE TARR 3	*CHARLES WENSLEY ... Tenor

* First peal. Conducted by EDGAR QUICKE.

ZENNOR, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., July 28, 1948, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SENARA,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

*W. J. RODNEY NICHOLLS Treble	REV. ARTHUR S. ROBERTS ... 4
MISS JOAN E. WITHEY 2	RICHARD BLAKEY 5
MRS. A. S. ROBERTS 3	CHARLES W. BLAKEY ... Tenor

* First peal. Conducted by CHARLES W. BLAKEY.

BIRKENHEAD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 29, 1948, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven Spliced extents in 18 methods, viz.: (1) Netherseale, Lightfoot and Wearmouth; (2) London, Wells and Cunecastre; (3) Carlisle and Northumberland; (4) Alnwick and Newcastle; (5) Chester and Munden; (6) Durham, Beverley, Surfleet and York; (7) Cambridge and Ipswich. Tenor 11 cwt. 9 lb. in G.

*JOAN M. WEBSTER ...Treble	JOHN COOKE 4
*CHARLES B. PEMBERTON ... 2	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN ... 5
JAMES H. COOKE 3	WILLIAM DEAN Tenor

Conducted by ALEXANDER J. MARTIN.

* First peal of Spliced. First peal of Spliced as conductor. First peal in 18 methods by all the band and on the bells. The greatest number of Surprise methods yet rung to a peal for the Guild. In honour of the birth of Mr. J. H. Cooke's daughter, granddaughter of Mr. J. Cooke and niece of the conductor.

KEMPSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 24, 1948, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 19½ cwt.

FRANCIS J. CUBBERLEY ...Treble	F. ALBERT REA 4
EDWARD MAUND 2	ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY ... 5
HAROLD WILLETT 3	CHARLES J. CAMM Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES J. CAMM.

To celebrate the 69th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Rea, and to welcome home Mrs. M. Colville.

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., July 29, 1948, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being ten 120's each of Canterbury, April Day, Plain Bob, Grandsire and one Spliced 240. Tenor 6½ cwt.

FREDERICK WATSON ...Treble	*WILLIAM SALT 4
WILLIAM A. WOOD 2	JOHN BROMLEY 5
ERNEST MORRIS 3	RONALD F. COLLIS ... Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First of Doubles. An 80th birthday compliment to Mrs. Watson mother of treble ringer.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., July 29, 1948, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's with seven variations of callings.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. in A.

*J. W. FRANK TROTMAN Treble	ROBERT W. R. PERCY 4
E. GAVAN D. TONKIN... .. 2	†REV. P. J. BOULSOVER ... 5
WILLIAM M. STEPNEY 3	FRANK H. HICKS ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

* First of Minor. † First of Minor on tower bells.

NEATH, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., July 30, 1948, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*LEONARD M. JONES ...Treble
 BENJAMIN WILLIAMS 4 || ERNEST STITCH 2 | TREVOR M. RODERICK 5 |
| G. WILLIAM MORRIS 3 | GWYN I. LEWIS Tenor |

Conducted by TREVOR M. RODERICK.

* First peal of Minor. Being seven 720's. Tenor 8 cwt. 8 lb.

BRINDLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 31, 1948, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

CYRIL CROSTHWAITE ...Treble	*JOHN H. GARTSIDE 4
THOMAS BARKER 2	ARTHUR HATCH 5
JOHN CHARNOCK 3	*ERNEST J. GOWER ... Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL CROSTHWAITE.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor.

BOBBING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., July 31, 1948, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM A. WOOD... ..Treble	EDWARD A. G. ALLEN... .. 4
FREDERICK RICHARDSON... .. 2	*CHARLES C. J. NORRIS ... 5
FRANCIS J. CHEAL 3	†WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT.

* 100th peal. † 50th peal. A birthday compliment to the conductor's father.

NORTH BRADLEY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

*MADELINE BLANCHARD...Treble	HERBERT J. HUNT 4
PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING ... 2	FREDERICK S. SLATFORD ... 5
†BARBARA CLEVELAND 3	DONALD E. LEE Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK S. SLATFORD.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire 'inside.' A compliment to P. Harding on completion of 25 years as a ringer at this church. the last 13 years as captain.

NEWTON NOTTAGE, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
 THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., July 31, 1948, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
 Being seven different extents. Tenor 8½ cwt.
 TREVOR M. RODERICK ... *Treble* | G. Wm. MORRIS ... 4
 ALFRED HANNINGTON ... 2 | LESLIE BARRY ... 5
 ERNEST STITCH ... 3 | *JACK R. WORRALL ... *Tenor*
 * 25th peal. Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.
 THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
 Being seven different 720's. Tenor 6 cwt. 6 lb.
 EDWARD J. BOFFEY ... *Treble* | *BARRY CORBISHLEY ... 4
 JOHN E. BROUGH ... 2 | ALBERT CRAWLEY ... 5
 RICHARD T. HOLDING ... 3 | †FREDK. H. CRAWLEY ... *Tenor*
 Conducted by FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY.
 * First peal. † 100th peal.

PAULERSPURY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
 THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
 Seven different extents. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb.
 *PERCY FOSTER ... *Treble* | FREDK. C. CASE ... 4
 THOMAS E. ROBERTS ... 2 | †GEORGE E. GREEN ... 5
 †GEORGE W. HOLLAND ... 3 | WILLIAM YATES ... *Tenor*
 Conducted by WILLIAM YATES.
 * First peal. † First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells.

ST. MELLONS, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
 THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Aug. 3, 1948, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MELLONS,
A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
 *GEORGE BRAZINGTON ... *Treble* | *LEONARD HULBERT ... 4
 *GODFREY CHOULS ... 2 | *REGINALD H. ADDIS ... 5
 †GEORGE E. MONK ... 3 | JACK R. WORRALL ... *Tenor*
 Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.
 * First peal of Minor. † First peal. The first peal of Minor on the bells by a local band. Rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. George E. Monk. Being seven different extents. Tenor 11½ cwt.

HOLYWELL, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.
 THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Aug. 2, 1948, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
 Being 1,440 changes St. Clement's, 1,440 Oxford Bob and 2,160 Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.
 SIDNEY CLEMENTS ... *Treble* | CLAUDE GIMBETT ... 4
 ERIC SMITH ... 2 | STANLEY SHIPP ... 5
 DEREK SANDERSON ... 3 | FRANK WARRINGTON ... *Tenor*
 Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

HANDBELL PEALS
 CATERICK CAMP, YORKS.
 THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., July 25, 1948, in 2 Hours,
 AT KEMMEL EDUCATION CENTRE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 *HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS... 1-2 | ANDREW I. PEARMAIN ... 3-4
 *JACK R. WORRALL ... 5-6
 Conducted by ANDREW I. PEARMAIN
 * First peal of Grandsire Doubles. First peal as conductor. The band are all members of H.M. Forces. Forty-two extents.

DARLINGTON, CO. DURHAM.
 THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., July 27, 1948, in 2 Hours and 2 Minutes,
 IN THE BELFRY OF ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 Being 42 six-scores, six callings. Tenor size 14 in C.
 *RON AIREY ... 1-2 | JACK R. WORRALL ... 3-4
 HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS ... 5-6
 Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.
 * First peal on handbells and of Doubles. First peal of Grandsire Doubles as conductor.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
 THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Aug. 4, 1948, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,
 IN THE CHOIR OF THE CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 Holt's Original. Tenor size 18 in G.
 HAROLD A. MAY ... 1-2 | FREDERICK A. MUNDAY ... 5-6
 ALFRED H. PULLING ... 3-4 | T. MARK WHITE ... 7-8
 Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.
 First peal in the new Cathedral. Rung by members of the band of Holy Trinity Cathedral, Guildford.

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.*

To ring his first peal for his golden wedding was the unique experience of 73-year-old Mr. George E. Monk, of St. Mellons, Monmouthshire. He has been a ringer at the church since the installation of the bells in 1914. He is looking forward to another peal in honour of his diamond wedding.

Mr. Trevor M. Roderick has now 'circled' Newton Nottage, Glam, tower.

Correction: In the peal of Superlative Surprise Major at Drighlington on July 17th, the ringer of the seventh was Gordon Benfield.

Mr. P. W. J. Harding, captain of North Bradley, Wilts, tower, has twice completed 'the circle' there.

Mr. Arthur B. Crawford rang his first peal for 42 years at Rampton, Notts. He was the donor of the treble bell at this tower.

Two ringers reach their 100 peals this week—Mr. Charles E. J. Norris at Bobbing, Kent, and Mr. Fredk. H. Crawley at Wistaston, Cheshire. Congratulations!

The peal at Crowan, Cornwall, was rung in honour of the birth of a grandson to Mr. W. H. Southard, Master of the Truro Diocesan Guild.

At his eighth attempt to ring the tenor, commencing 21 years ago, Mr. Alban Disney has now 'circled' Anstey, Leicestershire, tower.

An aptitude for method construction has 16-year-old Harry Poyner, a pupil of Mr. Harold J. Poole, who was only introduced to ringing last February. He hopes to have one of his efforts rung at an early date.

Mr. C. F. Neal, of St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, London, would like to thank Mr. Parsons and all who came to ring at the above church on the occasion of his wedding. It was much appreciated.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The Exercise will regret to learn that Mr. Walter Ayre, the Master of the Royal Society of Cumberland Youths, is in the Men's Ward, West Herts Hospital, Hemel Hempstead. While on traffic duty as a superintendent of Special Constables on August 2nd he was knocked down by a car from behind. The ligament in his left knee was torn and there were various cuts, bruises and concussion. He is not optimistic for an early release from hospital.

The peal at Croft, Leicester, on July 29th, was Ernest Morris's 900th tower-bell peal.

Noted with pleasure is the progress in the New South Wales Association. Apart from a quarter of Doubles in 13 methods, they have rung their first quarter 'in hand' (Doubles, two methods) which they believe is the first quarter by a local band in Australia.

Some 38 ringers from eight universities are participating in the Universities' Association's week at Chester, which starts to-day. There will be peal attempts at Frodsham, Christleton, Old St. Mary's, Chester, and Eccleston, and a full programme for non-pealers.

We are asked to state that the peal rung at Bergh Apton on May 17th was of Minor in three methods (two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob) and not as published in our issue of July 23rd.

Last October an appeal appeared on behalf of Beoley bells, Worcestershire, stating that the tower of the church was unsafe and required considerable repair and that the historic ring of six was to be rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The Vicar (the Rev. L. J. Birch) writes: 'I am happy to inform you that the whole of the work is now completed and that we have sufficient funds in hand to defray the cost. A thanksgiving service was held on July 31st.'

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HANDBELLS

BELL ROPES

MUFFLES

Etc.

IN AFFILIATION WITH CENTRAL COUNCIL

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—2

In the matter of peals, the Kent County Association has been well to the fore. Up to the end of 1947 the total was 5,377, a record for an Association which throughout its existence has covered one county alone. By no means all these could have been rung for selfish reasons—1,107 of Grandsire Triples, 779 of Minor and 451 of Bob Major are included—yet it is a curious fact that, considering its nearness to London and the relative ease of access to most of the county's towers, a comparatively small number of peals in the higher methods have been recorded. It is equally strange that in breaking fresh ground in method ringing, Kentish ringers have relied to a large extent on conductors born outside the county's boundaries—to 57 at least of the 103 first performances up to the end of 1939 does this apply. Why this should be is hard to say: Kent is little different in character from its neighbours Essex and Sussex, yet on the whole much higher standards of ringing have been maintained in these two counties.

The first peal of all for the Association was Bob Major at St. Mary's, Frittenden, on Oct. 31st, 1881. This was conducted by Thomas Daynes, who had taken part in a peal at Goudhurst in 1854; his son, George H. Daynes, is still ringing at Deptford, father and son having thus spanned almost a century as ringers. Another who took part in this first peal was Charles Slingsby, who died in 1938 at the age of 101 years.

Progress was slow at first. It was not until 1889 that the secretary was able to report that 'The Association is to be congratulated on having at length achieved peals of Treble Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Caters,' and all of these were called by a well-known London ringer.

28 'FIRSTS.'

Double Norwich was added in 1892 by a local band at Crayford, by Edwin Barnett, sen., who called 28 'firsts' for the Association in days when variety in method ringing was not nearly so common as it is now. In the following year Superlative and Cambridge Surprise were rung at Gillingham, also by a local band under the conductorship of Gabriel Lindoff, later to become so famous as a composer and who was then serving at Chatham in the Royal Engineers.

The Association's first twelve-bell peals were not rung until 1904. Stedman Cinques was first, at Quex Park, conducted by John H. Cheesman, who was probably the most brilliant ringer and conductor the county has produced and one of the still comparatively few ringers to accomplish over 1,000 peals (830 were for the Association, the most by one man, the runners-up being Herbert E. Audsley with 715 to date, and E. Barnett, sen., with 603). The same band added a peal of Maximus on the following day.

The arrival in Kent of Frank Bennett at about the same time led to a revival of advanced method ringing, and under his able conductorship a band drawn from in and near London, in addition to ringing many other peals up and down the county, scored the Association's first peals of Forward, Duffield, Double Norwich and Cambridge Royal. Cambridge Maximus—with most of the ringers drawn from William Pye's band—was not rung until 1922.

A great many methods have been added since that date, mostly in North Kent, but a recent revival of fortunes in the Ashford District leads one to hope that honours in this field will be shared out rather more in the future.

The Association has few long lengths to its credit, but four peals of over 10,000 changes have been recorded at St. John's, Erith, the most notable being the then Double Norwich record of 15,072 changes on April 3rd, 1899. In August, 1901, 10,080 changes in nine Minor methods were rung at Tunstall, conducted by William H. B. Wilkins.

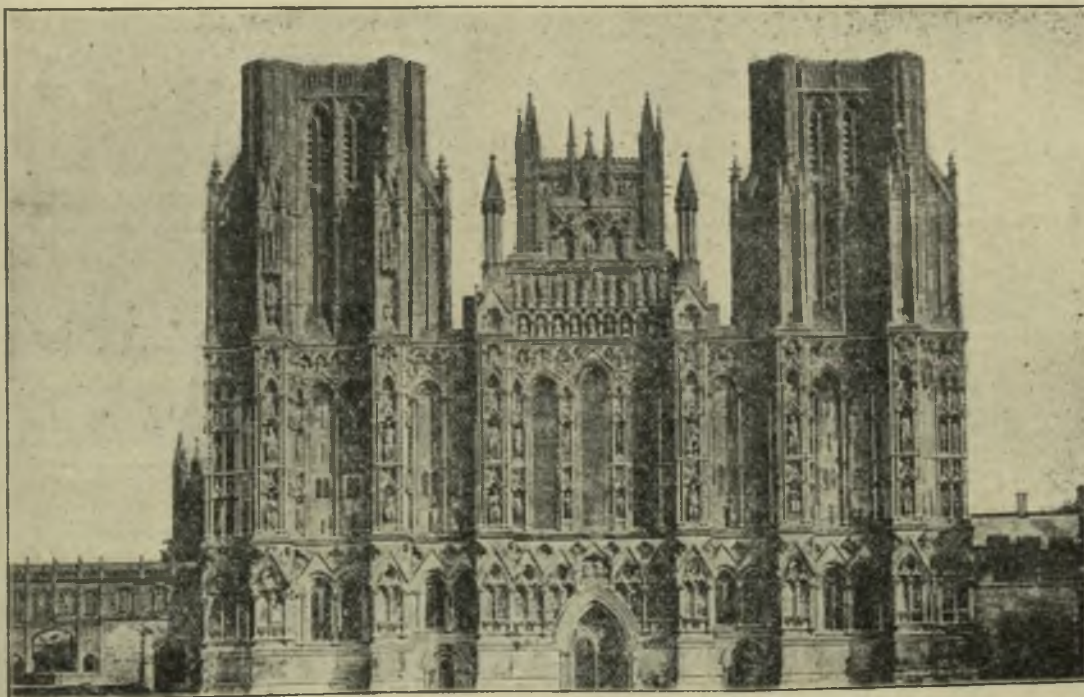
Apart, however, from first and record peals, there have been many of more than passing interest, and not the least noteworthy were two 'silent' performances of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, the first at Aylesford in 1892 and the other at Tonbridge in 1930. It is probable that the former peal was thought of some time before it actually took place, for the Minutes record that in October, 1887, an application was heard from Mr. H. Pearce, of Maidstone, who proposed to find a band of members of the Association to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples silent, i.e., without calling, and a grant of £2 was made to enable him to secure the services of two London ringers, not belonging to the Society, to attend and take off the peal, so as to ensure its correctness! Whether the £2 was so expended, or did not prove sufficient inducement, is not stated.

NAME PEALS.

The Association's first peal of Bob Maximus, at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, in February, 1914, was the first to be rung in that method in London for over a hundred years, while another notable twelve-bell peal was the first on the new bells at Canterbury Cathedral in 1924, one of Stedman Cinques, in which eleven of the band, including the conductor, Edwin G. Buesden, rang their first peal on this number. Two name peals, each the first of its kind—one by 'Edwards' and the other by 'Edwins'—have been recorded, while the 'Fredericks,' the 'Williams' and the 'Charles' have scored peals with bands resident in Kent.

In the early part of 1930, Albert Relfe called peals at Lamberhurst in 21 and 26 Spliced Surprise Minor methods, both records at the time. These were rendered even more creditable by being performed by a local band.

Space forbids mention of more than this somewhat random selection of peals, though it may be worth noting that the first peal to be rung after the lifting of the ban on ringing in 1943 was for the Association at Crayford. There have, of course, been many others worthy of mention, and many ringers who deserve mention for the good work they have done. One name cannot be omitted. It is pleasant to be able to record that one who was present on that Whit Tuesday over 68 years ago is still a member of the Association, and very much on the active list—Mr. Edward S. Ruck, of Willesborough, near Ashford, who only last November took part in a peal for the Royal Wedding. Few can hope to equal his length of membership, but all can strive to follow the example which he has set.



CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tower Snatching Rarities

Dear Sir,—The paragraph in to-day's copy recalling the founding of the Truro Guild will be of interest to all tower-snatchers. Since the introduction of the 'Delight' series of books, our numbers have increased rapidly. We are, of course, rightly regarded as dilettantes by our sterner colleagues, the peal ringers (although some peelers are among our members), but we all haven't the brains or the stamina for these feats of endurance, and as humble snatchers we derive a considerable amount of pleasure in compiling our records.

It is the aim of all true tower-snatchers to get an entry on every page of the Viggers' excellent book. In his wisdom he omitted the letter 'X' from the index, but there are others which are hard to come by. Most of us have pages filled with towers under the letters 'B,' 'S' and 'W,' but not a few have blank sheets for 'J,' 'V' and 'Z.' There are, of course, bells in parishes with those initial letters, such as Jarrow, Veryan and Zeals, but they are few and far between. The reference to Veryan has therefore aroused feelings of envy for those fortunate individuals.—Yours sincerely,

AN ANCIENT TOWER-SNATCHER.

Bristol.

A CORRECTION

Dear Sir,—On looking through the Analysis of Handbell Peals rung during 1947, I find that the Lincoln Diocesan Guild is credited with a peal in eight Surprise Major methods. While appreciating the honour given to our Guild for ringing Spliced Surprise 'in hand,' I must point out to the Analysis Committee that this is not quite correct. The peal was of Spliced Plain and Little Major, the methods being St. Clement's, Crayford College, Double Bob, Reverse Bob, Plain Bob, Gainsborough Little Bob, Wellington, Little Court and Little Bob.—Yours sincerely, GEORGE E. FEIRN.
Cleatham, Kerton Lindsey.

BELLS AND THE LAY EAR

Dear Sir,—I have been expecting to see more letters in 'The Ringing World' on the subject of Mr. Pearson's letter under the above heading, which appears in this week's 'Ringing World.'

The B.B.C. programme in question was none other than 'Round Britain Quiz' between London and Belfast. To my mind Mr. Pearson seems to have missed one vital point. While no one will deny that there were twelve bells in the famous peal at Bow, there are only ten being rung to call changes in the interval signal, which was the question asked.

To ringers, it must appear incredible that gentlemen chosen to take part in a broadcast quiz should be unable to count the number of bells in a record of call changes which was played for their benefit.—Yours sincerely,

Cambridge.

H. L. MARTIN.

ST. COLUMB DOUBLES

Dear Sir,—In the April issue of the Australian paper, 'Ringing Towers,' appears a method described as 'St. Columb Doubles,' the main lead of which is said to be Reverse Canterbury, and the bob an Old Doubles Single.

An extent of this method and one of Reverse Canterbury were included in the 42-method peal published in your last issue. In my humble opinion, and with all due respect to my friend, Mr. Alan Pink, and his band, the two are one and the same method. The same applies to Grandsire and St. Dunstan's Doubles, the latter being, I believe, Grandsire with an unorthodox call. I know little of the ethics of Doubles ringing, but this does not seem a very satisfactory way to make records.—Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT.

Crayford, Kent.

'Stunts'

PLEA FOR RINGERS' SUNDAY.

Dear Sir,—The Rev. C. Cox's suggestion, 'that there might be occasionally, if not annually, a ringers' Sunday as a means of impressing the public,' is both timely and excellent if it is accepted by the clergy themselves. How often have such suggestions been put forward by the laity only to have them condemned as 'stunts'?

In a parish here to which I belonged I worked for the Rev. Cox's idea for several years, bringing it up at every parochial meeting where opportunity afforded, and elsewhere, only to be told as above, or that it would be robbing the usual Sunday collections if a special Sunday was set aside for the bells fund.

A few weeks ago there was an excellent article in 'The Church of England Newspaper' on this very topic, and it may be as well for the benefit of ringers if I quote what the writer has to say:—

'I confess candidly and unashamedly that I am strongly in favour of innovations, even within the sacred orbit of church life and worship. Some critics have characterised these innovations as "stunts." They argue that they cheapen, desecrate and degrade the aesthetic dignity of holy things. If, like Prebendary Carlile's trombone, a "stunt" arouses the deadly apathy of the masses, I shall praise God for it. I will gladly swallow criticism, for the end will justify the means.

'It is not so many years since an organ in church worship was considered a sacrilegious "stunt." To-day there is hardly a parish church throughout the length and breadth of Christendom without its organ—proof that the "stunt" of yesterday is the accepted orthodoxy of to-day.

'Again, it is less than a hundred years ago that harvest festivals were considered as "stunts," jeeringly referred to as "the feast of St. Pumpkin." Yet, apart from Easter, is there any feast so popular to-day? Some at least kneel down and give thanks. Does not the end justify the means? Then there is "Mothering Sunday," which once upon a time also came within the despised category of a "stunt." One may be right in saying that only a fraction of those who come will come again, but we must admit there is a divine spark somewhere if they acknowledge God for only half an hour: one must have a spark before one can fan a flame.'

The writer of these words was the Rev. Charles Winsland, who I am sure would write in like manner of the Rev. Cox's and my suggestion that wherever there is a church with bells there should annually be a 'Ringers' Sunday,' beginning with, say, a corporate communion and the singing of ringers' hymns like we have at guild services, and the collections for the day devoted to a fund set aside for the upkeep of bells of bells, of bell-ropes or any scheme for augmentation.

P. AMOS,

Member of Peterborough Diocesan Conference.

30, Inkerman Terrace, Northampton

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS

Dear Sir,—We have at our tower recently purchased 'The College Youths,' by the late Mr. J. Armiger Trollope, and this interesting and fascinating account of the history of bell-ringing is being circulated among our members.

This is a book no active ringer should miss reading, for it is written by one with an almost unrivalled knowledge of ringing and its history. The pages can also be read almost as easily as a novel.—Yours sincerely,

PAUL BIRKETT.

Queensbury, near Bradford.

ST. MARTIN'S, ASHTON-ON-MERSEY

Dear Sir,—I am at present revising the history of St. Martin's Church, Ashton-on-Mersey, Cheshire, and am desirous of verifying the name of the maker of the bell, which I believe to be Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, as it bears the following inscription: 'Prosperity to this Parish, A.R.' Between the initials is the representation of a bell, the date being 1716.

In Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians it is stated that from catalogues published by the Rudhalls it appears that from 1648 to Lady Day, 1751, they had cast 2,972 bells for 'sixteen cities' and other places 'in forty-four several counties,' and by Lady Day, 1774, the number had increased to 3,594.

Ellacombe in his work on the bells of Gloucestershire lists only complete rings, and there is no list in the 'Transactions' of the Bristol and Gloucester Archaeological Society.

The Keeper of Printed Books at the British Museum has advised me to send an enquiry to you with a view to obtaining further information. Any help you may be able to give me will be much appreciated.—Yours faithfully,

Sale, Manchester. H. T. CHARLTON.

P.S.—Three manuscript lists of bells cast at the Gloucester foundry appear to have been made: one is now preserved at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, but I understand that no bell at Ashton-on-Mersey is included in it.—H.T.C.

TWO 'SLIPPED'

Sir,—Your correspondent Norman Pearson seems to have 'slipped,' as also did the Question Master, in 'Round Britain Quiz.' Apparently his own ears are at fault, for, as he says, the recording was played to allow the three competitors to check the bells, and yet he allows 12 to be the correct answer.

I, too, heard that programme and the question. When the record was played over I asked my daughter, aged nine, to count the bells round, and she called, 'Ten.' When the Question Master said that 12 was the answer, I immediately wrote the B.B.C. and pointed out that the answer was only half right, as only the back ten were rung to make the record, although there were 12 bells at Bow before they were lost in the blitz.

Since then I have received a reply from the B.B.C. admitting the error, and that in future queries they will make certain that the answers are correct.—Yours faithfully,
Greenhithe, Kent. R. G. RAYFIELD.

ODE TO E.M.

(Reprinted from the Magazine of St.

Margaret's, Leicester.)

Ernest by Name,

Earnest by Nature.

Writer, Composer,

Ringer renowned,

He cleans with his dusters,

And traces ancestors.

Collector, Historian—

On bells most profound.

He lectures—he talks—

His subjects abound.

Old scripts disentangles,

And puts out the candles,

He'll sweep up the leaves,

And undo tight corks!

Distributes the pensions,

Resolving contentions.

When need presses some,

Or trouble perplexes,

Ernest resolves

The deepest complexes.

To him so inspiring

In work so untiring,

These few words betoken

Affection unbroken.

E.N.D.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On Aug. 1st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. Lee 1, J. W. Wilkins 2, A. R. Blaby 3, D. Cox 4, Miss A. Smith (first quarter in method) 5, E. Timpson 6, R. Biggs (cond.) 7, V. Evans 8.

OBITUARY

MR. JAMES E. BAILEY.

We regret to announce the death on July 26th of Mr. James E. Bailey, of Dartford, Kent, at the early age of 35. Mr. Bailey was taken ill towards the end of last year and was bedridden for several months prior to his death.

James Edgar Bailey was born on September 16th, 1913, at Leiston, Suffolk, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Bailey. He is one of the famous Bailey brothers who made ringing history at Leiston some thirty years ago.

Young Jim rang his first peal at Leiston at the first attempt on October 3rd, 1931. It was Bristol Surprise Major on the treble, the conductor being his uncle, Mr. Charles F. Bailey; his father rang the 7th.

He moved south to work at Dartford, and was provisionally elected a member of the Kent County Association prior to a peal at Dartford on April 9th, 1934. The ratification of this election was very appropriately sponsored by Harry Hoverd and Herbert E. Audsley, with whom he afterwards did much ringing. From this time Mr. Bailey became very active, both in the Kent County Association and the Cumberland Youths.

About this period and in succeeding years there was much disharmony in the Lewisham District of the Kent County Association, and Mr. Bailey won approval in many directions for his straight speaking and sound common sense. He did much good work and was active in teaching young ringers, particularly in association with Mr. H. A. Holden at Bexley, where the bells were restored in 1938 after a silence of 50 years.

On June 12th, 1937, at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Swanscombe, he married Miss Jean M. Thompson, the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Thompson, and bride and bridegroom took part in a touch immediately after the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey rang several peals together both before and after their marriage. There are two young daughters, aged 8 and 6.

Being in a reserved occupation during the war, Mr. Bailey did everything in his power to assist in keeping the art alive in his own district, which was very much in the front line throughout the bombing and during the period of threatened invasion. He arranged a good deal of handbell ringing at his own house and one or two peals resulted, a notable performance being a peal of Grandsire Caters on March 6th, 1945, in which three Bexley boys and Norman Summerhayes, of Dartford (also taught by Jim Bailey), rang their first peal 'in hand.' It was Mr. Bailey's first of Caters as conductor. His 100th peal was at Dartford on June 7th, 1945, and he had rung about 130 altogether.

He was elected as one of the two Lewisham District representatives on the K.C.A. Committee in 1942, a position he held with considerable distinction until his death. He was elected to serve on the Association's Benevolent Fund Committee in 1944. He occupied the chair at district meetings from time to time, the first occasion being at Bexley on August 16th, 1941, and the last at Penge on January 31st this year. At this meeting it was evident that he was a sick man, having hardly recovered from a severe attack of influenza. He was soon to return to bed, although he had by this time already made most of the preliminary arrangements for the memorable meeting at Dartford on Easter Monday. To the great regret of himself and his friends he was unable to leave his sick bed to attend this, the first annual general meeting of the Association ever to be held at Dartford, about which he had been most enthusiastic and had worked hard and long to ensure its success.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral was at Swanscombe on July 30th. The service was conducted with impressive simplicity by the Vicar of Christ Church, Dartford, in which parish Mr. Bailey lived. In addition to the widow the family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Bailey (parents), Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Thompson (parents-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. Keary (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Messrs. G. A. and R. J. Thompson (brothers-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Bailey (uncle and aunt). Mr. Bailey's employers, Messrs. Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., were represented by four heads of departments, Messrs. Barrett, Mack, Culverhouse and Bungay.

The Royal Society of Cumberland Youths were represented by Mr. George H. Cross; the Kent County Association by Mr. George H. Spice (general secretary), Mr. A. G. Hill (Lewisham district secretary), Mrs. F. M. Mitchell (for Mr. Mitchell, treasurer, also representing Ladies' Guild), Mrs. P. A. Corby (for Mr. Corby, fellow Lewisham district representative). A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by D. Hall (Bexley), G. J. Butcher (Northfleet), A. Hall (Bexley), and H. Hoverd (Dartford). Other ringers present were Messrs. R. A. Jenkins, J. Wheadon, R. Rayfield, R. Meakins (Dartford), Mrs. E. A. Barnett, Messrs. E. Barnett, E. A. Barnett, W. J. Lemon (Crayford), H. E. Audsley, F. J. Cullum (Erith), R. A. Constant (Gravesend). The bells were rung half-muffled after the service.

Among many beautiful floral tributes were wreaths from the Lewisham District of the Kent County Association of Changeringers, the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, the ringers of Holy Trinity, Dartford, the ringers of St. Paulinus', Crayford, and the ringers of St. Mary's, Bexley.

JOHN JORDON SYMONS.

Mr. J. J. Symons, the oldest member of St. Mary's, Portsea, company, and who had rung since the dedication of the present church in 1889, died on July 26th in his 88th year. A member of a Devonshire family, Mr. Symons spent his early ringing days in that county; he came to Portsmouth nearly 60 years ago and had been an active Sunday service ringer up to a few weeks before his passing. He was very proud of his record of serving under seven vicars, one of whom, the late Lord Lang, became Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. C. F. Garbett, the present Archbishop of York, Dr. G. C. L. Lunt, Bishop of Salisbury, and the Very Rev. H. C. Robins, Dean of Salisbury.

He was buried on July 29th, and in the evening a half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, his favourite quarter-peal, was rung on the bells by fellow-ringers: J. D. Harris (conductor) 1, Miss H. Dale 2, Miss C. Burbidge 3, J. Topp 4, T. R. Taylor 5, A. F. Burbidge 6, F. W. Rogers 7, H. T. Macey 8.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The Society's July meeting was held on the usual day, the last Saturday in the month, at Drighlington. The bells were rung up in peal at 2.45 p.m., and, although the weather outside was almost too hot to walk about, the tower was reasonably cool, and members turned up well. A very enjoyable tea was arranged by Mr. S. H. Barron.

The president was away on holiday, and the chair at the business meeting was taken by Mr. F. Hutchinson. Members were present from Armlay, Bradford Cathedral, Drighlington, Headingley St. Chad and St. Michael's, Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Liversedge, Pudsey and Tadcaster, also Mr. Dimmock from Preston and Mr. Speed from Eastbourne (now in H.M. Forces in Yorkshire). One new member—Mr. A. Clough (Liversedge)—was elected. The vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens, local company and ladies was proposed by Mr. J. W. Benten and seconded by Mr. G. Benfield.

OUTINGS

ALFORD, LINCS.

The Alford ringers and friends, together with ringers from Mablethorpe and Leicester, toured South Lincolnshire on August Bank Holiday and visited churches at Tattershall, Silk Willoughby, Horbling, Heydour, Billingborough, Sempringham and Heckington. Ringing was enjoyed at each of the churches visited.

A break for tea was made at Billingborough, and after this interval the ringers from Leicester, who are members of the 'Beltonians Handbell Ringers' of country-wide fame, gave an excellent rendering of popular tunes on the handbells, which resulted in quite a number of passers-by, who had been attracted by the harmonious notes, standing round the doors of the cafe and loudly applauding the ringers at the end of each number. Mr. Bill Clarke, of Boston, and Mr. Bernard Dalton, of Billingborough, who are secretaries of the Eastern and Southern Branches of the Lincolnshire Diocesan Guild respectively, joined the party during the journey. The arrangements for the day had been ably planned by Mr. Ivor Smith, Ringing Master, Alford.—K.K.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On July 17th, members of the East Grinstead and District Guild made a tour into Kent, calling on the way to ring at Northiam, Sussex, whose Gillett six were greatly enjoyed. Then across the marshes to Brookland, with its weird ring of five, in the steeple on the ground.

After lunch, the grand octave of Tenterden was sampled, followed by the lighter eights at Rolvenden and Cranbrook, where tea was taken. The day finished in pouring rain, with a very happy hour on the glorious six at Horsmonden.—C. A. B.

GREAT TEY RINGERS IN SURREY.

Ringers of St. Barnabas', Great Tey, chose Surrey for their annual outing held on July 17th. The party numbered 70, and ringing was enjoyed at St. Leonard's, Streatham (met by Mr. Chapman), St. Mary's, Ewell (Mr. Beams), St. Martin's, Epsom (Mr. Hoyle), St. Nicholas', Leatherhead (Mr. Marriner), St. Nicolas', Guildford, and Walton-on-Thames (Mr. Lathbury). Home was reached at 1 a.m.

Methods rung during the day were Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich. The arrangements were admirably carried out by Mr. Dyer.

ST. MARY'S, WIMBLEDON.

On July 24th, members, their wives and friends, enjoyed a delightful outing to Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

Touchees were rung at Bushey, Watford, Luton and Dunstable, and the thanks of all who participated are due to those who made the arrangements. Methods rung ranged from Plain Bob to Cambridge Surprise, and included touchees of Double Norwich, Kent, Grandsire and Stedman.

Ringing friends who participated in the outing included E. Cassell (Fulham), Reuben Sanders, J. Chapman and S. Howard (Streatham), A. Miller and T. Miller (Mitcham), Miss B. Harris and Miss A. Castle (Merton), W. Pickworth (Richmond) and Dr. K. Branson and Miss V. Dupre (Chelsea). The Ringing Master was Mr. E. Blake.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

A tour of Sussex was enjoyed by Farnham Royal ringers and friends from Clewer, Horsham, Pulborough, St. Nicholas', Brighton, and Hurstpierpoint were visited, and old friendships renewed with Mr. L. Stilwell (Pulborough) and Mr. F. Bennett (Brighton). Thanks are due to local ringers who met the company at each tower.—D. H. P.

ALCESTER, WAR-WICKSHIRE.—On July 25th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: J. A. Print 1, H. Brookes 2, G. Ingram 3, F. Kinchen (first in the method) 4, R. C. Chapman 5, F. C. Lyne 6, V. B. Hunt (cond.) 7, W. Cockings 8.

ANCASTER, LINCS.—On July 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Ian Towns 1, Henry Collin 2, Edward Towns 3, Miss Joan Wright 4, James H. Musson (cond.) 5. First quarter 1 and 3.

ASHFORD, KENT.—On July 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Huckstepp (first quarter, age 14) 1, P. Page 2, P. Huckstepp 3, W. A. Oldfield 4, T. Cullingworth 5, H. S. Wickens 6, C. W. Everett (cond.) 7, F. G. Huckstepp 8.

BEDFORD.—At St. Paul's Church, on July 25th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: D. Thompson 1, Mrs. M. Coaley 2, Miss B. Spice (cond.) 3, K. Spavins 4, B. Harlow 5, J. Davy 6, N. Inskip 7, S. Foskett 8.

BENTLEY, YORKS.—1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. E. Wiley 1, Mrs. Irene Somerville 2, E. Cooper (cond.) 2, Mrs. D. Smythe 4, R. Sanderson 5. First quarter 1 and 5.

BURFORD, OXON.—On July 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. G. Collett 1, M. C. E. Collett 2, B. S. Nichols 3, B. J. Forest 4, F. Soden (conductor) 5, T. W. Timms 6, W. J. Dixon 7, J. J. Westmacott 8. First in the method for 1, 2 and 4.

BUCKLEBURY, BERKS.—On July 25th, 1,260 Cambridge Surprise Major: Miss Stella Davis 1, Miss Joan Mathews 2, N. J. Diserens 3, Mrs. S. Brown 4, G. Stocker 5, A. Diserens 6, R. F. Crook 7, R. W. Rex (first method as cond.) 8. First of Cambridge Major for 2, 4, 5 and 7.

GAMBERWELL, LONDON.—On Aug. 1st, 1,299 Stedman Caters: Mrs. Deal 1, Mrs. Mathews 2, H. Belcher 3, R. F. Deal 4, W. H. Hewett 5, C. Mathews 6, J. Chilcot 7, J. Lindon 8, J. Phillips (cond.) 9, F. Mead 10.

CHALCOMBE, NORTHANTS.—On July 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. W. Barber (first as cond.) 1, H. G. Lawn 2, E. A. Wyatt 3, E. E. Pearson 4, G. F. Burton 5, J. S. McGinlay 6. First quarter 2. First of Doubles by remainder of band.

CHISWICK, LONDON.—On July 24th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: T. E. Davies 1, W. A. Theobald 2, Dorothy Richardson (first quarter in method) 3, J. F. Smallwood 4, S. Croft 5, W. J. Paice (cond.) 6, A. B. Wiffin 7, A. Harding 8. A farewell touch to the conductor, who is leaving the district.

DEVIZES, WILTS.—At St. James on July 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. Hunt 1, J. Potter 2, P. Hunt 3, J. S. Weeks (cond.) 4, W. Mortimer 5, P. Yates 6. Also 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. Hunt 1, P. Hunt 2, A. T. Weeks 3, J. Potter 4, J. S. Weeks (cond.) 5, P. Yates 6.

DOVER, KENT.—On July 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. H. George 1, T. W. Robinson 2, Harry Wood (Luton, Beds) 3, H. J. Saunders 4, E. J. Walker 5, W. Bottrill (Deal) 6, C. Turner (cond.) 7, E. T. Ellender 8. Rung for the landing of the Olympic Torch, which passed the church during the ringing on its way to Wembley.

FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.—On Aug. 1st, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: R. Ling 1, G. Dye 2, Miss J. Cooke 3, F. V. Gant 4, R. Lingwood 5, G. A. Cooke (cond.) 6. First of Treble Bob 1 and 2.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Aug. 1st, 1,312 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: A. J. Harris (first in method) 1, G. Cherry 2, A. E. Symonds 3, E. W. Winters 4, W. J. Croft 5, H. W. Else 6, L. Fidler 7, F. W. Croft (cond.) 8.

HOLLOWAY, LONDON.—On July 18th, at St. Mary Magdalene, 1,280 Plain Bob Major: J. G. Nash (conductor) 1, E. F. Pryor 2, A. H. Russell 3, R. Newman 4, A. E. Hoare 5, G. Charge 6, N. G. Hollingworth 7, R. H. Begne 8.

QUARTER PEALS

KENSINGTON, LONDON.—On July 25th, 1,263 Stedman Caters: M. V.

Chilcott 1, J. F. Smallwood (cond.) 2, Miss D. T. Richardson 3, E. R. Mackrill 4, H. G. Miles 5, W. S. Langdon 6, W. J. Paice 7, A. B. Wiffin 8, J. E. C. Chilcott 9, W. W. Bailey 10.

LAMBETH, LONDON.—On July 25th, at St. Mary's, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. A. F. Dunn (first in the method) 1, T. H. Taffender (cond.) 2, Miss A. Castle 3, W. A. Theobald 4, C. W. Otley 5, J. H. Lott 6, J. Bullock 7, W. D. Grainger 8.—On Aug. 1st, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. H. Lott 1, T. H. Taffender 2, Miss A. Castle 3, W. Brainch (first quarter-peal of Major) 4, N. G. Hollingworth 5, R. H. Begrie 6, W. D. Grainger 7, J. Bullock (cond.) 8.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.—At St. John's, on July 25th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: C. A. Hughes 1, C. E. Wright 2, J. Chalk 3, G. W. Faulkner 4, C. E. Wilmington 5, R. C. Heazel 6, E. E. Smith (conductor) 7, J. McPhail 8. First quarter in method by 2 and 3.

MARLOW, BUCKS.—On July 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. W. Atkins 1, E. D. Poole (first as cond.) 2, Miss E. Gibson (first quarter) 3, H. Buckingham 4, Mrs. E. D. Poole 5, R. Dean 6, J. Young 7, J. T. Clay 8. First in method 5, 6 and 7. Rung on the 79th birthday of Mr. H. Buckingham.

POCKLINGTON, YORKS.—On July 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: V. H. Brighton 1, F. Wilkinson 2, F. Kneeshaw 3, C. Bairstow 4, J. H. W. Kneeshaw (cond.) 5, L. Straughan (first quarter) 6. First quarter on bells since augmentation in 1911.

RANDWICK, SYDNEY, N.S.W.—On July 16th, at the Church of St. Jude, 1,500 Doubles (being one extent each of Grandsire, Antelope, Plain Bob, April Day, Old Norfolk, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Clifford Pleasure, Southrepps Pleasure, St. Columb, St. Martin's, St. Simon's and 60 changes of Stedman): R. B. Altass 1, Ian A. Napper 2, R. S. Rowe 3, J. Duncan 4, W. M. Rowe (cond.) 5. First quarter in 13 methods by all, for the N.S.W. Association and outside the British Isles.

ROCHDALE, LANCS.—At All Saints, on July 25th, 1,440 Plain Bob: B. Heggibottom 1, Miss B. Brierley 2, J. A. Taylor 3, Mrs. C. Hall 4, A. Smith 5, J. Taylor 6. For the silver wedding day of Mr. A. Wild, former captain.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.—On July 25th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: J. Turley (first quarter) 1, F. Hammond 2, E. Bishop, jun., 3, A. Lewry 4, C. Brasier 5, S. Russell 6, W. Rogers 7, A. Richardson (cond.) 8.

SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCS.—On July 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss Irene Marrows (first quarter) 1, Miss Mary Smith 2, H. Smith 3, Miss Joan Wright (first 'inside') 4, J. H. Musson (conductor) 5, F. Mitchell 6.

SHIPLAKE-ON-THAMES, OXON.—On July 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. Povey 1, E. Smith 2, D. Neale 3, E. Nash 4, N. E. Tanner (cond.) 5, J. Smith 6. Rung on the back six for the 28th wedding anniversary of J. Smith.

WORSLEY, LANCS.—On July 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Greenhalgh 1, R. Allred 2, J. Boyer 3, J. B. Budd (cond.) 4, R. Johnson 5, J. Ashcroft 6, P. H. Derbyshire 7, R. Jones 8. In memoriam Mr. H. Chapman, churchwarden.

WITNEY, OXON.—On July 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. W. Cox 1, F. Soden 2, E. Hill 3, W. J. Dixon 4, B. J. Coggins 5, T. W. Timms 6, G. H. Wright (first of Triples as conductor) 7, E. J. Warner 8. First of Triples 1, 3 and 8.

WEST HAM, LONDON.—On July 18th, at All Saints' 1,257 Stedman Caters: T. H. Taffender 1, C. H. Hughes 2, Miss A. Castle 3, A. Boyack 4, E. Holman 5, A. Blake 6, G. Dawson 7, C. W. Otley 8, E. D. Smith (cond.) 9, J. H. Lott 10.

Ringers Meet Overseas Bishop

In connection with the visit of the Rt. Rev. Goodrich L. Fenner, Bishop of Kansas, U.S.A., and the Bishop of Kensington to St. Mary's, Acton, on August 1st, a successful open-air evensong was held.

Previously, at the request of the Rector (the Rev. Percival Gough), a specially composed and conducted peal of Little Bob Major, by Mr. E. C. S. Turner, was rung in honour of the two Bishops, and this came round at exactly 6 p.m., being the first in the method on the bells, and the first by all but two of the ringers.

Before the peal, the Rector and the Ringing Master (Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey) conducted the Bishop of Kansas and Mrs. Fenner up the tower, where they were shown the bells, and then to the ringing chamber, with its large collection of peal boards. The chiming apparatus was shown to them, and the difference between chiming and ringing was explained, and both expressed the keenest interest, and asked numerous questions.

As each ringer arrived, he was introduced to the Bishop and Mrs. Fenner. At the suggestion of the Rector, the Bishop addressed the ringers, thanking them for what they were doing and expressing the great interest of Mrs. Fenner and himself in the proceedings. Mr. Cockey, on behalf of the band, expressed a warm welcome to them both, and wished the Bishop a very happy birthday, it being his birthday next day. The Bishop and Mrs. Fenner and the Rector stayed to watch the start of the peal and remained for about ten minutes.

As soon as the peal was concluded, Miss D. Ingold, secretary to the Parochial Church Council, who is an accomplished musician, prepared the chiming apparatus for the service, which commenced at 6.30 p.m. in the churchyard, which had been fitted out with a dais, chairs and seats, and was filled with an interested and attentive congregation. The accompaniment of the bells to the hymns was used with beautiful effect, and an eloquent sermon was preached by the Bishop of Kensington.

Kent County Association

LEWISHAM DISTRICT.

A pleasant afternoon and evening were enjoyed by the 45 members who attended the quarterly meeting at Eynsford on July 24th. Counter attractions of a pleasant riverside, a cricket match and the ensemble of this much photographed village, each obtained patronage without detracting from the lure of the ropes. The bells were kept in use until service time at 4.45.

Service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. D. G. Hill), and included an encouraging address. The services of Mr. G. Green (Sidcup) at the organ were much appreciated.

After tea at 'Hillcroft,' the business meeting was held in the church, the Vicar presiding. One life member was elected, and the elections of two others were ratified.

St. Luke's, Bromley Common, was chosen as the place of annual district meeting to be held on October 30th. Two notices of motion by the Ashford District received the support of the meeting.

It was decided to institute a series of combined monthly practices on Wednesday evenings at St. John's, Erith.

Christ Church, Erith, was chosen as the place of the winter social evening, on a date to be announced later.

Tribute was paid to the memory of the late Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., in the traditional manner, after grateful remembrance of his many and valued services in the Lewisham District in the years before the war.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar, organist and to Mr. C. Cullen concluded the business.

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is one penny per word, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no change one-half above charge for each insertion. Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.
 All notices must be prepaid.
 Notices must be received not later than Monday.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

From all his ringing friends in the district, greetings and best wishes to Mr. W. Parker on his 82nd birthday, August 9th. Steeple-keeper for 49 years at St. Peter's, Staines. 3932

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

LLANDUDNO.—'Plas Madoc,' where a homely welcome awaits you and your holiday happiness enhanced with the beauty of Wales in the autumn. Vacancies September onwards.—E. R. Williams (phone 6514). 3887

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. H. J. Millatt (sec., N.E. Essex) is now Sunnyside, Barn Hall Avenue, Colchester, Essex. 3921

HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED TO PURCHASE: HANDBELLS, Straight Peal of Ten: 21 D Continental Pitch (A.435).—Luscombe, Christ Church Vicarage, Elm Grove Lane, Norwich. 3910

PUBLICATIONS

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 6s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price. 3373

NOW READY.—370 SURPRISE MAJOR METHODS, containing all named methods ever rung or published. 2s. post free.—A. J. Corrigan, Bitton, near Bristol. 3678

'COLLEGE YOUTHS,' by J. Armiger Trollope, 5s. 6d. post free. All interested in change ringing will find this historical survey indispensable. Many illustrations.—'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

'THE CHURCH BELLS OF RADNORSHIRE,' by Frederick Sharpe. Bound volumes, price 10s.; complete sets of parts, each part with stout paper cover, price 6s. 6d. To be obtained from the author, Derwen, Launton, Bicster, Oxfordshire. 3852

MISCELLANEOUS

BACK NUMBERS.—A limited number of back numbers for most issues of 1946 and 1947 are available, post free 4d. per copy.—Apply Editor, 'The Ringing World,' c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford.

MEETINGS

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Meeting, Hershaw, Aug. 14th. Bells 3. Make own arrangements for tea. Meeting 6. All ringers welcome.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec. 3881

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Doddington, Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5, provided.—C. Gimbert, Sutton, Ely. 3894

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Fairwarp (8), Aug. 14th, 3. Tea for those who notify Mrs. Peake, The Foresters Arms, Fairwarp, Uckfield.—C. A. Bassett. 3895

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting, Cliffe at Hoo (8), Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells 3. Service 4.15. Tea followed by business meeting 4.45.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Ringing meeting at Colleshill Parish Church, near Birmingham, Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec. 3902

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Tempsford on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea at 5.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy. 3909

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak and Chesterfield Districts.—At Ashover (8), Saturday, Aug. 14th, 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea only; bring sugar.—H. E. Taylor, Darley Dale; Gordon C. Briggs, Staveley. 3906

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech District.—Elm (6), Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 (own food).—W. Buckenham, Marham, King's Lynn. 3924

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall Branch.—Meeting at Mildenhall (10), Aug. 21st, 3. Tea 5. Requests for tea by Aug. 18th.—Miss D. M. Reeve, Hockwold, Norfolk. 3898

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN (Farnham District), WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH (Basingstoke District), and OXFORD (Sonning Deanery District).—Combined meeting at Yorktown (8), Saturday, Aug. 21st, 2.30 to 9. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Also Yateley (8), Hawley (8), Sandhurst (6), 2.30 to 9, Farnborough (6), 2.30 to 3.45, Bagshot (8) and Finchamstead (6), from 6 to 9. A coach will run between towers, starting at Farnborough 2.15. Tickets for tea and coach 3s. 6d. inclusive (separately 2s.), to be obtained, before Aug. 17th, please, from G. S. Joyce, 130, Ship Lane, Farnborough. 3890

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.E. Division.—Meeting at Writtle (8), Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells 2.30. Numbers for tea to T. Lincoln, 11, Victoria Road, Oxney Green, Writtle. Porter, Branch Sec. 3879

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Next meeting at Helmshore, Aug. 21st. Bells from 3. Cups of tea provided. Bring own food. Everybody welcome.—J. Porter, Branch Sec. 3879

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Meeting at Leighton Buzzard on Aug. 21st. Bells (10) at 3. Tea at 5.—Valerie Willard (acting secretary), Church Avenue, Leighton Buzzard. 3883

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD and DORSETSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Joint meeting, Repton (8), Aug. 21st. Bells 3. Tea 5, only for those who notify S. H. Jones, 6, Brook End, Repton, by Aug. 19th. 3928

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Gainsborough District.—Meeting at Stow on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells (6) available afternoon and evening. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify me by previous Tuesday if you require this.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough. 3929

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Fishlake (6), Aug. 21st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Notify H. Cooper, Fishlake, by Aug. 18th. Bus from Stainforth 2.15. 3.30. 4 approx.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—Monthly meeting, Christ Church, Port Sunlight (8), Aug. 21st, 3. Service 4.30. Cups of tea provided.—A. J. Martin. 3907

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Coventry District.—Meeting, Southam (8), Aug. 21st. Names for tea to me by Tuesday previous.—T. W. Sheppard, 2, Guild Road, Foleshill, Coventry. 3911

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—South Shields Aug. 21st, 2.30. Tea only for those who notify Mr. W. Robson, 15, Logan Terrace, South Shields, by 19th.—W. Sheraton, Sec. 3912

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District.—Gilmorton (8), Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names by Tuesday, Aug. 17th, to W. J. Root, 8, The Portwey, Leicester. 3922

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Hawkhurst, Saturday, Aug. 21st, 2.30 p.m. Usual arrangements.—R. Tappenden, Hon. Sec., Gun Green, Hawkhurst. 3931

OXFORD GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Beedon (6), Aug. 21st, 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names to Mr. T. Curtis, World's End, Beedon, Newbury, by Wednesday, Aug. 18th. 3916

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Meeting at Chew Stoke, Aug. 21st. Bells available 4 to 7.—Percy G. Yeob, Long Ashton. 3914

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Monthly meeting, Osmaston, Aug. 28th, 3. Tea 5. Names to W. A. Parsons, 10, Ward Street, Derby, Aug. 25th latest. 3918

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Fen Ditton (5), Saturday, Aug. 21st, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea at 5 p.m. at the Barn Cafe, Horningsea (5) after tea.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 3920

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Kirbymoorside (6 bells), Saturday, Aug. 28th. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names to Mr. W. Spenceley, Vivers Place, Kirbymoorside, Yorks, before Aug. 26th.—Edward Hudson, District Secretary. 3923

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Hough-on-the-Hill (6 bells), Aug. 28th. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. H. Mackeers, Hough-on-the-Hill, Grantham, by Monday, 23rd.—Bernard H. Dallin, Hon. Sec. 3913

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Meeting, Wells, Saturday, Aug. 28th. Usual arrangements. Please reply as soon as possible.—W. J. Eldred, 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn. 3919

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Joint meeting, Northern and Western Districts, Newton Hall (6) Aug. 28th. Names for tea by Aug. 24th to Mr. W. Amos, East House, Newton Village, Stockfield, Northumberland.—C. T. Lamb, Dis. Sec. 3917

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury District.—Saturday, Aug. 28th, at Haverhill (6), 3 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided 5.15 in church room. More support desired.—A. A. Fitch, Dis. Sec. 3915

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Quarterly meeting, Clent, Saturday, Aug. 28th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Please notify numbers before Aug. 24th.—F. Colclough, Hall Park Street, Bilston. 3927

BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The Hoylandswaine Cup contest will be held at Hoylandswaine on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Open to towers only within society's area, i.e., 12 miles' radius of Barnsley. All entries to reach me not later than Sept. 4th. Those requiring tea must also notify Mr. E. Brookes, Hall Lane, Hoylandswaine, Penistone, near Sheffield, by Sept. 4th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley. 3905

A TEMPESTUOUS PEAL

The peal at Brindle, Lancs, on July 31st, will never be forgotten by the participants. Ringing started with the temperature in the 80's, and to counteract a blazing sun a curtain was slung over the solitary window.

All went well until the sixth 720 was started. The sky darkened to such an extent that the ringer of the fifth was obliged to switch on the electric light.

The entry of the final 720 was signalled by a terrific thunderstorm. So loud and prolonged was the thunder that at times it drowned the sound of the bells. Suddenly there was a brilliant flash of lightning which quite literally 'sizzled' and extinguished the lights. The band continued for a few moments in almost total darkness, and then the ringer of the fifth again came to the rescue by pulling down the sun curtain.

Aided by frequent flashes and a gradually lightening sky, the bells eventually came into rounds. 'Despite the trepidation in our hearts and the trembling in our knees,' writes the conductor, 'the beat had remained remarkably even—if somewhat slower than the previous 720—and the striking, if not perfect, was certainly passable.'

On calling 'Stand,' considerable excitement was noted outside the tower. It transpired that the house next to the church had been struck by lightning and was on fire. Coats were hurriedly donned and the band hurried to give assistance. Fortunately a passing motorist had been able to provide a couple of extinguishers, and the blaze had been reduced to a smoulder by the time the fire brigade arrived.

There will no ringing at St. Ives, Hunts, while bells are being overhauled. Any ringing required after September contact F. Warrington, St. Ives, Hunts.

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L. C. Wightman's 500 Peals

Mr. Leslie C. Wightman rang his 500th peal on July 22nd at Framsdén. His list is of special interest:—

Superlative S. Maximus 2; Cambridge S. Maximus, 2; New Cambridge S. Maximus, 2; Oxford T.B. Maximus, 2; Kent T.B. Maximus, 2; Little Bob Maximus, 1; Stedman Cinques, 6.

Cambridge S. Royal, 12; New Cambridge S. Royal, 1; Yorkshire S. Royal, 1; Kent T.B. Royal, 6; Oxford T.B. Royal, 3; Stedman Caters, 5.

Surprise Major, Cambridge, 104 (conducted 23); Superlative, 62, (7); London, 39, (6); Bristol, 30, (9); Otley, 1; Droitwich, 1; Minsmere, 1, (1); New Cambridge, 9; Yorkshire, 10, (1) Norfolk, 3; Pudsey, 2, (1); Lincolnshire, 1; Rutland, 1; Kent, 1; Premier, 3, (1); Ipswich, 1; Clarendon, 1; Yoxford, 1; Monewden, 1; Clacton, 1; Lavenham, 1; Rochester, 1, (1); Camdon, 1; Edinburgh, 1; Edmundsbury, 1, (1); Helmingham, 1; Daventry, 1; Woodbridge, 1; Bosmere, 1, (1); Waveney, 1; Orwell, 1; Deben, 1 (1); Silchester, 1; Princess Marina, 1; Huntingdon, 1; Lincoln, 1 (1); Dunwich, 1; Suffolk, 1; Chester, 1, (1); Double Dublin, 1; Leeds, 1; Cornwall, 1; Devon, 1, (1); Framsdén, 1; Gippeswyk, 1, (1).

Spliced S. Major (4 methods), 2, (1); Kent T.B. Major, 18; Oxford T.B. Major, 20; Bob Major, 8; Double Oxford Bob Major, 1; Little Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich C.B. Major, 67.

Grandsire Triples, 7; St. Clement's Triples, 1; Erin Triples, 1; Stedman Triples, 22, (4).

Minor, 7 methods, 6; Minor, 6 methods, 1; Cambridge S. Minor, 1; London S. Minor, 1.

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