THE RINGING WORLD

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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THE GUIDE

THE second edition of Ronald H. Dove's 'A Bell-ringer's Guide to the Church Bells of Britain' has made its welcome appearance. The original Guide was an instantaneous success, and but for difficulties in the printing industry a second edition would have been in the hands of the waiting public many months ago. It is very significant of the change and, generally speaking, advancement that over 2,000 amendments to the original Guide were necessary. Some are of necessity corrections to the original work, which arise through the light of publication, but augmentations and recastings are constantly occurring. The new Guide includes many improvements, among them being a stronger and better finished binding, a necessity for many perhaps with a well-thumbed book.

A comparison since the last Guide was published in 1950 is of interest. In England there were 5,226 rings of bells; the number has now been reduced to 5,208. This total is made up of 55 rings of 12 (against 54 in 1950), 160 rings of ten (158), one ring of nine (All Saints', Basingstoke), 1,523 rings of eight (1,482), one ring of seven (Goldhanger, Essex), 2,488 rings of six (2,484), and 980 rings of five (1,048). In Wales and Monmouth there is a decrease of one to 168, the respective figures being 12 bells one (1), ten bells four (4), eight bells 58 (61), six bells 84 (85), and five bells 21 (18). Scotland has one new eight for ringing, at Dunblane, Perth, where the eight were previously chimed, and totals 13. In Ireland there are 33 rings—a new 10 at St. Mark's, Dundela, Belfast. Thus the total for the British Isles is 12 bells 57 (56), ten bells 174 (171), nine bells 1, eight bells 1,607 (1,568), seven bells 1, six bells 2,580 (2,577), and five bells 1,002 (1,067); total 5,422 (5,439).

As regards rings of 12, Liverpool has been enriched by the 12 in the Cathedral and the recasting of St. Nicholas', with a tenor weighing 41 cwt. 3 cwt. 15 lb. St. Giles', Cripplegate, is a replacement and Evesham is added to the list. The loss has been at Christ Church, West Bromwich, where four unsatisfactory trebles have been scrapped. There have been some noteworthy changes among the rings of 10. There are two new rings at New Westminster, B.C., and at Belfast, and augmentations by two trebles at Stradbroke and Marsden. The ten in the former Church of All Hallows, Lombard Street, have now a home at Twickenham. (They were originally at St. Dionis', Fenchurch Street.) The former Church of St. Michael, Gloucester, has been deconsecrated, but the bells have not been removed, although they are not allowed to be rung.

Sherborne's claim of having the heaviest eight (tenor 46 cwt.) is still undisputed. Ullenhall, Warwicks, is now regarded as having the lightest eight with a tenor of not more than three cwt. Among the sixes the pride of place is Queen Camel, Somerset (tenor 36 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.), but the lightest is now at Home Farm, Balscote, Oxon, with a tenor of 134 lb. Peterborough Cathedral with a tenor of approximately 30 cwt. has the heaviest five. These bells have not been rung for about 40 years, although Mr. Dove is inclined to question the justification of this decision. Next in order are East Pennard, Somerset, and Isleham, Cambs. For light bells the order appears to be Foots Cray (3¼ cwt.), Advent, Cornwall (3 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.) and Stoke D'Abernon, Surrey (3 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.).

Interesting new features in the second Guide are 'Post-War Losses of Ringing Bells' and 'Transfers of Ringing Peals.' There have been ten post-war losses, but only at St. Helen's, Worcester, and Shenstone, Staffs, were the bells in ringing order. Two incidents recorded are to be deeply deplored. At Perlethorpe, Notts, five of the six bells have been sold and a gramophone installation provided. The other instance comes from West Lulworth, Dorset. Because of proximity of an artillery range a new tower was necessary. The tower designed by a diocesan architect was not only too weak to carry ringing bells, but too small to house even a chime. Only two bells were kept for use in connection with the clock.

The foreword to the second edition has been written by Group Capt. T. V. Lister, of Apperley, Glos. 'It is invaluable,' he writes, 'to organisers of ringers' outings; to ringers whose daily avocations involve travelling, and to every ringer who requires an easy book of reference.' Your editor regards Mr. Ronald H. Dove's work as indispensable, and no one could say a warmer 'Thank you' to him. He wore out three copies of the first edition with almost daily consultations! Mr. Dove certainly deserves some form of recognition from the Central Council, and we trust that the second edition will meet with a rapid sale.

TEN BELL PEALS

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 35 *Minutes,*
AT THE BELL TOWER,
A PEAL OF 5120 OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL
Tenor 36 cwt. in C sharp.

*WILFRED J. NEWMAN	*Treble*	*R. ROGER SAVORY	6
*RALPH HARRIS	2	*REGINALD WOODYATT	7
SIDNEY T. HOLT	3	*JOSEPH E. NEWMAN	8
GEOFFREY J. HEMMING	4	*GERALD C. HEMMING	9
*JOSEPH D. JOHNSON	5	*THOMAS W. LEWIS	*Tenor*

Composed by J. SHAW. Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.
* First peal of Oxford T.B. Royal. First of Oxford T.B. Royal as conductor. First of Royal on the bells.
Rung on the 106th birthday of Mrs. Fanny Hopkins, Evesham's oldest resident.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., April 28, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 25 *Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL
Tenor 30 cwt. in C sharp.

*ALICE E. LESTER	*Treble*	*RICHARD ROSE	6
ROBERT E. LESTER	2	*LEONARD S. SHARPE	7
STANLEY W. COPLING	3	†FREDERICK J. BUCKLE	8
JAMES B. MORLEY	4	RONALD W. STEWARD	9
*KENNETH G. BROWN	5	H. WILLIAM BARRETT	*Tenor*

Arranged by WALTER AYRE. Conducted by JAMES B. MORLEY.
* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Royal. First peal on ten as conductor.

SOHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 28, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 10 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 21 cwt.

HARRY L. MARTIN	*Treble*	JOHN G. GIPSON	6
JOHN W. WARD	2	ERNEST G. HIBBINS	7
ARTHUR G. MASON	3	T. REGINALD DENNIS	8
WILLIAM T. COOK	4	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON	9
RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN	5	PETER BORDER	*Tenor*

Composed by J. BURFORD. Conducted by PETER BORDER.
First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal by the Ely Association.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BARROW-ON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., April 18, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 57 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr.

GWEN I. RUSBY	*Treble*	RONALD CHAFER	5
MICHAEL CROWDER	2	C. AUBREY HARRISON	6
JACK BRAY	3	ARTHUR CROWDER	7
NORMAN BELL	4	GEORGE W. MOODY	*Tenor*

Composed by W. ROYLE. Conducted by JACK BRAY.
Rung as a farewell to Rev. E. S. Owen, who is shortly leaving this parish.

EXETER, DEVON.
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.
On Fri., April 20, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 2 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,
A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 13¼ cwt. in G.

SIDNEY SKINNER	*Treble*	GEORGE SKINNER	5
E. MAURICE ATKINS	2	*DENNIS J. CROSS	6
HAROLD P. BURTON	3	JOHN L. S. GLANVILL	7
FREDERICK WREFORD	4	JOHN QUICK	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.
* First peal at first attempt. First peal on the bells for 20 years.
A wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Norman Mallett.

BILLINGBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 53 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 7 cwt.

JAMES H. MUSSON	*Treble*	LEONARD P. WILSON	5
THOMAS F. GARFORD	2	†BARRY BROWN	6
*S. ROY WILSON	3	HORACE BENNETT	7
BERNARD H. DALTON	4	C. HAROLD WHITTON	*Tenor*

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by C. HAROLD WHITTON.
* First peal 'inside.' † First peal.
Rung in honour of the Queen's birthday.

BOCKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 5 *Minutes,*
AT THE DEANERY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5152 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 18¼ cwt. in E.

HENRY PRATT	*Treble*	*JOHN BROWN	5
*MRS. M. MOORE	2	JOHN WARNER	6
*HAROLD MOORE	3	ALAN SYDER	7
FRANK B. LUFKIN	4	RONALD SUCKLING	*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by RONALD SUCKLING.
* First peal in the method.

CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 6 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt.

*ROBERT J. CHAPMAN	*Treble*	†ANDREW J. SALISBURY	5
MRS. R. F. DEAL	2	BRIAN HOWARD	6
C. RONALD SMITH	3	CHARLES E. WILLMINGTON	7
†LIONEL S. WOODS	4	ALFRED J. HOUSE	*Tenor*

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by ALFRED J. HOUSE.
* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method.
Rung in connection with the launching of a Church Restoration Fund appeal.

DAYBROOK, NOTTINGHAM.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 52 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

MRS. M. I. PAILING	*Treble*	FREDERICK G. HOOPER	5
MRS. A. SIMPSON	2	*WILLIAM L. EXTON	6
JAMES H. PAILING	3	ALLAN SIMPSON	7
PETER M. GILES	4	ALFRED MOULD	*Tenor*

Composed by H. LAW JAMES (C.C.C. 47). Conducted by J. H. PAILING.
* First peal in the method. First peal on eight as conductor.
Rung on the occasion of the birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 10 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb.

*HAROLD BARRON	*Treble*	GEOFFREY CROSSLEY	5
CYRIL F. SUTCLIFFE	2	SYDNEY H. BARRON	6
JACK STITSON	3	JOHN PEARSON	7
ALBERT W. BOND	4	*MAURICE BROWN	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. CORRIGAN. Conducted by JOHN PEARSON.
* First peal. 150th peal on the bells. Mr. S. H. Barron 'completes the circle.'
Rung in honour of the Queen's birthday.

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OFFICERS' PEAL.
DRONFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Sheffield and District Society.)
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 4 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. John,
A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15¼ cwt.

F. Bernard Ditcher (Auditor)	*Treble*
John J. L. Gilbert (Treasurer and Ringing Master)	2
Wilfred L. Robinson (Assistant Ringing Master)	3
Rev. G. Gordon Graham (Vice-President)	4
*John S. Seager (Secretary)	5
John E. Turley ('R.W.' Representative)	6
Herbert O. Chaddock (President)	7
Norman Chaddock (C.C. Representative and Asst. Secretary)	*Tenor*

Composed by George Lewis (former Ringing Master).
Conducted by Norman Chaddock.
* First peal of Surprise.
Rung by officers of the Sheffield and District Society for the Queen's 30th birthday.

DUNMOW, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 19 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF 5088 DUNMOW SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in E flat.

H. Walter Smith	*Treble*	Allen W. Cansdale	5
Edward P. Duffield	2	James H. Edwards	6
Hilda G. Snowden	3	Walter Arnold	7
Terry Earle	4	Harry J. Millatt	*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. Sedgley. Conducted by Harry J. Millatt.
The first peal in the method, which is 2nds place Essex.
Rung in honour of the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 12 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Mary.
A PEAL OF 5088 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 18¼ cwt.

Giles Galley	*Treble*	*T. Reginald Dennis	5
Ruth M. Jackson	2	William T. Cook	6
*John G. Gipson	3	Chris. M. P. Johnson	7
William J. Ridgman	4	Peter Border	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. Washbrook. Conducted by Peter Border.
* First peal of London Surprise Major.

EPSOM, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 3 *Minutes,*
At Christ Church,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb. in F sharp.

*Richard Harbour	*Treble*	*Derek G. Spittle	5
Joan Beresford	2	Albert E. Cheesman	6
Margaret M. Lewis	3	Frank Oakshott	7
Edward G. L. Coward	4	Albert Harman	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. Pritchard. Conducted by Albert Harman.
* First peal in the method.

HOLYWOOD, COUNTY DOWN.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 21 *Minutes,*
At the Church of SS. Philip and James,
A PEAL OF 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt. 16 lb.

*Rodney Stringer	*Treble*	*Frank E. Fagg	5
Jean Stewart	2	William Hall	6
*Victor Griffin	3	John T. Dunwoody	7
William Pratt	4	Harry Brown	*Tenor*

Composed by W. E. Critchley. Conducted by Harry Brown.
* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Major.
Rung half-muffled in memoriam Fred Graham, former local councillor, and Mrs. Campbell, mother of Jack Campbell, former District treasurer.

DUNMOW SURPRISE MAJOR.
-58-4, 58-58, 16-14-3, 14-14, 5.
2nds place lead-end. Clear proof scale.

HYTHE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 8 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Leonard,
A PEAL OF 5024 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 19 cwt.

*Crawford T. Hillis	*Treble*	Frederick G. Huckstepp	5
John R. Cooper	2	†Geoffrey Pearson	6
†Olive M. Boulden	3	Mark S. Lancefield	7
Albert J. Lancefield	4	Mark W. Marshall	*Tenor*

Composed by R. F. B. Speed. Conducted by Mark S. Lancefield.
* First peal of Surprise Major. † First peal in the method.
Rung in honour of Her Majesty the Queen's birthday.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours,*
At the Church of St. Andrew.
A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 13 cwt. in F sharp.

William Davies	*Treble*	Ernest Stitch	5
*P. George Golder	2	†David M. Lees	6
Henry Hubble	3	Frederick G. Handley	7
Stanley Prestidge	4	Howard Howell	*Tenor*

Composed by J. Nicholls. Conducted by Howard Howell.
* First peal in the method 'inside.' † First peal in the method and 25th peal.

NEW ALRESFORD, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 51 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,
A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in F.

Robin G. Leale	*Treble*	Adrian J. Tumber	5
Rosemary J. Seabrook	2	Roger Baldwin	6
Nelia M. Leahy	3	J. Michael Lakin	7
*S. Kathleen M. Knight	4	†Peter Nash	*Tenor*

Composed by Stephen Ivin. Conducted by J. Michael Lakin.
* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method 'inside.'

SIBSEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 57 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Margaret.
A PEAL OF 5152 SIBSEY SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb. in E flat.

Norah M. Bibby	*Treble*	Geoffrey R. Parker	5
Denis A. Frith	2	†Geoffrey Paul	6
Gwen I. Rusby	3	George H. Randles	7
*Frank G. Bloomfield	4	Jack L. Millhouse	*Tenor*

Composed by W. Eric Critchley. Conducted by Jack L. Millhouse.
* 100th peal. † 50th peal. The first peal in this method.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., April 24, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours,*
At the Church of All Saints.
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 14½ cwt.

Barbara M. Williams	*Treble*	W. Gwynne Jones	5
Dorothy A. Atwell	2	William E. Thompsett	6
Jacqueline S. Evans	3	David J. King	7
*John F. James	4	Donald G. Clarke	*Tenor*

Conducted by David J. King.
* First peal 'inside.'
Rung with the bells half-muffled in memoriam John W Jones, Newport.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., April 25, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours.*
At the Church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr,
A PEAL OF 5136 SPLICED PLAIN BOB AND DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Contains 2,880 of Double Norwich and 2,256 of Plain Bob, with 60 changes of method. Tenor 19½ cwt.

Bertram C. Hines	*Treble*	Lionel C. Woods	5
Harry Turner	2	Charles E. Willmington	6
Ernest C. Furbank	3	John H. Sitch	7
Frank V. Gant	4	John H. Crampion	*Tenor*

Composed by F. Nolan Golden. Conducted by Harry Turner.
Rung as a 72nd birthday compliment to Mr. E. C. Sharplin, a member of the local company.

SIBSEY SURPRISE MAJOR.
38-14-1256-16-34-58-56-18.
Seconds place lead-end. Fourths place bob.

PULHAM MARKET, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., April 25, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 51 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF 5120 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 13 cwt. 50 lb. in F.

STANLEY W. COPLING	*Treble*	H. WILLIAM BARRETT	5
ERNEST WHITING	2	GEORGE SAYER	6
NOLAN GOLDEN	3	BERT GOGLE	7
ARTHUR G. BASON	4	LESLIE G. BRETT	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
First peal in the method on the bells.
A birthday compliment to Mr. A. C. W. Roope, of the local band, who has made a good recovery from a serious illness.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., April 25, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 47 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
F. H. Dexter's Variation of Thurstans' Four-part.
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in F.

ERNEST MORRIS	*Treble*	*G. HARRY BRAY	5
BRIAN G. WARWICK	2	JOHN M. JELLEY	6
JOHN A. ACRES	3	WILLIAM THORNLEY	7
BRIAN S. CHAPMAN	4	ERNEST J. JELLEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.
* First peal of Stedman. Mr. W. Thornley has 'circled the tower.' Rung for the Feast of St. Mark.

BALDOCK, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 26, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 21 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5024 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 26½ cwt.

STANLEY H. WALLIS	*Treble*	*ALAN S. SMITH	5
C. HENRY HARDING	2	*STEPHEN IVIN	6
RONALD J. SHARP	3	BRYAN F. SIMS	7
ANDREW C. SINFIELD	4	LEWIS H. BYWATERS	*Tenor*

Composed by R. F. B. SPEED. Conducted by LEWIS H. BYWATERS.
* First peal in the method.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., April 26, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 5 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5152 BERKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 18¼ cwt.

ALBERT CATTERWELL	*Treble*	ALAN R. SYDER	5
FRANK CLAYDON	2	FRANK B. LUFKIN	6
*LEWIS W. WIFFEN	3	JACK H. BRETT	7
HILDA G. SNOWDEN	4	WALTER ARNOLD	*Tenor*

Composed by GEORGE MARRINER Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.
* 650th peal. First peal in the method by all and for the Association.

ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., April 27, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 56 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 11¼ cwt. in G.

JOSEPH THORNLEY	*Treble*	PETER CROOK, SEN.	5
WILLIAM RAMSBOTTOM	2	SYDNEY LEATHERBARROW	6
*GEOFFREY F. GARNETT	3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON	7
*GEOFFREY S. MILLS	4	ROGER LEIGH	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.
* First of Double Norwich Court Bob.
Rung to celebrate the enthronement of the Most Rev. A. M. Ramsey as Archbishop of York on April 25th.

CAYTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., April 27, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 37 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VINCENT,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
J. W. Washbrook's Variation. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

NORAH M. BIBBY	*Treble*	GEORGE H. RANDLES	5
JOHN WALDEN	2	GEORGE W. CREASEY	6
*DENIS A. FRITH	3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	7
WALTER TOMLINSON	4	H. LESLIE PASK	*Tenor*

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.
* First peal of Stedman Triples
Rung to celebrate 50 years' membership of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild by Mr. John Walden.

ALDERMASTON, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 28, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 49 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. in G.

JOHN N. DISERENS	*Treble*	ALBERT DISERENS	5
*JEAN DAWSON	2	GEOFFREY K. DODD	6
REGINALD W. REX	3	NOEL J. DISERENS	7
BRYAN C. STIRLAND	4	RONALD F. DISERENS	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by NOEL J. DISERENS.
* First peal of Surprise.

BICESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 28, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 9 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDBURG,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB TRIPLES
Tenor 15 cwt. 7 lb.

J. HENRY GARDNER	*Treble*	VERNON GREEN	5
*FRANK A. BARRETT	2	CLIVE HOLLOWAY	6
DONALD H. NIBLETT	3	ROBIN A. HODGSON	7
†ROBIN J. TREBILCOCK	4	†REGINALD W. BROWN	*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by DONALD H. NIBLETT.
* First peal of Triples. † First peal on eight bells. First peal of Bob Triples by all except the ringer of the seventh.

PERSHORE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 28, 1956, *in* 3 *Hours and* 29 *Minutes,*
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Pritchard's Four-part. Tenor 28 cwt., approx.

RICHARD E. PRICE	*Treble*	SIDNEY J. WOODCOCK	5
ROGER WOODCOCK	2	THOMAS J. LOCK	6
G. WILLIAM MORRIS	3	FRANK C. PRICE	7
FREDERICK E. SCOTT	4	TONY PRICE	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK C. PRICE.

SYSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 28, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 54 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.
A PEAL OF 5152 REVERSE CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. 26 lb.

ERNEST F. PAYNE	*Treble*	ROYSTON WILMORE	5
ERNEST MORRIS	2	F. KEVIN THOMPSON	6
MARY C. PAYNE	3	†GEOFFREY J. LOWE	7
*GEOFFREY M. BREWIN	4	†B. STEDMAN PAYNE	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.
* First peal of Major. † 25th peal together. First of Major in the method on the bells, for the Guild, and by all except the conductor.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

KIDSGROVE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 14, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 38 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Tenor 9¼ cwt.

*JOHN NIXON	*Treble*	†WILLIAM MASSEY	4
CHARLES H. PAGE	2	ROBERT ARROWSMITH	5
†PHILLIP S. WHALLEY	3	DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY.
* First peal, first attempt. † First peal of Minor.
Rung to celebrate Mr. Arthur Windsor reaching his 50th year as a ringer at Kidsgrove Parish Church.

DARLINGTON, COUNTY DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., April 20, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 35 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR
Being seven complete 720's in 21 methods, viz.: (1) Beverley, Cambridge, Hexham, Berwick, Primrose, Surfleet; (2) Netherseale, Lightfoot, Wearmouth; (3) Cunecastre, London, Wells; (4) Alnwick, Newcastle; (5) Carlisle, Chester, Munden; (6) Ipswich, Bourne, Cambridge; (7) York, Durham; 107 changes of method. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb.

ROBERT T. SIMPSON	*Treble*	THOMAS COOKE	4
DORIS M. KILLINGLEY	2	W. NORMAN PARK	5
RICHARD BUSBY	3	ROLAND PARK	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.
The greatest number of methods rung to a peal, for all the band, and for the Association.

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(Hinckley District.)
On Mon., April 16, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 30 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In seven methods: (1) London, (2) Wells, (3) Durham, (4) York, (5) Cambridge, (6) Beverley, (7) Surfleet. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lb. in B.

FREDERICK WATSON	*Treble*	MICHAEL VERNON	4
RITA M. STRATFORD	2	JOHN VERNON	5
CHRISTINE J. STRATFORD ..	3	MICHAEL E. BROWN	*Tenor*

Conducted by MICHAEL E. BROWN.

First peal of seven Surprise Minor methods by all the band, on the bells, and by six Hinckley District ringers.

A wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Wass.

SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., April 18, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 34 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENIS,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.

DENIS A. FRITH	*Treble*	W. RUSSELL READ	4
*JOHN E. COOK	2	ROY STEPHENSON	5
BRIAN HUNT	3	JAMES H. MUSSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

* First peal of Minor and first 'inside.'

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., April 18, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 53 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in ten methods: (1) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. (2) Cambridge Surprise, (3) St. Clement's and Double Oxford Bob, (4) Plain and Double Bob. (5) Oxford Bob, (6) Double Court Bob, (7) Hereward Bob; each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

BERYL PHILPOT	*Treble*	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD ..	4
DAVID STAPLES	2	JOHN R. COOPER	5
CRAWFORD T. HILLIS	3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ..	*Tenor*

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

First peal in ten methods by all the band.

Rung as a farewell to the ringer of the second, who left for National Service on April 19th.

MELDRETH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., April 19, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 43 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

JANE THORPE	*Treble*	T. REGINALD DENNIS	4
EUSTACE W. BULLMAN ..	2	JOHN G. GIPSON	5
WILLIAM T. COOK	3	J. DESMOND PAINTER ..	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM T. COOK.

ARRETON, ISLE OF WIGHT.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 29 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE.
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being one 240 Pitman's arrangement, and 40 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 9 cwt.

*FRANK S. TAYLOR	*Treble*	*CHARLES A. DRAKE	4
*WILLIAM UPTON	2	DAVID R. REED	5
†HENRY F. LONG	3	SIDNEY MOODY	*Tenor*

Conducted by DAVID R. REED.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal at first attempt.

Rung to celebrate the Queen's birthday.

BLYTHBURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, *in* 2 *Hours and* 42 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.

HORACE W. EASEY	*Treble*	DOUGLAS MITCHELL	4
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN	2	ARTHUR W. BIRD	5
JOHN W. G. KINDRED ..	3	*PETER KINDRED	*Tenor*

Conducted by PETER KINDRED.

*25th peal. The first peal of Kent T.B. Minor by all.

Rung in honour of the Queen's birthday.

GILLETT
AND
JOHNSTON
LIMITED

No matter in which corner of the country you happen to be, as likely as not you will come across Gillett & Johnston bells or tower clocks. Gillett & Johnston craftsmanship is embodied in an all-embracing service — as much in the preservation and restoration of old rings of antiquarian interest as in the installation of new.

BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON

BURTON-IN-KENDAL, WESTMORLAND.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Oxford T.B., three extents of Kent T.B. and one extent of Plain Bob. Tenor 12¼ cwt.

GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE ..	*Treble*	JAMES BAGNALL	4
ROLAND F. ECCLES	2	ALAN CAPSTICK	5
JAMES E. BURLES	3	ALAN CASSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Miss Jane Margaret Howarth and Mr. Joseph Odam, who were married at this church the same day.

EXFORD, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SALVYN,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently. Tenor 10¼ cwt.

*GEORGE MAIDMENT	*Treble*	*ARTHUR R. TUDBALL ..	4
GILBERT G. DAVIS	2	ISAAC FARMER	5
*REV. HENRY F. WARREN..	3	HENRY W. LLOYD	*Tenor*

Conducted by ISAAC FARMER.

* First peal of Minor. First recorded peal on the bells.

GAMSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three extents of Plain Bob Tenor 8½ cwt.

GRACE BURCHNALL	*Treble*	DENNIS A. SMEDLEY	4
KATHARINE BURCHNALL ..	2	ARNOLD HILL	5
GEORGE CHALLANS	3	HAROLD DENMAN	*Tenor*

Conducted by HAROLD DENMAN.

Rung for the birthday of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

HOLKHAM PARK, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WITHIBURGA,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of 720 each of St. Clement's, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and four extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. in E.

HUBERT C. CROME	*Treble*	TONY OWEN	4
CECIL V. EBBERSON	2	NORMAN V. HARDING ..	5
ERNEST H. MASTIN	3	WILLIAM ROSE	*Tenor*

Conducted by NORMAN V. HARDING.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Lady Anne Coke, daughter of the Earl of Leicester, and the Hon. Colin Tennant.

POLSTEAD, SUFFOLK.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being one 2,160 and four 720's. Tenor 10 cwt.

DONALD B. MUNRO	*Treble*	PETER G. BARNES	4
MRS. P. G. BARNES	2	GEORGE W. BARNES	5
ALAN R. ANDREWS	3	ROY DUESBURY	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

The first peal on the bells since restoration by John Taylor and Co.

RAMPTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Being 42 extents. Tenor 4 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in C sharp.

HAROLD J. F. MUNCEY ..	*Treble*	GEOFFREY A. LUCAS.. ..	3
DONALD E. R. KNIGHTS ..	2	STANLEY SHIPP	4
*HENRY C. FOSTER	*Tenor*		

Conducted by HENRY C. FOSTER.

* First peal of Doubles. First peal as conductor.

Rung in honour of the birthday of H.M. the Queen.

IBSTOCK, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Thurs., April 26, 1956, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise, two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

GEORGE L. ROOBOTTOM ..	*Treble*	JOHN W. RAWSON	4
ROLAND BENISTON	2	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY	5
JOSEPH W. COTTON	3	BARNABAS G. KEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., April 21, 1956, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently; 'Ropesight' Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 18 and 22. Tenor 13 cwt.

*MRS. R. E. LESTER.. ..	*Treble*	KENNETH G. BROWN.. ..	4
JAMES B. MORLEY	2	ROBERT E. LESTER	5
ALICE E. J. LESTER ..	3	LEONARD S. SHARPE	*Tenor*

Conducted by KENNETH G. BROWN.

* First peal and first attempt.

Rung in honour of the birthday of H.M. the Queen.

SANDHURST, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
(Sonning Deanery Branch.)
On Sat., April 28, 1956, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Woodbine Treble Bob, Single Oxford Bob, and Oxford Treble Bob, and two each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

*WILLIAM COLLINS	*Treble*	†JAMES E. WIGHTMAN ..	4
BERNARD C. CASTLE.. ..	2	WILLIAM J. PAICE	5
LESLIE W. PAICE	3	WILLIAM J. H. PARKER ..	*Treble*

Conducted by WILLIAM J. H. PARKER.

* First peal on treble. † First peal and first attempt.

Rung to commemorate the 75th year of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers.

HANDBELL PEALS

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., April 13, 1956, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT GREEN WAYS, GIPSY LANE,
A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor size 18 in G.

*MARGARET BEAMISH ..	1—2	ALFRED BALLARD	5—6
*WALTER WHITEHEAD ..	3—4	*HUBERT ASHLEY	7—8

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by WALTER WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Yorkshire 'in hand.'

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., April 22, 1956, in 2 Hours and 6 Minutes,
AT KNAITH, SPENCERS PLACE,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Tenor size 15 in C.

LEONARD STILWELL	1—2	*GEORGE FRANCIS	3—4
		*W. LESLIE WELLER.. ..	5—6

Conducted by W. LESLIE WELLER.

* First peal of Minor 'in hand.' First peal 'in hand' as conductor.

ITCHINGFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., April 25, 1956, in 1 Hour and 59 Minutes,
AT THE GLADES, BARNS GREEN.
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED DOUBLES

Being one extent each of (1) Huntspill Bob and Oakley S.C., (2) New Bob and Itchingfield S.C., (3) Plain Bob and Candlesby S.C., (4) Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Raveningham S.C.; two extents each of (5) St. Nicolas' Bob and Longford S.C., (6) St. Nicolas' Bob and Hascombe S.C., (7) St. Nicolas' Bob and Thornborough S.C., (8) St. Remigius' Bob and Thornborough S.C., (9) St. Remigius' Bob and Hascombe S.C., (10) St. Remigius' Bob and Longford S.C., (11) Winchendon Place Bob and Hascombe S.C., (12) St. Simon's Bob and Rugby S.C., (13) St. Simon's Bob and Merton S.C., (14) St. Simon's Bob and Slapton S.C., (15) St. Osmund's Bob and Slapton S.C., (16) St. Osmund's Bob and Merton S.C., (17) St. Osmund's Bob and Rugby S.C., (18) St. Martin's Bob and Rugby S.C., (19) St. Martin's Bob and Merton S.C., (20) St. Martin's Bob and Slapton S.C.; and three extents each of (21) Winchendon Place Bob and Longford S.C., (22) Winchendon Place Bob and Thornborough S.C.; 267 changes of method.
Tenor size 15 in C.

GEORGE FRANCIS	1—2	W. LESLIE WELLER	3—4
		*JOAN M. PHILLIPS	5—6

Conducted by GEORGE FRANCIS.

* First handbell peal. First in 20 methods by all the band and for the Association.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

Wellingborough Branch

A successful quarterly meeting was held at Bozeat on April 21st. A company of 80 was present at tea, which included Miss E. Steele, of Biddenham, Bedford, and visitors from the Northampton and Kettering Branches. The Vicar of Bozeat-with-Easton Maudit (the Rev. W. C. Knight) gave a very interesting address during the Guild service. The Guild Bell Restoration Fund collection amounted to £2.

During the business proceedings the members stood in silence in memory of Mrs. H. Linnell, Wilby, for 30 years an honorary member, and Mr. C. Payne, for many years leader of the Irchester belfry.

Five new ringing members from Bozeat were elected. Higham Ferrers was chosen for the next quarterly meeting, and one guinea was voted to the Bow Bells appeal.

Bozeat, Easton Maudit and Yardley Hastings bells were open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. A. B.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

An enjoyable meeting of the North Norfolk Branch was held at Aylsham on April 21st. Ringing included Stedman Triples, Plain Royal and, of course, Bristol Major.

The service was conducted by the Rev. C. W. Martyn, who welcomed the ringers to his church. At the business meeting, following a most enjoyable tea, Mr. A. G. Bason presided.

It was decided to hold an interim meeting at Heydon on June 9th, subject to permission. The meeting on July 14th will be at Coltishall and not as Mattishall, as stated. C. B.

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

Melton Mowbray District

Buckminster is a village in a wood. The houses and village street are surrounded by trees and the Parish Church is in a lovely setting at the far end of the village green, with yew trees in the churchyard. The tower, crowned with a spire, is unusually situated in the south aisle, and the pleasant ring of six is rung from the ground floor with the ringers standing in the open church. A very successful meeting of the District took place on April 28th.

Canon H. V. Williams, the Vicar of Buckminster, has recently had a serious operation and had not returned to the parish. Members were sad to learn that, in addition to his indisposition, the Vicar had sustained a great sorrow in the sudden death of his daughter, who leaves a young family. At the business meeting the District secretary, Mrs. P. A. Corby, was instructed to write to Canon Williams to express the condolences of the Guild. The Rev. G. H. Salaman conducted the service.

At the business meeting members were reminded of the Central Council visit to Leicester at Whitsun, and were invited to apply to the District secretary for tickets for the dance and social (free to members and friends) that is to take place at the Bell Hotel, Leicester, on Whit Tuesday evening. The joint meeting with the Nottingham Branch of the Southwell Guild was suggested for June 9th.

For the next district meeting at Great Dalby on May 26th, the District secretary is to do her best to arrange a bus from Waltham and Melton.

Mr. Simpkin, leader of the local band, was re-elected to the Guild and the hope was expressed that the new band of ringers he is training would shortly become members.

SURREY ASSOCIATION

The Southern District meeting at Oxted on April 21st attracted a good attendance and one of the surprises of the ringing, supervised by the District Ringing Master, Mr. A. P. Cannon, was a boy of 12 years of age ringing Surprise methods and calling other touches with great efficiency.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Hawkes conducted the service in the absence of the Vicar through indisposition, and in his address recalled many of his past associations with bells and ringing.

Ten new members were elected and a collection for the Bow Bells Fund raised 15s. The presentation to Mr. C. T. Champion, the recent District secretary, on his marriage, was to be made at Burstow on May 12th.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD

The Halesworth District meeting at Wrentham on April 21st was attended by about 35 members and visitors from Essex and Norfolk.

The weather was kind and allowed the west doors to be opened, and ringing took place in the warm sunlight. The accent was on youth. Time was found to suit all tastes from rounds to Surprise Minor.

The service was conducted by the curate, who made all welcome, and apologised for the unavoidable absence of the Rector. An excellent tea was served to all at The Pantry. Five new members were elected from Beccles and Southwold. The next meeting, it is hoped, will be held at Southwold on July 14th.

J. W. B.

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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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

HON. SECRETARY AND TREASURER: E. A. BARNETT, 26, Iron Mill Lane, Crayford, Kent. Telephone: Bexleyheath 8689.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

J. FRANK SMALLWOOD (convener), 16, Comeragh Road, West Kensington, London, W.14. Telephone: Fulham 4935.
FRANK I. HAIRS.
JOSEPH T. DYKE.
R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at Soham on April 28th was the first known peal of Royal on the bells since November 23rd, 1821, when the Society of Soham Youths rang a peal of New Treble Bob Royal.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Rector of Kington Magna since 1908, is resigning the living as from July 25th.

Miss Barbara Mitchell has been lucky in four peals from four attempts in her three weeks' leave from the Middle East.

Determination of Devon friends of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Mallett won in the end. The peal at St. David's, Exeter, on April 20th, in honour of their wedding, was the third attempt.

Dr. Neil Smith, of London, was an unexpected but nevertheless welcome visitor to the annual meeting of the Irish Association at Dublin on April 28th.

'Tower snatching may be fun but it is not really very good manners.'—The Rev. M. B. St. L. Hurst-Bannister, Master of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.

The Bishop of Lancaster, missioner at Walton-on-Thames for the Guildford Diocesan Mission, visited the belfry and thanked each ringer personally for his services. The bells were rung for each service during the week.

After a long absence from the peal and quarter peal columns, Brixworth, Northants, recorded a quarter peal on April 14th, in which three of the local band took part in their first attempt.

Three Grammar School boys from Grantham cycled to Silk Willoughby and rang a peal of Plain Bob Minor on April 18th. 'The striking was perfect all the time,' reports the conductor, Mr. J. H. Musson.

An amusing story is in circulation amongst very prominent Yorkshire peal ringers. It appears that south of the Yorkshire border a band was attempting a peal, and throughout the ringing the conductor was making heart-rending appeals such as 'Don't make such wide leads; fill in the gaps in the middle and don't keep missing dodges behind.' At the conclusion of the peal the Vicar came in, shook hands all round and expressed his regret that one of the clappers sent away to be repaired the previous week had not yet been returned! One wonders if outside listeners were able to ascertain whether the methods was 8ths place or 2nds place at the lead-ends.

Ringing at Swefling, Suffolk (6), has been stopped as the builders who carried out a £1,000 repair on the tower claim damage is being caused to the new work.

An order has been given to Messrs. John Taylor and Co. to commence work on Theberton bells. It is hoped to have the bells back in the tower during the year.

We are sorry to learn of the death of Mr. George Bunyan, of Pirton, Herts. A stalwart of the band for many years, his willingness to teach the youngsters and his cheerful disposition will be sadly missed in the belfry.

Reporting on the peal at Pershore Abbey, Mr. Frank C. Price writes that the quality of this peal was 100 per cent., being witnessed by Mr. W. H. Coles. The bells were by general opinion probably the best tone of their age and weight anywhere.

The passing of Mrs. E. M. Savage, of East Budleigh, Devon, is regretted by many friends in the West Country. Although a non-ringer she was keenly interested in ringing and was never happier than when 'doing the rounds' with or entertaining a ringing party.

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED

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LEICESTER HAS PLANNED A GREAT WELCOME

In connection with the visit of the Central Council to Leicester for Whitsun, excellent ringing and social arrangements have been made for the visitors. Appended is the programme:—

HEADQUARTERS: The Bell Hotel, Humberstone Gate, Leicester. All ringers and friends will be welcome at headquarters during the weekend.

RINGING ARRANGEMENTS

FRIDAY, MAY 18th

St. Margaret's (12), 7.30—9 p.m.
All Saints' (8), 7.30—9 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 19th

Loughborough Foundry (10), 10 a.m.—12 noon.
Loughborough Parish (10), 2—4 p.m.
Birstall (8), 2—3 p.m.
South Wigston (8), 10—11.30 a.m.
All Saints' (8), 10—11 a.m., 8—9 p.m.
Aylestone (8), 11 a.m.—12.30 p.m., 2.30—4 p.m.
St. John-the-Divine (10), 2—3.30, 7—8 p.m.
Cathedral (12), 2—4, 7.30—8.30 p.m.
St. Mary de Castro (8), 3—4.30 p.m.
Belgrave (8), 3—4.30 p.m.
St. Margaret's (12), 4—6 p.m.

WHIT SUNDAY (Ring for Services)

All Saints' (8), 8.30—9.30 a.m., 5.45—6.30, 7.45—8.30 p.m.
Cathedral (12), 9—10, 10.40—11 a.m., 5.30—6.30, 8—8.30 p.m.
South Wigston (8), 9.15—10 a.m., 2—2.45, 5.30—6.30 p.m.
Thurcaston (8), 9.30—10.30 a.m., 5.30—6.30 p.m., and after service.
St. Margaret's (12), 10—11 a.m., 5.30—6.30 p.m.
St. Mary de Castro (8), 10—10.50 a.m., 5.30—6.20 p.m.
Sileby (8), 10—11 a.m., 5.30—6.30 p.m.
St. John-the-Divine (10), 10.15—11 a.m., 5.45—6.30 p.m.
Aylestone (8), 10.15—11 a.m., 5.45—6.30 p.m.
Anstey (8), 10.30—11 a.m., 5.30—6.30 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 21st

Loughborough Foundry (10), 10 a.m.—12 noon, 2—4 p.m.
Sileby (8), 11 a.m.—12 noon, 3—4 p.m.
Birstall (8), 2—3 p.m.
Belgrave (8), 10—11 a.m., 3—4 p.m.
Cathedral (12), 10—11.30 a.m., 7—8.30 p.m.
St. Margaret's (12), 10 a.m.—12 noon.
St. John-the-Divine (10), 10—11 a.m., 3—4 p.m.
All Saints' (8), 10—11 a.m., 8—9 p.m.
Anstey (8), 10—11 a.m., 3—4.30 p.m.
Aylestone (8), 10.30—11.30 a.m., 3.30—4.30 p.m.
St. Mary de Castro (8), 3—4.30 p.m.
South Wigston (8), 10.30—11.30 a.m., 7.30—9 p.m.
Thurcaston (8), 11 a.m.—12 noon, 4—5.30 p.m.

RINGING TOUR, SUNDAY, MAY 20th

The details shown in 'The Ringing World' of April 13th have been amended as follows:

Leave headquarters at 1 p.m. Ringing at
Market Bosworth (8) 1.30 to 2 p.m.
Chilvers Coton (10), 2.30 to 3 p.m.
Hinckley (8), 3.30 to 4.15 p.m.
Earl Shilton (8), 4.30 to 5.15 p.m.
Claybrooke (8), 5.45 to 6.30 p.m.

Dinner at The Hinckley Knight (Watling Street) at 6.45 p.m., returning to Leicester for ringing at the Cathedral or All Saints'.

Tickets at the same inclusive charge of 10s. 6d. per head from either Mr. B. S. Payne, 10, Woodgate, Rothley, Leics, or Mr. S. Burton, 78, Edward Avenue, Braunstone, Leicester.

WHIT MONDAY TOUR

Leave headquarters, Bell Hotel, at 9.30 a.m. Ringing at Loughborough Parish (10), 10—10.45: Melton Mowbray (10), 11.15—12. Lunch at Bell Hotel, Melton Mowbray, at 12.15, thence through Belvoir Park past Belvoir Castle (seat of the Duke of Rutland) to Bottesford (8), 2—3; Grantham (10), 3.45—4.30. Tea at Stoke Rochford Road House, 5 p.m. Oakham (8), 6.45—7.30. Return to headquarters at 8.30 p.m. Inclusive charge for the day tour, 26s. per head.

WHIT TUESDAY

Holy Communion in the Cathedral at 8 a.m. Council meeting in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall at 10 a.m.

Civic Reception in the Town Hall at 5 p.m. A social evening, with a dance band in attendance, in the ballroom at headquarters. Tickets (free) will be available during the weekend and may be obtained on request from any member of the Leicester Guild Committee.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

Standard methods were rung at the annual meeting of the Bicester Deanery Branch on the very fine eight at Kirtlington on April 28th.

The Branch president (the Rev. A. F. Gatehouse) presided at the business meeting, when the secretary (Mr. C. H. Kinch) stated that on the whole Sunday service ringing was well maintained and the accounts showed an increased balance of £7 2s. 9d. from £3 15s.

The president was re-elected as were the Rev. J. Elkerton and Mr. F. Sharpe vice-presidents, and Mr. Kinch hon. secretary. The sum of £2 2s. was donated to the Bow Bells Restoration Fund.

In an address the Master (the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg) mentioned the appeal for 2s. per bell from each parish towards the Guild's Restoration Fund. The donations from the Parochial Councils had enabled increased grants to be made.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Rev. L. A. Gutch for conducting the service and his address, to Mrs. L. Kirkland for her 'ringers' tea,' the organist and the hon. secretary.

JOINT MEETING AT BURTON-ON-TRENT

A joint meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, Midland Counties Guild and Shropshire Association was held at Burton-on-Trent on April 14th, and proved most enjoyable and successful. With five towers available for ringing, the meeting attracted an attendance of 102. The towers in question were All Saints', St. Modwen's and St. Paul's, at Burton-on-Trent, Winshill and Rolleston-on-Dove, all of which were put to good use.

The service was held at St. Paul's, where the Vicar, Rev. W. Willis Price, gave the address. A sumptuous tea was served in St. Paul's Institute by a willing band of lady helpers. After the meal, Mr. W. Curzon, of the Midland Counties Guild, thanked Rev. W. Willis Price for his inspiring address, and Mr. B. G. Key and his helpers and the ladies for the excellent arrangements.

Although not officially taking part, a number of North Staffordshire Association members, including the secretary, Mr. E. H. Edge, were present.

MORE BELFRY GOSSIP

The sprightly Mr. T. Reginald Dennis has just rung his first peal of London Surprise at the age of 72.

The ringer of the 2nd in the peal at Apsley End on April 3rd, 1956 ('Ringing World,' page 245), was Frederick J. Plummer and not as printed.

Forty ringers and friends from Northampton and District visited Wolverton, Stony Stratford, Whaddon, Bletchley, Fenny Stratford, Woburn, Husborne Crawley and Wavendon for their Easter Monday outing. Thanks are due to those who met the party at the various towers.

His friends in St. David's Diocese and elsewhere regret to learn that Mr. R. Scudamore, of Llandilo, will be unable to ring for some weeks. 'Hurry up, Ralph, and get better. The Diocese needs your services,' write some of his old pals.

On April 24th, on the recommendation of 'The Church Times,' Mr. Ronald Hamilton, of the Canadian Broadcasting Company, took a tape recording of the bells of St. Martin's Church, Chelsfield, Kent, and interviewed some of the ringers. The recording is to be used in a programme featuring people and places.

Willesborough (Kent) has lost, temporarily, one of its most promising younger ringers—David Staples — who has gone to Formby (Lancs) to start his National Service. He will be missed, too, by his many other friends in the parish, as he was a keen and willing worker in other activities of his church. We feel sure he will soon make friends in his new surroundings and be a welcome visitor at nearby towers.

It was a big disappointment to the band which rang the peal of Dunmow Surprise Major on the Queen's birthday that Mr. Lewis W. Wiffen was prevented by a bad cold from being in the band. He had taken part in two practice quarters in the method and also in a previous peal attempt, lasting nearly three hours, in which he rang faultlessly. Mr. Walter Arnold, who stood in his place at very short notice, had never struck a blow of Dunmow before he rang in the peal.

The 50 years' service rendered by Mr. Arthur Windsor to Kidsgrove, Staffordshire, was recognised not only by a peal on the bells, but by the ringers and church officials being entertained to tea at the Vicarage. Presentations followed—a barometer and a cheque from the church. The Vicar (the Rev. W. Yates), in thanking Mr. Windsor for his services, hoped that his example of service would be followed by the younger members of the tower. Mr. Windsor suitably replied and added that the peal had been a great pleasure to listen to.

A WALTHAMSTOW WEDDING

Two ringers attached to St. Mary's Church, Walthamstow, Miss Sonia Coles, daughter of Mr. C. T. W. Coles and granddaughter of the late Mr. C. T. Coles, for many years hon. secretary of the Middlesex County Association, and Mr. Alan Shepherd, a student at Cambridge University, were married at the Methodist Church, Highams Park, on April 28th. The ceremony was attended by many friends and relatives and several members of the St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Society of Ringers.

Unfortunately as there were several weddings at St. Mary's that day it was impossible to ring the bells at the time of the wedding, but on Sunday, April 29th, the St. Mary's ringers rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples before the morning service and attempted a quarter peal of Grandsire Caters before the evening service. The writer also rang at the wedding of the bride's grandparents at St. George's-in-the-East.

H. R.

PILTON BELLS REDEDICATED

Among the large congregation that assembled at Pilton Parish Church on April 21st for the rededication of the church bells by the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells (the Rt. Rev. W. H. Bradfield) were ringers representative of a large number of towers scattered over a wide area of the Diocese.

Before the service began a recording of the retuned bells was made. Later in the afternoon when the ringers were having tea at the Vicarage, this recording, together with one made before the bells were taken away in January, were replayed to show the remarkable and distinctive improvement.

The following ringers, all of Pilton, rang when the recording of the bells was made: Messrs. R. Harris 1, T. Harris 2, S. Atwell 3, R. Talbot 4, E. Lambert (captain) 5, Rev. L. M. Hurst-Bannister (Vicar) 6.

Mr. W. Theobald officially represented Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, London.

During the service the lesson was read by Mr. Roger O. Fry, the general secretary of the Diocesan Association.

COSTLY PIECE OF WORK

The Bishop, in his address, referred to the costly piece of work that had been undertaken by the parish in getting the bells retuned, and he praised the parishioners that there had been no lack of response. It had rapidly become possible to put this work in hand and now the parishioners could rightly rejoice for the completion of this task. During the time the bells had been in the process of being retuned and recast the people of Pilton had been without them in the common life of the parish, and he recalled how much the people of Britain had missed the sound of church bells during the grim years of the war.

The Bishop said that change ringing in the Church of England had become a unique art; it was unique to this country and was known nowhere else in the world.

The right use of the bells depends upon those who are called to ring them Sunday by Sunday and at other times as occasion shall require. 'Let it not be thought for one moment,' the Bishop declared, 'that bell ringing is a bit of healthy exercise for those who like that kind of thing, although that kind of impression is abroad. That may well be due to the fact that some bell ringers have not brought to their task that degree of consecration and witness that is expected from all those who are called to the service of the Church. The laity have a part to play in the Church as well as the ordained minister, and it is not enough merely to ring bells to call people to worship and then walk away from that very worship to which they are summoning people. Bell ringing is very much a part of the ministry of the laity as serving at the altar of God, and a good bell ringer ought always to be a good churchman.

'The Diocesan Association of Bell Ringers, of which your Vicar is the Master, is trying to ensure that those who are called to the active service are themselves consecrated men and women, who are finding their fellowship not only in their art of bell ringing but also in their fellowship of worship.'

TWOFOLD PURPOSE

The Bishop said that the purpose of church bells was twofold. Their first purpose was to summon the congregation into the fellowship of worship in their parish church. This summons was an individual summons for the simple reason that men and women are unique individuals and therefore each has his own part and place in the worship of the Church. If one person was to withhold his worship the whole worship of the Church and the fellowship of the whole Christian family is thereby weakened.

'Secondly, whenever the bells are rung, on a Sunday, or at any other time, we must remember the Lord our God and that we are His children. The message the bells proclaim is that the Christian faith and practice in the Christian life are the one essential in the spiritual extension of the congregation and the whole community. The bells call you to lift up your hearts to Him whose love we share. Let it not be thought that it is merely a case of playing a musical tune. The whole point is the bells call us to Him and tell us to remember Him at that moment. It is a loss to us all when their special significance is overlooked and forgotten.'

During the singing of the last hymn a collection was taken for the Church Bell Appeal and amounted to £16, bringing the total of the Appeal to £475. Another £45 is now needed to complete the Appeal. Donations are most welcome and should be sent to the Vicar, or to the Treasurer of the Appeal, Mr. R. Kennard Davis, On the Hill, Pilton, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT

The story behind the rehanging of the ring of six at St. John-the-Baptist's, West Wickham, Kent, is one of purposeful endeavour and enterprise. The bells (tenor about 13 cwt.) needed rehanging and the fifth had to be recast. The resident band, under their leader, Mr. Arthur Richards, tackled the work of dismantling and rehanging and now have a tuneful ring, which, we understand, go like the proverbial tops.

Not only did the ringers do all the work (except the recasting) but they have contributed a sum of £110 towards the cost. This money represents their ringing fees (for weddings, etc.) over a number of years, which they carefully saved up until the work could be tackled.

West Wickham ringers are to be congratulated on such an outstanding effort, and we wish them all possible enjoyment in ringing their bells.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—A clerical well-wisher 7s. 6d.

Peals.—Newport (Mon) 4s., North Bradley 5s., Fairfield 4s., St. Stythians 1s. 6d.

Quarter Peals.—Brampton 2s. 6d., Windsor 4s., Edenbridge 2s., Freshwater 2s. 6d., Handsworth 3s., Quedgeley 2s., Wells 4s., Walthamstow 4s., Queenborough 2s. 6d.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION

Presentation to Canon H. S. Stephenson

The retirement of Canon H. S. Stephenson last September was noted in 'The Ringing World' and marked by a peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells of St. Mary's, Gateshead, on his last day as Rector there—an office he had held since 1914. The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association decided at the time to make a presentation to him but for various reasons, principally the Canon's inability to travel any great distance, this was delayed until the Western District met on April 21st at Whickham.

At the conclusion of the ordinary business the president (Mr. Richard A. Gofton) made the presentation to Canon Stephenson. He recalled that Canon Stephenson was the immediate past president and was probably the only man to hold the office of president who was not a practical ringer. That alone demonstrated the esteem in which he was held by ringers, and his friendship had extended over a great many years. It was the hope of all that Canon Stephenson would be spared for many years to enjoy the retirement he had so richly earned. The presentation was a finely-illustrated volume on 'English Cathedrals,' beautifully inscribed by Mr. J. Brewster, as follows: 'Presented to their friend of many years standing, Canon H. S. Stephenson, on his retirement, by the members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Change Ringers. April, 1956.'

Canon Stephenson acknowledged the gift and said that it was a very happy coincidence that the Association's area covered the only two dioceses in which he had served, despite his long ministry. He would value that book in his now greatly reduced library and he hoped that the good work of the Association would be continued.

Mr. C. McGuiness voiced the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Stephen Thompson, who had taken the chair. All present were delighted to see him again after his indisposition and wished him well for the future. D. A. B.

Cambridge University Guild

At the annual general meeting of the Cambridge University Guild held on April 25th the following officers were elected:—President, Rev. A. C. Blyth, M.A.; treasurer, Rev. Prof. C. F. D. Moule; Master, Mr. J. D. Painter, Gonville and Caius College; secretary, Mr. F. B. Cookson, St. John's College; librarian, Mr. A. J. Howard, Trinity College; auditor, Mr. P. F. Windley, Jesus College.

Bedfordshire Young Ringers

A cycling ringing week-end in Hertfordshire was spent by Bedfordshire Young Ringers on April 21st and 22nd. Towers visited were Great Munden, Little Munden, Bennington, Aston and Kempton on the first day. The night was spent at Whitwell Youth Hostel, and on the Sunday at King's Walden and Hitchin.

The methods rung included Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, Double Court, Kent, Cambridge, London and Munden.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ROUNDS ACCIDENTALLY IN A PEAL ATTEMPT

Dear Sir,—On Agendum 10 (c) at the next Central Council meeting members will be asked to agree that no peal should be recognised (presumably by the Council) in which rounds occur accidentally,' 'for any reason,' in the course of the peal. The following situation may, therefore, occur. In a peal ending with three bobs at Home, and Mr. P. Bear conducting, the first bob at Home is called and the fourth hesitates to run in. Not being a bear of enormous brain, the conductor wastes his efforts shouting at the fourth, but in spite of this 12345678 comes up, however badly struck, and, though followed by the correct row 41326587, no peal is admitted. In a similar peal, with Mr. Wol conducting, the same trouble occurs, but Mr. Wol, being much wiser and having foreseen such difficulty, is ringing the tenor, and instead of trying to put the fourth right he puts all his energy into heaving on his backstroke, and just manages to get it in before the 7th, thereby producing the row 12345687. In doing so he creates a horrible noise—much more so than does Mr. P. B., but since 12345687 is not counted as rounds his peal is 'recognised,' provided, of course, he corrects the mistake 'immediately.'

It is almost impossible to explain why two wrongs should make a right and one would think, sir, that there must be something illogical in a rule which allows such a situation to occur. It is to be hoped that, by amendment or even by more positive means, members will ensure that such a rule is not added to the Council's Rules and Decisions.—Yours faithfully,

Arrington. W. J. RIDGMAN.

PROPOSED AUSTRALIAN TOUR

Dear Sir,—I regret to inform the ringers interested in the proposed tour of Australia that owing to the lack of support it will now have to be abandoned, for this year at least. I should be pleased to arrange it for another year if anyone is interested. This would give some an opportunity to save up for it.

I was much encouraged in the first place by letters from ringers who had returned from Australia, one of whom suggested that if I only got five willing to make the trip it should be made. I still feel, however, that a band of eight would be the minimum required to make the trip. I take this opportunity of thanking those who have interested themselves in the project, and thank them for their letters.—Yours faithfully,

J. L. GARNER HAYWARD.

Coventry.

LINCOLN TIPS

Dear Sir,—I am not in the habit of sticking my neck out, but as no one with the exception of J. R. Mayne has made an attempt at clearing the question up, I may be able to at least move in that direction.

Although Rochester Surprise Major was claimed by A. Craven, the first peal in the method was rung at Leiston as the product of G. Lindoff. I would like to say that I agree entirely on what Mr. Mayne says about 'Ripon' and 'Norton.' 'Lincoln,' the method rung at Helmingham on February 14th, 1935, was produced by G. Lindoff.

New London, one of the four methods published by A. Craven on August 22nd, 1924, was claimed by Mr. G. Baker as 'Bellthorpe,' published on October 5th, 1921; Mr. Craven withdrew his claim on September 5th, 1924. However, I have no knowledge of how, why or when the name was shortened to 'Thorpe.'—Sincerely yours,

E. W. TIPLER.

Lutterworth.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE BELLS

Dear Sir,—As two possible future homes for the Imperial Institute's bells, in the event of the wanton destruction of this building, have already been proposed, may I suggest yet another possibility.

These bells, known as the Alexandra Ring, were presented to Queen Victoria to be hung in the campanile of the Imperial Institute and rung on royal birthdays and other State occasions. All the bells bear the names of members of the Royal Family of that time, and to transfer them to any church tower would seem most improper.

Should Her Majesty deem that they be transferred to Windsor Castle, would they not be heard to better advantage in the town if hung on top of the Round Tower? Also, the historic ring in the Curfew Tower could then remain undisturbed.

If the bells are to remain in London, the Victoria Tower of the Palace of Westminster would seem a very fitting place for them. This tower has recently been strengthened after being encased in scaffolding for years. If the Alexandra Ring was hung in this tower, it would not lose its identity and could be rung on the same days as at present, and also for the State opening of Parliament.—Yours faithfully,

ALAN J. BLAIR.

London, W.3.

CLOSED SHOP

Dear Sir,—Mr. William Stote's letter in the issue of April 27th makes very interesting reading, perhaps more so to me than many.

He states that the bells of St. Paul's, Imperial Institute and Westminster Abbey are not the playthings of the Exercise, whatever that may mean, and goes on to say that tradition demands they be manned by safe ringers and good strikers; he would have us believe that they are only a 'closed shop' to poor strikers and stay-bashers.

I have no first-hand experience of the first two above named towers, but as far as the Abbey bells are concerned they are a 'closed shop'—I repeat, a 'closed shop'—whatever Mr. Stote would have us believe otherwise, whether you are a stay-basher, a good ringer or a ringer of the highest order.

It is a rule of the Abbey authorities (I have this in writing) that no ringer whatsoever shall ring the Abbey bells other than the eight official ringers appointed by the Dean and Chapter, and that only in the case of illness or other unforeseen circumstances shall one of the ringers be replaced by an official deputy; deputies are limited to about six in number. Furthermore, no person shall enter the ringing chamber except by special permission of the Abbey authorities.

I am well aware that all these rules are made by the Dean, etc., but those closely interested are in agreement.

Please don't let anyone write and say that the Abbey is a special place, that it is not in the Diocese of Westminster but is under the jurisdiction of the reigning sovereign. I am fully aware of this, but it is still a place where God is worshipped, and I am certain that God does not recognise any part of His house as a closed shop.

Mr. Stote says 'tradition demands'; I am quite sure that even rounds rung by a so-called 'stoney band' to the true glory of God is far more acceptable to Him than Spliced Surprise Major rung for the self-glorification of those concerned, whether it be abbey or village church.—Yours truly,

MAURICE J. LOCKEY.

Maulden.

NO RIGHT TO RING ANYWHERE

Dear Sir,—In my opinion, Mr. Birmingham's letter of April 13th is an example of biased and extremely exaggerated wishful thinking. The bells of the Imperial Institute were given by Mrs. E. Millar, of Melbourne, Australia, to the President of the Institute, Edward VII, when he was Prince of Wales, to be rung on royal occasions. If they are the property of the Queen then they are not her personal property, but only her property in her capacity as Queen. They are secular bells, and the bells at Windsor Castle are rung on religious as well as royal occasions. If the Institute bells have to be moved I certainly hope they will stay in Westminster, as now. Surely there is a secular tower somewhere in Westminster that could hold them. How about the Houses of Parliament? In any case it would be discourteous not to consult the Australian Embassy about their removal. Perhaps they could be hung in Australia House?

He must be the only person to hold the opinion that the Curfew bells are tuneless. They might sound rough when a few visiting learners start splashing around, but get a band on them that knows how to ring and you will have to go a long way to hear anything grander. Personally, I do not think that the Institute bells are better than the Curfew bells. The only difference lies in the extra weight.

His allegation of a 'closed shop' in London is completely unjustified. Certainly a decent standard of ringing is insisted upon at the Institute, but if a ringer can ring on that weight and can ring Stedman Caters, he will be made welcome and allowed to ring. He will be told what bell to ring, but surely that always happens where a visitor's capabilities are not known to the locals. Village choirs might be invited to sing in cathedrals, but too many learners have been given the impression by their instructors that they have a right to ring where and what they like. This is absolutely wrong. And it is wrong for Mr. Birmingham to suggest that ringers, experienced or otherwise, have a right to ring anywhere. No one has the right to ring at any tower. The incumbent is in sole charge of a ring of bells, although in general he grants the locals the right to ring on their own bells more or less when they wish, in exchange for regular and decent service ringing. In far too many places the ringers don't stick to the bargain and ring Surprise on practice night and Doubles on Sunday sometimes. I hope he does not think he has the right to ring at Stanwell, although as in nearly every tower he is always welcome to ring.

There is absolutely no closed shop in London. Certainly the College Youths insist on a high standard from visiting ringers, and rightly so, for they have a high standard and without them there would be no decent regular service ringing on the heavier and higher numbered rings in London. No other Society or Association is capable of it, and without them the number of keyboards in the city would increase tremendously.—Yours sincerely,

FRANK T. BLAGROVE.

Stanwell.

'BEASTS OF THE BELFRY'

Dear Sir,—I cannot understand how Miss K. M. Yeo failed to appreciate the witticism of the article 'Beauty and the Belfry,' which I feel sure was written by a woman. I thoroughly enjoyed it as a light, amusing piece of literature, and I am sure other ringers will agree with me.

No one, not even the 'Beasts of the Belfry' (male ringers), could take it seriously, as they know only too well that, nowadays, many bands could not function without the so-called 'Beauties.'—Yours faithfully,

JUNE M. CLEMENTS.

Worthing.

LETTERS—Continued

'THE HUNTRESS'

Dear Sir,—I thought that 'D. R. C.'s article 'Beauty and the Belfry' was one of the wittiest and most amusing articles I have read for a good while.

I don't know about women getting pushed into ringing by so-called friends, but it is certainly a fact that many of them take up ringing to please their husbands—I have known several such cases.

Like 'D. R. C.,' I also wondered which category I came into—I have met examples of each of the types that she describes.

I wonder if Miss Yeo has met the 'Huntress.' She erupts into the belfry full of enthusiasm. She is to be met with at all meetings and practices, and before long is peal ringing busily. Her enthusiasm is as boundless as her energy and her leisure appears to be infinite. Her ringing career is short and brilliant and terminates triumphantly with her marriage to the most eligible male in the district and she is never seen in the belfry again. Worse still, she often keeps her husband away, also. I assure Miss Yeo that she is to be met with occasionally along with the others in 'D. R. C.'s' article.

Anyhow, how about an article about the male types?—Yours faithfully,

JESSIE M. KIPPIN.

Southampton.

THE BELLS OF DROITWICH

Dear Sir,—I remember reading with interest the article of the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead on the bells of Worcestershire, and, in particuar, his reference to two Droitwich churches. The particular 'Ringing World' in which his article appeared I have passed to another member of our band so I can only reply from memory.

Droitwich originally possessed two churches. The Parish Church of St. Andrew, which had eight bells, with a tenor about 21 cwt., had the tower lowered sometime in the 1920's, and seven of the bells lie dormant in the base of the tower. I am not in possession of any record of peals that may have been rung on these bells prior to dismantling.

There is a Church of St. Peter de Witton, which had its bells augmented from three to six in memory of parishioners killed in the 1914-18 war. The tower is at present unsafe and ringing is not allowed, but a few peals have been rung on these bells at different times. The period during which I have knowledge is from April 29th, 1928, when one peal of Doubles was rung by the local band, to September 5th, 1936, eight peals (five of which were Doubles). Since the war one peal was rung for the Coronation of Her Majesty.

There is another church, once in a parish adjoining Droitwich, but now in the borough, the Church of St. Augustine, Dodderhill, with the finest ring of eight bells in the Midlands. I wonder if this was one of the two churches to which Mr. Felstead refers. The bells here were all of the old six run out, and a new set of eight cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co. in 1932. Because of the great demand for these bells peals have been restricted, but the following are some of which I have record, but I may have missed some:—

First peal on the bells, April 2nd, 1933; total from then until the ban numbered eight. Since the ban was lifted up to July 11th, 1953, the total was 19.

Though these bells are rung more or less regularly for two services on Sunday and practice on Tuesday, we are still not strong enough for local peal ringing, and many thanks are due to Mr. J. Lindon, of Birmingham, and his friend, Miss Yeld, for continued visits to assist at practice.—Yours faithfully,

W. H. RAXTER.

Droitwich.

BOW BELLS AND THEIR RINGERS

Dear Sir,—Surely not, when Bow Bells are restored, are we going to witness a controversy as to who shall ring them according to whether they subscribed to the Bell Fund or not. Let us hope that the same conditions will prevail as before the last war, when practices were held and, occasionally, Association meetings. As P. H. Whitaker remarks, we do not want any unnecessary restrictions to invade our ringing rooms.

In most towers visitors are made very welcome and, providing they behave in a manner expected of them, they are usually given an invitation to come again.

The Exercise can be looked upon as a brotherhood, and rightly so, as it brings people together not only for the purpose of ringing bells but also enables them to know each other better. When we realise where we meet, for what purpose we use our energies, the instruments we use and to whom they are dedicated, the Exercise becomes a brotherhood in every sense of the word. Silly differences should never be tolerated.—Yours faithfully,

RICHARD NEWMAN.

Stroud Green Road, N.4.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION

Northern District

Over 110 members attended the Northern District annual meeting at Ballymena on Easter Monday, out of a District membership of about 220.

District officers elected were: Chairman, Canon J. C. Rutherford (of St. Nicholas', Carrickfergus, where the next annual meeting will be held); vice-president, Rev. J. Barry; secretary, Mr. J. T. Dunwoody; assistant secretary, Miss J. Stewart; treasurer, Rev. J. J. Fielding; Ringing Master, Mr. H. Brown; auditors, Messrs. W. Dewart and W. L. Douglas; trustees of Bell Repair Fund, Messrs. W. Pratt, R. P. Hatch and R. G. Nelson. About 150 members and friends were present at the lunch.

The Adamson Cup was retained by SS. Philip and James', Holywood, ringing Stedman Triples with 33 faults against 38½ by St. Donard's, Belfast, ringing Grandsire Triples. Nine teams took part in the Cunningham Cup competition, all ringing call changes. Placings: 1 St. Bronach's, Rostrevor, 6 faults; 2 St. Donard's, Belfast, 26 faults; 3 St. Patrick's, Ballymena, 41 faults. Mrs. Adamson presented her trophy and Miss Cunningham, daughter of the donor, the Cunningham Cup.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Chew Deanery Branch

The quarterly meeting was held at Portishead on April 21st and was attended by 39 ringers representing 18 different towers.

Ringing was followed by the Association form of service conducted by the Rev. J. M. Burroughs.

Some amusement was caused during tea in the Church Hall (also used as a school room) by the seemingly unintelligible 'writings on the wall,' which, it turned out, was the modern way of teaching children to read and write. Perhaps one of our ringing-schoolmastering friends could give us a little 'Technical Tittle-Tattle' on this subject.

Before the business meeting those present stood in silence to the memory of George Yeo, of Long Ashton, who had passed away since the last meeting. Two new members each from Backwell, Portishead and Publow and one from Nailsea were elected. Subject to permission being given, it was decided to hold meetings as follows:—Weston-in-Gordano, May; Chew Stoke or Publow, June; and Long Ashton (quarterly) in July. In connection with the practice meetings it was resolved that in future these should be from 5 to 8 p.m.

The secretary said that he had received some literature in connection with the Bow Bells appeal and stated that the Association general committee had suggested that each tower should be left to decide whether or not to support the appeal and should pass any contributions to him before the committee meeting on June 30th, when the total amount for the Association would be sent to the fund.

CORPORATE COMMUNION

Despite the loss of an hour during the night the fine octave at Wraxall was pulled up in peal soon after seven o'clock the next morning, when members rang for and attended the Parish Communion, when the celebrant was the Rector (Prebendary W. N. Kempe). Breakfast was afterwards enjoyed in the library adjoining the church, and we are very much indebted to the Wraxall ringers and their ladies for providing such a fine feed. Ringing was resumed until morning service. M. J. H.

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ABERAVON, GLAM.—On April 26th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. I. Lewis 1, A. Hannington 2, T. M. Roderick 3, J. Lovatt 4, H. Boyce 5, N. G. Leech 6, A. J. Pitman (cond.) 7, H. Crab 8. Rung when H.R.H. Princess Margaret was in the parish. Also remembered by those taking part was their doyen, the late Mr. John H. Jones.

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On April 15th, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: R. D. Brown (first in method) 1, Diana M. Gough (first in method) 2, Valerie Mepham 3, D. H. Paine 4, H. W. Brown 5, S. W. Brown (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKS.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Cambridge Surprise Major: F. W. Perrens 1, C. Aylett 2, J. W. T. Taylor 3, R. Winter 4, W. Stote 5, G. Gardner 6, P. Stone 7, J. L. Garner-Hayward (first as cond.) 8. For Evensong.

APSLEY END, HERTS.—On April 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. Goldsney 1, Joyce Philps 2, R. Shutter 3, A. V. Good 4, K. Good (cond.) 5, W. Puddifoot 6. First quarter in their respective positions for 1 and 2. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

ARLESEY, BEDS.—On April 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. Fox 1, Miss F. Smith 2, A. Simpson (cond.) 3, B. Pike 4, C. Turner 5, K. Barnes 6. For Evensong.

ASH, SURREY.—On April 21st, 1,260 Doubles (300 Grandsire, 960 Plain Bob): Miss B. Davidge 1, Miss A. E. Goodchild 2, Miss S. Sherwood 3, E. Sherwood 4, P. Sherwood (cond.) 5, S. Russell 6. For the Diocesan Mission Week.

ATCHAM, SALOP.—On April 14th, 1,360 Grandsire Doubles: Miss C. B. Hall 1, B. Jones 2, R. F. Davies 3, R. Nicholls 4, A. E. G. Owen (first as cond.) 5, B. Onions 6.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Gillian Parsons 1, R. Harbour 2, Joyce Fishlock 3, R. I. Parsons 4, H. N. Pitstow (cond.) 5, N. Hobden 6, A. E. Cheesman 7, M. F. Layton 8. For the Diocesan Mission.

BARKING, SUFFOLK.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. R. J. Lester 1, W. Girling 2, Miss M. Newby (first quarter) 3, J. J. Prentice 4, A. E. J. Lester 5, R. E. Lester (cond.) 6. For Evensong.

BARNET, HERTS.—On April 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Harrison (first of Triples on treble) 1, T. Pink 2, R. Fraser 3, M. Soper 4, C. King 5, C. Ward 6, W. Poolman (first as cond) 7, W. Langley 8.

BARROWBY, LINCS.—On April 24th, 1,260 Doubles (660 Grandsire, 600 Plain Bobj): Mrs. F. W. Pinchbeck 1, K. Ketteringham 2, J. E. Cook 3, W. R. Read (cond.) 4, F. W. Pinchbeck 5, A. O. Nichols 6. First in two methods 3 and 4.

BELGRAVE, LEICS.—On April 15th, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: C. Linch 1, P. Wells 2, O. Castleman 3, A. Skinner 4, J. Kesterton 5, N. Abell 6, R. Barrow (cond.) 7, E. Bass 8.

BRAMPTON, HUNTS.—On April 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Lucy Allen (first in method as cond.) 1, Maureen Allen 2, E. J. Whiting 3, R. F. Baker 4, J. W. Allen 5. For the festival of Easter. Also on April 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. F. Baker (cond.) 1, Lucy Allen 2, Maureen Allen 3, C. Clarke 4, J. W. Allen 5. Rung for St. George's Day.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFS.—At All Saints' Church, on April 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. H. Brittan 1, L. Chamberlain 2, C. G. Smith 3, Gloria Inwood 4, J. H. Brittan (cond.) 5, L. Manning (first quarter) 6. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Stella Mear, a ringer at this church.

CHEPSTOW, MON.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss B. Sjoberg 1, Miss P. Jones 2, Miss J. S. Evans 3, C. Bryant 4, J. I. Simms 5, J. E. Morgan 6, D. J. King (cond.) 7, T. Griffiths 8. Rung in memoriam John W. Jones, Newport.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.—On Nov. 20th, 1955, at St. Peter's Church, 1,344 Dunmow Surprise Major: A. Syder 1, Mrs. H. J. Millatt 2, L. W. Wiffen 3, T. Earle 4, E. P. Duffield 5, J. H. Edwards 6, Hilda G. Snowden 7, H. J. Millatt (cond.) 8. First in method by all. Also on April 15th, 1,344 Dunmow Surprise Major: A. Syder 1, E. P. Duffield 2, L. W. Wiffen 3, T. Earle 4, A. W. Cansdale (first in method) 5, J. H. Edwards 6, Hilda G. Snowden 7, H. J. Millatt (cond.) 8.

QUARTER PEALS

DAVENTRY, NORTHANTS.—On April 14th, 1,296 Little Bob Major: C. Swann 1, E. G. Orland 2, Miss D. Elson 3, D. Griffin 4, M. Amos 5, M. Chown 6, R. Wilson 7, S. G. Osborne (cond.) 8. First quarter in the method by all the band.

DEAL, KENT.—On April 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss B. V. Harley (first quarter) 1, G. E. Ruck (cond.) 2, Miss A. Vine 3, M. M. Milner 4, R. D. Rees 5, Miss M. P. Gulliver (first quarter) 6. Rung as a compliment to Mrs. H. C. Alexander, daughter of Mr. M. M. Milner, on the birth of a son (David Charles).

DEAN PRIOR, DEVON.—On April 23rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. L. Bennett 1, Mrs. D. E. Hood 2, E. M. Atkins (cond.) 3, M. Hood 4, D. J. Cross 5, W. J. Harvey 6. Rung on St. George's Day for the patronal festival of the church.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.—On April 22nd, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: W. Slaughter 1, G. Olliver 2, G. Parsons (first in method) 3, J. Euston 4, A. J. Bull 5, A. Lewry 6, H. May 7, E. Talbot 8. For Evensong.

ELTHAM, KENT.—On April 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Clarke 1, W. Rawlings 2, Miss B. Slark 3, F. Hurrell 4, E. J. Coode 5, K. Small 6, M. Oakshett (cond.) 7, J. Sims 8. Rung for H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.'s 30th birthday.

EPSOM, SURREY.—On April 18th, at St. Martin's Church, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Brenda Chappel 1, E. J. Lindley (cond.) 2, D. G. Ashridge 3, A. E. Cheesman 4, Janet M. Besant 5, L. D. Kingswood 6, F. Oakshott 7, A. J. Adams 8, J. Hill 9, J. C. Davidge 10. First quarter by 6 and 10. First on ten by 1 and 5. For morning service.

EXETER, DEVON.—At the Cathedral, on April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples on the 'Thomas Eight': N. Mallet (cond.) 1, R. H. Drewett 2, W. A. Wills 3, G. Skinner 4, F. Wreford 5, A. R. Jones 6, C. P. Yates 7, F. Wills 8. Rung as a compliment to W. H. Howe (ringing master) and Mrs. Howe on the occasion of their ruby wedding anniversary.

FRESHWATER, I.O.W.—On April 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A Green 1, P. Smith (first 'inside') 2, E. Ridott 3, C. Saunders (first 'inside') 4, F. Green (cond.) 5, P. Stephens 6. A silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. C. Saunders.

HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss J. A. Bennett 1, A. N. Stubbs 2, Miss E. M. Yardley 3, Miss D. J. Perrins 4, I. D. Thompson (cond.) 5, R. Bond 6. For Evensong.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On April 16th, 1,232 Plain Bob Triples: D. P. Jones (cond.) 1, Miss J. Mayes 2, K. C. Timbury 3, P. Flack (13) 4, R. J. Coppage 5, S. Ivin 6, R. H. Dove 7, S. H. Ashton (first on eight) 8.

HOLLOWAY, N.—On April 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. H. Begrie (cond.) 1, Miss D. A. Deverill 2, Miss M. A. Prockson 3, A. Newman 4, A. W. Butler 5, W. D. Prockson 6, A. Turner 7, H. W. Barnard 8. Rung for the induction and institution of the Rev. R. E. Simpson as Vicar.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—On April 15th, 1,320 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Papworth 1, J. Elliott (cond.) 2, C. Button 3, R. Pye 4, C. Burton 5, A. R. Elliott 6. For Evensong.

LAMBETH, S.E.—On April 15th, at the Church of St. John, Waterloo Road, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Powell 1, Miss N. Hales 2, J. A. Hales 3, N. G. Hollingworth 4, A. E. Hoare 5, P. J. Hutchings 6 L.. W. Bullock (cond.) 7, J. Hales 8.

LILBOURNE, NORTHANTS.—On April 16th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of St. Simon's, Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob and April Day and 300 Grandsire): W. Drake (first quarter) 1, P. Westerman 2, R. Wilson (cond.) 3, E. G. Orland 4, W. Kinchin 5.

LONG BUCKBY, NORTHANTS.—On April 11th, 1,260 Doubles (240 April Day, 480 Plain Bob and 540 Grandsire): E. G. Orland (cond.) 1, R. Clarke 2, R. E. Holland 3, M. Bennett 4, R. Baker 5.

NEATH, GLAM.—On April 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. W. Morris 1, Miss M. Llewellyn 2, E. Latty 3, E. J. Morris 4, H. Boyce (cond.) 5, J. Galvin 6. For morning service.

POYNTON, CHESHIRE.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Minor (720 Oxford Treble Bob, 540 Plain Bob): S. Sage 1, I. Jenkins 2, J. A. Martin 3, B. Schofield 4, S. Hough jun., 5, D. Mottershead (cond.) 6. For St. George's Day celebrations.

QUEDGELEY, GLOS.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Doubles (480 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 480 All Saints', 300 Grandsire): C. Pugh 1, S. Pugh 2, P. Hurcombe (cond.) 3, C. Wixey 4, W. C. Wixey 5, F. E. Tranter 6. For morning service.

QUEENBOROUGH, KENT.—On April 26th, 1,260 Doubles (660 Bob, 600 St. Bartholomew): Mrs. Croal (first quarter) 1, Miss J. Wallace (first 'inside') 2, W. A. Wood (cond.) 3, S. Rayfield 4, H. Blacketh 5, G. Wood (aged 82) 6. A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Blacketh on their silver wedding.

READING, BERKS.—At St. Laurence's Church, on April 15th, 1,299 Stedman Caters: A. Diserens 1, R. Burton 2, F. Lewis 3, Miss H. Brant 4, K. Cotterell 5, B. Stirland 6, J. N. Diserens 7, R. F. Diserens 8, N. J. Diserens (cond.) 9, V. Cherrill 10. First of Stedman Caters for 3 and 4.

SHREWSBURY, SALOP.—At St. Michael's Church, on April 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Onions 1, B. Jones 2, Miss C. B. Hall (first 'inside') 3, J. Colley 4, A. E. G. Owen (cond.) 5, Miss M. James 6. Rung for the Queen's birthday.

STAMFORD HILL, N.—At St. Ann's Church, on April 15th, 1,320 Doubles (one extent each of Old, Reverse Canterbury, St. Martin's, St. Nicholas', Winchendon Place and three each of St. Simon's and Plain Bob): M. Rowe 1, Miss J. Secker 2, Miss F. Secker 3, B. Bladon (cond.) 4, E. J. Rowe 5, L. Green 6. First in seven methods by all except conductor.

TURRAMURRA, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.—On April 20th, 1,260 Doubles (420 Grandsire, 360 Plain Bob, 240 Old, 240 Norfolk): W. Knight 1, J. Rainsford 2, J. Clark (cond.) 3, K. Stacey 4, W. Smith 5, J. Hordern 6. For Confirmation service.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—On April 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: M. Hayes 1, Jennifer M. Highley 2, A. J. N. Boyack 3, F. C. Maynard 4, C. T. W. Coles 5, R. J. Chapman (cond.) 6, P. F. Borer 7, F. C. Taylor 8. Rung for Matins and to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Alan Shepherd and Miss Sonia Coles, daughter of the ringer of the fifth.

WELLS, SOMERSET.—On April 25th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Plain Bob Royal: F. Savage 1, R. Crago 2, A. Sanger 3, R. Gardiner 4, V. Savage 5, G. Salmon 6, V. Roberts 7, H. Sanger 8, E. Chivers 9, D. Hoare (cond.) 10. Rung to mark the occasion of the Somerset Light Infantry receiving the freedom of the city this day.

WEM, SALOP.—On April 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Sylvia Beddow 1, H. F. White 2, Elizabeth Yeld 3, F. Cattell 4, J. N. Lindon 5, F. G. Beddow 6, E. V. Rodenhurst (cond.) 7, F. Mason 8. For the Queen's birthday.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.—On April 22nd, 1,260 Double Court Bob Minor: Miss R. A. Gower 1, Miss P. Lawes 2, E. S. Ruck 3, C. T. Hillis 4, L. C. Smith 5, M. S. Lancefield (cond.) 6. For Matins. Also 1,320 Kentish Delight Minor: Miss R. E. Gower 1, R. J. Carlton 2, C. T. Hillis 3, A. J. Lancefield (cond.) 4, W. P. Garner 5, J. Cooper 6. For Evensong.

WINDSOR, BERKS.—At St. John's Church, on April 21st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. H. Kingcott 1, G. Prescott 2, Hilda M. Kingcott 3, J. W. Owen 4, R. H. Brice 5, L. W. Pullin (first in method as cond.) 6, H. A. Price 7, J. K. Baker 8. First in method by 5, 6, 7 and 8. Rung for the Queen's birthday.

WITCHAMPTON, DORSET.—On April 18th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. E. Groves 1, R. B. Tubbs 2, W. C. Shute 3, L. J. Lockyer 4, P. N. Tubbs (cond.) 5, E. C. Burt 6. First of Minor for 1, 2, 5 and 6.

YORK.—At the Minster, on April 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: S. H. Steel 1, Miss M. E. Wilkinson 2, B. Sutton 3, Rev. Gordon Graham 4, D. Forth 5, H. Forder 6, H. Walker (cond.) 7, J. Bower 8. Rung after the enthronement of Dr. A. M. Ramsey, Archbishop of York. Stedman and Grandsire Caters were rung before the service.

OBITUARY

MR. CHARLES WHITING

The sudden death of Mr. Charles Whiting occurred at his home at Leiston on March 5th.

Born at Theberton in 1874, Mr. Whiting was first employed as a carpenter at Leiston. In 1896 he joined the Army and served in the Royal Engineers until 1903, the last three years being spent at Hong Kong. When the first world war came he rejoined the R.E.s in 1914 and was in the Dardanelles landing in 1915 when he was seriously wounded.

At the age of 82 years, when called to higher service, Mr. Whiting had been associated with bell ringing for about 62 years, and was a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association, with 12 peals to his credit. On the formation of the Suffolk Guild he became a founder member, with whom he rang ten peals, making a total of 22. In 1951 he rang the second to a quarter peal of Kent Treble Bob Major for his 77th birthday. As can be seen he was not a great peal ringer but enjoyed ringing for Sunday services.

The funeral took place on March 10th, with many of his ringing friends present, after which the bells of St. Margaret's, Leiston, were rung half-muffled in his honour.

MR. J. W. JONES

Among the many towers in South Wales who remembered the passing of Mr. J. W. Jones was Pentre, Rhondda. Mr. Jones rang in the first peal on the bells in 1901, and in all rang seven peals at Pentre. The bells were rung half-muffled to Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob as a mark of respect. Those ringing included Mr. G. N. Leech, of Dudley.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the Society was held at Armley on April 28th, and members representing 14 towers in the District were present. Ringing took place during the afternoon and evening in methods ranging from Plain Bob to Cambridge Surprise.

The business meeting was held in the Church Hall immediately after tea. Officers for the year were elected as follows:—President, Mr. H. Lofthouse; vice-presidents, Messrs. S. H. Barron, I. Slack and T. W. Strangeway; Ringing Master, Mr. J. Gibson; secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. F. Hodson; auditors, Messrs. F. Rayment and C. F. Sutcliffe.

The secretary, in his report, stated that 11 meetings had been held and that both the membership and funds of the Society had increased during the past year. He particularly thanked all tower secretaries and local companies for their arrangtments for the meetings

Other business included the election of two members; the alteration of two items on the tower list for 1956-57—for the June meeting, read Sherburn instead of Hunslet, and for the meeting next March, Hunslet instead of Armley; and votes of thanks to the local company and their helpers, the Vicar and churchwardens and the retiring officers of the Society

The next meeting will be held at Guiseley on May 26th.

Rushden Ringers in Bedfordshire

A coach-load of ringers from Rushden and neighbouring towers had an enjoyable half-day's outing in Bedfordshire. Ringing took place at Sharnbrook, Felmersham (a recently augmented octave which was much admired), Harrold, Turvey, Biddenham and St. Paul's, Bedford (where some of the younger members had their first ring on ten).

RINGERS' OUTING

ROSS-ON-WYE AND BRIDSTOW

On April 3rd a small party of enthusiasts from Ross and Bridstow spent an enjoyable day 'tower-grabbing' around the Herefordshire–Worcestershire border.

First on the list were the pleasant six (16 cwt.) at Bosbury, Herefordshire, where the tower is detached from the main body of the church. Next came Mathon (6, 9) which, by a coincidence, proved to be the 100th tower for two different members of the band. This double event was duly honoured by the first touch of Cambridge for the day. A move was made towards Cradley (6, 13), the last Herefordshire tower on the programme. Here the long draught proved rather troublesome. An additional distraction was provided by the juvenile population of the village, at least half of whom—drawn by the sound of the bells—wandered into the church and surveyed the visitors curiously through the spaces in the wooden screen which divided the vestry from the nave.

After a picnic lunch the band proceeded to Leigh (Worcs), which possesses a heavier ring of six (tenor 17¼ cwt.). This church has the unusual dedication of St. Edburgha.

The anti-clockwise ring at Kempsey (6, 19¾) was next, and this was voted the best six of the day. Proceeding via what was signposted as a 'deep ford' we arrived, slightly damp, at Earl's Croome. The occupants of the car came off best at the ford—the motor cycle stopped dead in the middle of it, and the unfortunate rider had to kick off again in about a foot of water! The light Earl's Croome bells (6, 9) were a pleasant contrast to the two previous heavy rings, their description as 'ladies' bells' being proved by both the girls gravitating towards the back end, one of them turning in the tenor to a touch of Minor. It was here that the first course of Killamarsh by all the band was rung.

Through the kindness of the local ringers who met us after tea at Upton-on-Severn, we had enough to ring Triples and Major on this lovely eight (tenor 14 cwt.). The one and only mishap of the tour occurred here: the rope of the sixth broke during the last touch.

The final tower of the day was Ripple (6, 13), another nice ring; but owing to the number of blisters and sore hands that the band by then possessed, their visit here was slightly curtailed, and everyone soon made for home, well pleased with their day's outing M. T.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

The Rev. N. F. D. Coleridge conducted the service and acted as organist when the Mid-Devon Branch met at Townstal, Dartmouth, on April 28th. The Vicar (the Rev. T. G. D. Watkins) gave an admirable address.

At the business meeting, with Mr. J. E. Lilley in the chair, five new members from Townstal and one from Torquay were elected. Wishes for a speedy recovery from his recent accident are to be sent to the general secretary and also a letter of sympathy to Mr. C. F. Austin, Paignton, on the death of his wife. Subject to confirmation, June 16th was suggested for the joint meeting with the S.W. Branch at Plymouth, and July 21st for the next quarterly meeting at Bovey Tracey. Ringing took place afterwards at Stoke Fleming.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.—On April 15th, 1,260 Double Bob Minor: Miss B. Philpot 1, Miss P. Lawes 2, E. S. Ruck 3, L. C. Smith 4, M. S. Lancefield (cond.) 5, D. Staples 6. For Matins. Also 1,260 Doubles (780 Grandsire and 240 each of St. Simon's and Plain Bob): A. J. Lancefield (cond.) 1, D. Staples 2, C. T. Hillis 3, W. P. Garner 4, W. J. Lancefield 5, W. Gill 6. For Evensong.

NOTICES

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DEATH

WEBB.—Charles Henry Webb passed away at his home at 68, Brownshill Green Road, Coventry, on April 26th, 1956, after a long and painful illness patiently borne. His family thank the many friends for the beautiful floral tributes. 8251

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MEETINGS

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—General meeting on Saturday, May 12th. All Hallows, Chertsey Road, Twickenham, 3 to 4 p.m. Tea and business 4.30 to 6, the Vicarage, Church Street, Isleworth. Service 6.30, All Saints', Isleworth. Ringing at Isleworth 7 to 9 p.m. Names for tea, please. Everyone welcome.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. Tel.: HOU 3921. 8174

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Meeting at Sutton on Saturday, May 12th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. Lawton, School View, Sutton Lane Ends, Macclesfield.—B. Corbishley, Sec. 8243

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Joint meeting with Sussex County, May 12th. Worth (6) 3 to 4.30. Tea at Turner's Hill (8) with ringing after. Names to Ivan Butcher, East Bungalow, Paddockhurst, Crawley.—C. A. Bassett, I. Butcher.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western.—Crusader meeting, Fyfield, May 12th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea. Names for tea, please, to Mr. F. Blatch, Rose Bank, Fyfield, Ongar. 8206

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Meeting at Thames Ditton on Saturday, May 12th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—R. Collins. 8219

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Meeting, Saturday, May 12th, 3 p.m., Benington. Please bring own tea.—T. J. Southam, Dis. Sec. 8239

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Preston Branch.—The meeting advertised for Hoghton, May 12th, is cancelled. Next meeting, June 2nd; details later.—L. Walmsley. 8269

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at All Saints', Church Street, Edmonton, on Saturday, May 12th, at 3 p.m. Two minutes from Edmonton Town Hall. No. 128 bus passes church. Service 4.30. Tea and business to follow.—T. J. Lock. 8217

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Practice meeting, Burstow (6), May 12th. Bells 3 p.m. Service uncertain. Tea (2s. 6d.) 5.15 p.m., Garage Café, Keepers Corner. 424 bus, Reigate—East Grinstead, for church and tea. 8201

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Joint meeting with East Grinstead, Saturday, May 12th. Ringing at Worth (6) 3 p.m. Tea at Turner's Hill 5.30 p.m. Turner's Hill (8) from 6.15 p.m. 8212

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION. — Southern Branch. — Quarterly meeting at Badsey, Saturday, May 12th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea.—W. Newman, 7, New Road, Hampton, Evesham. 8247

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Annual general meeting at York on Saturday, May 12th. Minster bells (12) available 2-3.55 p.m. Evensong in Minster 4. Tea at Festival Restaurant, Jubbergate, 5 p.m. Business meeting at York Institute of Architectural Study, Micklegate, at 6 p.m. Bells (6), recently rehung, available after meeting. Subscriptions due and reports will be available.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford 9. 8208

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—Practice meeting, Thursday, May 17th, St. Mary's (R.C.), Clapham Common, 7-9. Visitors and learners specially welcome. Quarterly business meeting, Saturday, June 9th; details later.—Hutchings. Tel: TUL 0800. 8266

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Chew Deanery.—Meeting, Weston-in-Gordano, May 19th, 5 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 8261

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Ilchester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Somerton, Saturday, May 19th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—T. J. Setter, 52, Middle Street, Yeovil. 8253

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Luton District.—Eversholt, on May 19th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers invited to attend.—K. G. Spavins, Dis. Sec. 8264

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wirral Branch.—Meeting, St. Mary's, Upton, Birkenhead, May 19th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea free for those notifying by Wednesday, 16th inst.—Alexander J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 8272

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Meeting at Carlton-in-Cleveland (8) on Saturday, May 19th, at 3 p.m.—P. W. B. Semmens, Hon. Sec. 8273

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—District meeting at Bentley (6) on Saturday, May 19th, from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea, by previous Wednesday, to Mr. A. Raggett, Church Lane, Bentley, Farnham, Surrey.—C. J. Beadle, Hon. Dis. Sec. 8254

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Biddenden, on May 19th. 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to S. G. Waters, Bishopsdale, Biddenden. 8255

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—Evening meeting, Saturday, May 19th, at Essendon. Bells (6) at 6 p.m.—S Huckle, Dis. Sec. 8258

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch.—Meeting at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, May 19th. Tower open for ringing at 3. Cups of tea at 5. Members and non-members are cordially invited. — J. Porter, Branch Sec. 8268

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—Ringing meeting at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, 3 p.m., May 19th. Names for tea, before 14th, to A. Stone, 282, Astley Street, Dukinfield, Cheshire.—R. Benson. 8270

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Llandaff Branch.—Meeting, Llangynwych, May 19th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—R. E. Coles, Sec. 8223

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District. — Meeting, Ruislip, Saturday, May 19th. Bells 3 p.m. Short business meeting 4.30 p.m. Tea at nearby restaurant. Further ringing in evening.—F. A. Finch. 8267

SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD. — Newark District.—Meeting at East Bridgford on Saturday, May 19th. Bells 2.30. Names for tea by Tuesday previous to W. L. Exton, Hon. Sec., 60, Albert Street, Newark. 8231

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Saxmundham District. —Meeting at Benhall and Saxmundham on Saturday, May 19th. Bells: Benhall (6), 2.30 p.m. Service: Saxmundham, 5. Tea 5.30 p.m. Saxmundham (6) bells after tea. Names for tea by Tuesday, May 15th, to A. R. Bridges, Hon. Sec., Theberton, Leiston. Phone: Leiston 57. 8236

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Old Alresford, Saturday, May 19th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. in Village Hall. Names for tea by previous Wednesday to Mr. J. A. C. King, 21, St. Faith's Road, Winchester. 8229

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Walpole St. Andrew, Whit Monday, April 21st. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—J. E. Fox, Dis. Sec. 8257

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Annual general meeting on Whit Monday, May 21st, at Chelmsford. Service, conducted by the Provost, in the Cathedral at 11 a.m. Address by the Rt. Rev. F. D. V. Narborough, M.A., B.D., Bishop of Colchester. Annual meeting to follow immediately after the service in the Chapter House. Tea and coffee available in the Cathedral Hall 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. Lunch 1.30 p.m., Cathedral Hall, and tea as a running buffet from 5 to 6.15 p.m. Lunch (4s. 6d.) and tea (2s.) tickets from A. H. Everett, Cornerways, Plantation Road, Boreham, Chelmsford, by May 16th, and please enclose stamped addressed envelope. Ringing arrangements: Cathedral, 9.30 to 11 a.m. and from 5 p.m.; Boreham (8), Great Waltham (8), Broomfield (6), Little Waltham (6), Springfield (6), from 3 to 6 p.m.; Galleywood (8), Great Baddow (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Danbury (6), Sandon (6), from 6 p.m.—F. V. Gant, Hon. Gen. Sec. 8179

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—Annual general meeting, Whit Monday, May 21st, at Cullompton. Service 12.15. Luncheon, Manor House Hotel, 1.15. Tickets, 5s. 6d. each, may be had on application to Prebendary E. V. Cox, Hunthay Close, Axminster, Devon, before May 16th. Bells available: Cullompton, 11 to 12, Bradninch, 11 to 11.45; and both towers also after business meeting. A Ringing Master will be present in each tower. 8221

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Festival and annual general meeting at Ross on Whit Monday, May 21st. Service, Parish Church, 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15. Annual meeting 5 p.m. Bells available from 11 a.m.: Ross (8), Weston-under-Penyard (6), Bridstow (8), Foy (6), Aston Ingham (6), Upton Bishop (6).—W. R. Thomas, Gen. Sec. 8132

LADIES' GUILD.—Kent Branch.—Meeting at Ashford (8) on Saturday, May 26th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by May 24th, please, to Mr. C. W. Everett, 48, Sussex Avenue, Ashford, Kent. All ladies welcome: gentlemen cordially invited.—Jill Haffenden, Hon. Sec. 8262

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Annual, Lincoln Cathedral, May 26th. Cathedral bells only available, afternoon and evening. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., Eastgate Court. Business meeting immediately after in the Consistory Court 8252

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District.—By-meeting at Hunton, May 26th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Please bring your own food. Tea will be brewed in Village Hall.—R. L. Sills, Dis. Sec. 8256

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Sculthorpe, May 26th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5, followed by the business meeting. Names for tea to G. Greeves, 44, Moor Lane, Sculthorpe. 8271

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — South Oxon Branch. — Meeting at Warborough on Saturday, May 26th. Bells (8) available at 3. Service at 4. Tea for those who notify, by May 22nd, Mr. F. Absolom, of Warborough. — H. Badger, Branch Sec., The Blue Man, Thame, Oxon 8259

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — V.W.H. Branch.—Annual meeting Faringdon, Saturday, May 26th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, May 23rd, to R. F. J. Gilling, Branch Sec., Fernham, Faringdon, Berks. 8260

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Salisbury Branch. — Practice meeting, May 26th, Broadchalke (6), 2.30-4.30. Tea 5 for those who notify by 22nd. Berwick St. John's (6) 7-8.30.—Miss Eloie, 8, Albany Road, Salisbury. 8265

SUFFOLK GUILD. — Sudbury District.—Meeting at Felsham (6), Saturday, May 26th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to the Rev. J. Simons, Felsham Rectory, Bury St. Edmunds.—R. J. Seabrook. 8263

LADIES' GUILD.—North Eastern District. —Owing to non-availability of Hexham Abbey bells on June 16th, date of meeting changed to June 30th.—N. I. Lea, Hon. Sec. 8274

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual dinner on Saturday, October 6th, 1956, at the Old Bell, Holborn, 6 for 6.30 p.m. Tickets, price 13s. each, now available from the undersigned, and early application is requested.—P. N. Bond, Hon. Sec., Gaywood, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent. 8200

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION

St. Albans District

The April meeting was held in brilliant sunshine at Wheathampstead, where quite a large gathering of members and visitors from Norton, Watford and Loughton enjoyed this fine ring of six bells.

Members were pleased to welcome Mr. P. B. Smith, who started ringing at Wheathampstead as long ago as 1890.

At the business meeting the president of the Association, Mr. W. T. Holmes, took the chair. It was decided to hold an evening practice meeting at Essendon on Whit Saturday, if these bells were available. E. E.

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By SHIRLEY BURTON

5ths Out	In	23456
3	—	35426
3	—	52436
— 3	—	23564

Repeat twice omitting three bobs at 'Out' twice.

First rung at Loughborough Bell Foundry on September 21st. 1955. Method is Yorkshire with 8ths place instead of 2nds at the lead-end.

5,088 ARNESBY SURPRISE MAJOR

By SHIRLEY BURTON

5ths Out	H	23456
— 3	X	26435
3	X	42563
	X	54326
—		43526

Repeat twice.

First rung October 12th, 1955, at South Wigston, conducted by B. G. Warwick. Method is New Cambridge with 8ths place instead of 2nds at the lead-end.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.—1,260 Plain Bob Major: S. Brooks 1, R. Springham 2, S. Clark 3, H. Bird 4, W. Wheeler 5, D. Collins 6, R. H. Young 7, E. Rochester (cond.) 8. Rung as a silver wedding compliment for Mr. and Mrs. S. Brooks; also for the occasion of the christening of the first grandchild of the ringer of the tenor.

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