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RINGERS' SERVICES.

'What is the object or purpose of the service usually held in connection with ringers' meetings?' This question is asked by a correspondent, whose letter appears in another column. We should have thought the answer was obvious. It is held because the ringers themselves like to take the opportunity of their meeting to join in a corporate act of devotion. It may be quite true that Parochial Church Councils, when they meet for the transaction of business or the choir when they meet for practice, do not hold a service in the church; but neither, as a rule, do ringers when they meet at their own tower for the weekly practice. The association meetings that are held are on a different footing. There is, of course, no compulsion to hold a service on such occasions, but the custom of doing so has grown up very strongly during this century, until there are very few associations' meetings that do not incorporate a short service into the proceedings at some stage. For our part we believe that most ringers enjoy and appreciate this feature of their meetings. It marks out the gathering as something different from the ordinary Saturday afternoon outing, whether to a football match or the pictures, or what not. Ringers are churchworkers, and the foundation of church life is worship, and if, as our correspondent says, ringers are treated differently from other bodies of workers in the church, it is not because they are 'considered to be greater sinners,' but because they better realise and seize their opportunities.

We are not going to suggest that a service in conjunction with an association meeting appeals to all ringers alike. There are some, we know, who would prefer to spend the time in ringing; others who find the sameness in the theme of the preachers a little irksome; but the majority of ringers, we are sure, like to share in those few minutes of devotion which the short service provides. That half-hour spent in church can be very restful and refreshing, to the body as well as to the soul; and that address, after all, is a well-intended message from the preacher. At the same time we are inclined to think that the 'address' might often be omitted. Unless the occasion is a special one there is no address at the ordinary morning or evening week-day service, and there is no real need for it when ringers hold an ordinary monthly or quarterly meeting. The act of corporate worship is sufficient to serve the purpose, and on a day when the clergy usually have the greatest claim upon their time, in preparation for Sunday, many of them would prefer to be relieved of giving an address. But to the question raised by our correspondent, 'What is the ob-

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ject of the service?' the answer can be found both in the desire of man to seek the comfort and inspiration of worship, and in the zeal which this act of devotion sets upon the work which the ringers are doing—a reconsecration, if you like, to the service of Almighty God. If a service has not got this object, then the holding of it is sheer hypocrisy.

TEN BELL PEALS

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 20, 1935, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. in D.

*E. DENNIS POOLE Treble	*ALLAN JONES 6
WILLIAM SAUNDERS 2	WALTER LAGO 7
JOSEPH STANIER 3	JAMES GEORGE 8
G. LEONARD HEWITT 4	CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON 9
†WILLIAM FARMER 5	†GEOFFREY F. D. PRATT ... Tenor

Composed by F. G. MAY.

Conducted by C. GUDGEON.

* First peal. † First peal of Caters. ‡ First peal on tower bells. First peal of Caters as conductor. Rung in honour of Mr. John Overton, of Bridgnorth, completing 60 years of unbroken service as leader of St. Leonard's ringers, Bridgnorth. Before commencing the peal the band stood in silence as a token of remembrance to Mr. William Pye.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt. in C sharp.

JOHN G. W. HARWOOD Treble	GEORGE BAILEY 6
ALFRED J. MOY 2	ARTHUR G. KING 7
ROBERT D. TOOLEY 3	WILLIAM J. LEE 8
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD 9
*REGINALD J. DAVBY 5	HERBERT JERMY Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. Rung to mark the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. King, of Yarmouth, and the birth of a granddaughter to the ringer of the treble. Canon Aitken retained the company to supper after the peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NEWCHURCH, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

*ALEX LUPTON Treble	Cecil ROTHWELL 5
HAROLD W. EMMETT 2	FRED KENDALL 6
THOMAS ROLLERSON 3	ERNEST PARKINSON 6
ALEX BARNES 4	STANLEY PICKUP Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER.

Conducted by T. ROLLERSON.

* First peal.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

*RENE REDPATH Treble	†PERCY AMOS 5
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 2	ERNEST E. HOLMAN 6
†MOLLIE REDPATH 3	HARRY HOVERD 7
†RONALD D. WARD 4	T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major on tower bells. ‡ First peal of Bob Major 'inside.' This peal was originally arranged as a birthday peal for Mollie Redpath and to accommodate P. Amos, who was in London, but, owing to the death of Mr. W. Pye, was rung half-muffled to his memory.

HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

*JAMES H. HAYWOOD Treble	JOHN J. L. GILBERT 5
MISS L. NOEL CAWTHORNE ... 2	*NORMAN CHADDOCK 6
*LESLIE HAYWOOD 3	FREDERICK CARDWELL 7
MISS DORICE TURNER 4	FRED WATKINSON Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS.

Conducted by F. WATKINSON.

* First peal in the method.

PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 13½ cwt.

*JAMES R. TERRY Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS 5
GEORGE H. WILLIAMS 2	CHARLES DAVIS 6
GEORGE T. MITCHISON 3	FREDERICK W. RISEWORTH ... 7
GEORGE F. SWANN 4	HARRY COOK Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

* First peal. Rung on the eve of St. Patrick's Day to celebrate the 87th birthday of William Cooper, who was a member of the local band for over 60 years, and as a birthday compliment to the daughter of the ringer of the 3rd.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ROLAND KENDALL Treble	HARRY WILDE 5
*ARTHUR SKELTON 2	ALBERT PICKLES 6
EDGAR WHITELEY 3	WILLIAM AMBLER 7
CLIFFORD ELLISON 4	SAM LONGBOTTOM Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by SAM LONGBOTTOM.

* First peal in the method. First peal as conductor. Rung with half-muffled clappers as a last token of respect to the late Mr. J. Butterfield, 49 years a ringer at the above church.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.

WALTER BARRETT Treble	GEORGE GOWER 5
ERNEST WHITING 2	*ROBERT BARBER 6
GEORGE HOWLETT 3	WILLIAM FLATT 7
*ROBERT GARDINER 4	CHARLES LOOME Tenor

Composed by Rev. H. E. BULWER. Conducted by CHARLES LOOME

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in F.

EDWARD J. CHARMAN Treble	PETER CHARMAN 5
JOHN H. B. HESSE 2	C. ERNEST SMITH 6
WALTER CHARMAN 3	ARTHUR J. BARILETT 7
JOHN COOK 4	ALFRED H. POLLING Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING

Rung prior to the unveiling by the Vicar (the Rev. F. S. Farebrother) of a peal board in this tower commemorating a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 10,432 changes, rung on April 29th, 1933, in 6 hours 12 minutes, in which seven of the above band took part, E. J. Charman replacing W. Stanford, indisposed.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

LAWRENCE POULSON Treble	GEORGE W. ABLITT 5
*EDWIN A. CRACKNELL 2	KEITH W. WHITTELL 6
ARTHUR SYMONDS 3	LEONARD PRYKE 7
†DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS ... 4	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... Tenor

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT.

Conducted by G. A. BLAXCELL.

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

PRESTBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*KENNETH LEWIS Treble	JAMES A. MILNER 5
JAMES FERNLEY 2	WILLIAM FERNLEY 6
WILFRED STEVENSON 3	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 7
LIONEL CLOUGH 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in the method. Mr. Wolstencroft's 250th peal.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, March 17, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES ROSE Treble	STANLEY G. MOSS 5
CLAUDE WOODWARD 2	CHARLES SHEMMING 6
KEITH W. WHITTELL 3	HERBERT SHEMMING 7
CHARLES CLARKE 4	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

BRITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 17, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 15 cwt. G.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... Treble	ALFRED G. HILL 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2	HARRY HOVERD 6
JOHN S. MORTON 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM 7
LIONEL J. CULLUM 4	WILLIAM C. DARKE Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

HADLOW, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 15 cwt.

HARRY RABBITT Treble	HARRY BAKER 5
MRS. H. BAKER 2	JAMES G. POWELL 6
THOMAS E. SONE 3	WILLIAM GORRINGE 7
TOM SAUNDERS 4	LUTHER J. HONESS Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1935, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

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

Tenor 15 cwt.

ALFRED J. HOUSE Treble	JOHN W. CORNFORD 5
JAMES BENNETT 2	ERNEST J. BUTLER 6
ERNEST W. FURBANK 3	EDWARD D. SMITH 7
ALFRED PRIOR 4	JAMES E. DAVIS Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JAMES E. DAVIS.

Rung with bells half-muffled as a token of respect to William Fre, who was interred in Aldborough Hatch Churchyard on March 16th. This composition is now rung for the first time.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1935, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 39 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

THOMAS W. HAMMOND ... Treble	*JOHN BROWN ... 5
THOMAS W. GILMOUR ... 2	GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 6
LESTER L. GRAY ... 3	EDWARD CAUNCE ... 7
JAMES MARSH ... 4	HUGH ROBERTS ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

* First peal in the method away from the tenor. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. William Pye.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 21, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 14 cwt.

MRS. HAROLD J. POOLE ... Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE ... 5
REV. R. P. FARROW ... 2	REGINALD JELLEY ... 6
*HERBERT W. PERKINS ... 3	FREDERICK E. WILSON ... 7
DR. F. STEDMAN POOLE ... 4	JOSIAH MORRIS ... Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal 'inside.'

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in F sharp.

CHARLES H. SONE ... Treble	HARRY BAKER ... 5
MRS. H. BAKER ... 2	THOMAS E. SONE ... 6
*TOM SAUNDERS ... 3	LUTHER J. HONESS ... 7
WILLIAM BUTTON, JUN. ... 4	KENNETH PATTENDEN ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
*125th peal. Birthday peal for Messrs. W. Button, sen. and jun., both birthdays being on the above date. The composition, No. 395, is rung for the first time.

WAREHAM, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of Lady St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

*HENRY W. SAUNDERS ... Treble	LOUIS J. LOCKYER ... 5
†J. IVON DAVIS ... 2	WILLIAM HOULTON ... 6
A. P. MARTIN STEWART ... 3	*FRANCIS G. BLAKE ... 7
EDWARD T. GRIFFIN ... 4	WILLIAM E. CHEATER ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by Wm. E. CHEATER.

* First peal in the method and of Major and members of the local band. † First peal of Major. Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Saunders kindly entertained the band to tea after the peal.

PETERSFIELD, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ... Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR ... 5
JOSIAH D. HARRIS ... 2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... 6
*CHARLES E. BASSETT ... 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 7
C. ERNEST SMITH ... 4	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... Tenor

Composed by Rev. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.
* First peal of London Surprise. First peal of London Surprise on the bells.

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CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, & SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*ERNEST W. PYE ... Treble	*MISS FRANCES HUMPHREY ... 5
JOHN G. NASH ... 2	EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 6
THOMAS J. LOCK ... 3	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 7
MISS K. M. BRADFORD ... 4	*JAMES G. A. PRIOR ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. C. S. TURNER.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise Major. This composition contains 2,880 London, 896 Bristol, 736 Superlative, 704 Cambridge, and is now rung for the first time. The average age of this band is 22 years and is the youngest to ring a peal of Spliced Surprise.

SLAUGHMAN, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

*FREDERICK J. LAMBERT ... Treble	FRANK BENNETT ... 5
*REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 2	*FREDERICK WHITE ... 6
*A. WINGFIELD DURHAM ... 3	*HERBERT MARKWELL ... 7
*ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... 4	STAFFORD H. GREEN ... Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal of New Cambridge. First peal in the method on the bells.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ERNEST FOXALL ... Treble	BERTRAM HEAD ... 5
BERTRAM H. HEAD ... 2	WILFRED OVERTON ... 6
JOHN ELCOCK ... 3	HORACE W. OVERTON ... 7
HAROLD G. THOMAS ... 4	WALTER D. FOWLES ... Tenor

Conducted by WILFRED OVERTON.

Rung to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Mr. John Overton being appointed head ringer of St. Leonard's belfry. All are Sunday service ringers, and under his able tuition learned to ring in the tower.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Parish Church of SS. Mary and Lawrence,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN HOLMAN ... Treble	JOHN W. BREARLEY ... 5
TOM BROTHWELL ... 2	HAROLD KENT ... 6
JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... 3	JOHN A. BREARLEY ... 7
REGINALD PAYNE ... 4	JOHN FLINT ... Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

* First peal in the method.

GATESHEAD, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

MATTHEW ANDERSON ... Treble	WILLIAM H. BARBER ... 5
ADAM DEAS ... 2	ROBERT S. ANDERSON ... 6
*JOHN ANDERSON ... 3	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 7
†ROBERT W. LEIGHTON ... 4	JOSEPH E. R. KEEN ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON.

* 100th peal. † First peal of Stedman.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

ST. HELENS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LIVERPOOL BRANCH.)

O. Tuesday, February 26, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's.

*PETER CASE Treble	† WILLIAM BAGLEY 4
WILLIAM HESKETH 2	CHARLES BLACKBURN 5
HARRY GRUNDY 3	NORMAN HEAPS Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES BLACKBURN.

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

SOUTH WINGFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(PEAK DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr.

*ALFRED H. BOWLER Treble	*HENRY HOPKINSON 4
HERBERT E. TAYLOR 2	THOMAS DENT 5
*EDWIN HOPKINSON 3	GEORGE H. PAULSON Tenor

Conducted by G. H. PAULSON.

* First peal of Minor. Ringers of 1, 3, 4 and 5 belong to Ashover, 2 and 6 to Darley Dale.

HUNTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six of Lindoff's spliced 840's called differently.

*ARTHUR EALDING Treble	†FREDERICK B. MORRIS 4
MRS. H. BAKER 2	NELSON C. BOURNE 5
HARRY BAKER 3	*SYDNEY J. HARMER Tenor

Conducted by NELSON C. BOURNE.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor. A birthday peal for Mr. W. Rofe, father of the ringer of the second. All the ringers are from Frittenden. This is the first peal by the Frittenden band since the association has been formed.

LOCKINGTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford, two of Kent and three of Plain Bob.
Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN SADDINGTON Treble	CHARLES DAVIES 4
EDWARD JOYCE 2	*LESLIE W. STEVENS 5
E. BAGGULEY 3	JACK BOOTH Tenor

Conducted by J. BOOTH.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor in more than one method by all except the conductor.

SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 16, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

MISS E. M. P. FETHERS Tenor	J. W. WHITTAKER 4
*NORMAN MEAKIN 2	J. W. L. SLACK 5
†TOM TAYLOR 3	STANLEY NOBLE Tenor

Conducted by T. TAYLOR.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 4th. First peal to be rung by regular service ringers at this church.

COLNE ENGAINE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(ST. ANDREW'S GUILD, EARLS COLNE.)

On Sunday, March 17, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven differently called 720's.

*ROBERT C. LYON Treble	ALBERT L. DIXBY 4
*REGINALD SIMMONDS 2	GEORGE R. TOWNES 5
CLAUDE SNOWDEN 3	ALIC GENERY Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. TOWNES, aged 17.

* First peal of Surprise. Believed to be the youngest conductor of a peal of Surprise Minor.

BLAXHALL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, March 18, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Plain Bob.
Tenor 9½ cwt.

E. HAMMOND Treble	W. SMITH 4
A. E. SMITH 2	H. VINCE 5
G. FINCH 3	A. LING Tenor

Conducted by A. LING.

W. Smith has now rung all the bells in this tower to a peal.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 18, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Norwich, Ipswich, London, Beverley, York, Durham and Cambridge.
Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT MOLTON Treble	PHILIP H. AVEY 4
ALFRED PRIOR 2	GEORGE DAWSON 5
WILLIAM H. THOBALD 3	EDWARD D. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD D. SMITH.

Rung in honour of the 70th birthday of Canon W. T. Brown, M.A., R.D., Vicar of Leytonstone for over thirty years.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 12 cwt.

*THOMAS R. MOGG Treble	EDWARD S. ROCK 4
†ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD 2	WILLIAM LANCEFIELD 5
LESLIE C. SMITH 3	PERCY PAGE Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD S. ROCK.

* First peal. † First peal on an 'inside' bell. The treble ringer is 13 years and the second 14 years of age.

SOMERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being forty-two six-scores, each ending with rounds, and consisting of eight with 2nd, eight with 3rd, eight with 4th, ten with 5th and eight with treble as 'whole hunt' bells. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. in G.

J. GEOFFREY GEARY Treble	HENRY PAYNE 3
HENRY FAULKNER 2	ERNEST MORRIS 4

A. NORMAN GEARY Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

Believed to be only the second time a full peal of Grandsire Doubles has been rung in this way, the first being on January 15th, 1925, at Radstock, Somerset, called by J. T. Dyke.

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ACORINGTON, LANCASHIRE. THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. James.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, one 720 of Kent Treble Bob and two 720's each of Oxford Bob Minor and Plain Bob.

*CECIL WALTON Treble	SIDNEY BROWN 4
LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... 2	JOHN BEATTIE 5
*JAMES BARNES 3	WILLIE AARON Tenor

Conducted by W. AARON.

* First peal in four methods. First peal in four methods as conductor. Rang half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. Richard Scholes, who had been a ringer at the above church for over 50 years. All the above ringers are service ringers at St. James' with the exception of L. J. Williams, who hails from Church.

HANDBELL PEALS.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(TAUNTON BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, March 13, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At HESTERCOMBE GARDENS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

' PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor size 15 in C.	
*FREDERICK G. SPARKS ... 1-2	WILLIAM H. LLOYD 5-6
H. PERCY SPARKS 3-4	HENRY CHURCHILL 7-8

Conducted by W. H. LLOYD.

* First peal on eight bells. First peal of Triples 'in hand' for all the band.

HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 27, 1935, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

In the Belfry of St. Michael's Church,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

WILLIAM O. TALBOT 1-2	JOSEPH THACKERAY 5-6
PERCY J. JOHNSON 3-4	G. WILFRED SLACK 7-8

Composed by YORK GREEN. Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON.

Witness—Rowland A. Tysoe.

GRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 24, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At ARCHFIELD, 26 IRON MILL LANE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHN A. C. ABSON 1-2	T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 5-6
EDWIN A. BARNETT 3-4	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 7-8

*EDWIN BARNETT... .. 9-10

Composed and Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

Witness—Miss Redpath.

* First peal of Royal 'in hand' and first attempt.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A RINGING MASTER APPOINTED.

The annual meeting of the Sheffield and District Society was held at St. Marie's Church, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 9th.

Ringling commenced about 2.30 p.m. and continued during the afternoon in various methods until 6 p.m. Many ringers from outside the district were present, anxious to have a pull on this noted peal of beautiful toned bells, which have recently been renovated and hung in a new iron frame by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of London.

The Very Rev. Canon Dolan, Rector of St. Marie's, presided at the business meeting, at which the balance sheet, together with the auditors' report, was presented, and received with general satisfaction.

The secretary gave his report of the past year's work. He commented on the progress of the society, and recalled the installation of the new ring of ten bells at Ranmoor Church.

All the officers of the society were re-elected. A new vice-president was required, owing to the death of the late Mr. C. Severn, and Mr. George Lewis was elected to fill the vacancy.

Mr. S. F. Palmer stated the need of a Ringing Master at the meetings, and after a general discussion Mr. George Lewis was elected to fill that office.

Canon Dolan said he was always pleased to have the ringers at St. Marie's, and it gave him great pleasure at that opportune time to thank all ringers who had assisted in the recent renovation of St. Marie's bells.—Mr. J. R. Brearley thanked the Canon for his many kindnesses to the ringers and also for the use of the bells that day.

Mr. C. Haynes (president) moved a vote of thanks to the local company for having made the meeting a splendid success.

Further ringing continued up to 9 p.m., and the ringers were full of praise for the 'go' and tone of the bells.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LOCAL 'CORRESPONDENTS' WHO DO NOT 'CORRESPOND.'

A District Secretary Speaks Out.

The annual meeting of the Eastern Division of the Sussex Association was held at All Saints', Eastbourne, on Saturday, March 16th. It was arranged that ringing should take place at All Saints' and St. Saviour's. Unfortunately, the bells of All Saints' were not available owing to illness near the church. The Vicar (the Rev. G. M. Hanks) kindly advised the Vicar of St. Saviour's regarding the situation, so the bells of St. Saviour's were substituted for those of All Saints'. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Treble Bob were rung during the afternoon and evening.

Service was held at All Saints', conducted by the Vicar, who gave a very interesting address.

After tea in the adjoining Parish Room, the Vicar presided at the business meeting.

The election of officers for the division resulted as follows: Hon. secretary, Mr. A. C. Pankhurst; committee, Mr. W. Franks, Mr. W. Booth, Mr. A. R. Miles; Committee of Advice, Mr. G. W. Stokes, Mr. A. R. Miles and Mr. W. Franks.

Twenty-eight new members were elected, viz., 14 from Hailsham, 13 from Chiddingly and one from Alfriston.

The hon. secretary called attention to the sparse attendance (twenty) at the meeting, and impressed upon the members the necessity of those receiving postcards announcing meetings of promptly replying. He mentioned that out of 20 cards so forwarded in the present instance, only two had had the courtesy to reply. He sincerely hoped that in the future such lapses would not recur, as it entailed a good deal of unnecessary worry and trouble to the secretary in making arrangements for meetings.

Mr. W. D. Smith proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicars of both churches for the use of the bells and to the Vicar of All Saints' for his address and for presiding at the tea and meeting; also to Mr. Piper, of Eastbourne, for very kindly defraying part cost of the tea.

After the meeting the bells of St. Saviour's were kept going until 8 o'clock.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting of the Southern Division was held at Shoreham on Saturday, March 23rd. Members were present from Arundel, Brighton (St. Peter's and the Good Shepherd), Hensfield, Steyning, Lindfield, Lewes, Ringmer and Worthing.

The hon. divisional secretary, Mr. S. E. Armstrong, the committee and Committee of Advice, Messrs. F. W. Cripps, R. Dawe, K. Hart and G. Elphick, were re-elected for 1935.

New members were elected from Maresfield, a newly affiliated tower, and F. C. Packham and A. Newson, of Twineham, together with J. Butcher, of St. Nicholas', Brighton, making a total of eleven.

A tribute was paid to the memory of Mr. William Pyc, a non-resident member of the association, who passed away the previous week, and the business meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address, presiding at the meeting and the use of the bells. The services of the organist and the ladies who provided tea were also acknowledged.

Ringling consisted of methods ranging from Grandsire and Stedman Triples to Superlative Surprise. Unfortunately, ringing had to cease at 4.30 owing to illness in the vicinity, but some of the members went on to St. Peter's, Brighton, where the bells were available for an hour.

DEATH OF LANCASHIRE RINGERS.

THE PASSING OF A PRESTON BRANCH PIONEER.

The death occurred with tragic suddenness on March 11th at the Preston Royal Infirmary of Mr. Edward Armstrong, formerly a member of the Preston Parish Church and Samlesbury companies. Very powerfully built, his death came as a great shock to his family and his many ringing friends.

In pre-war days Mr. Armstrong was very active in raising the Preston Branch of the Lancashire Association to a higher level. He took part in the first peals of Kent Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich, Cambridge and Superlative, also in seven Treble Bob Minor methods. He had rung about 60 peals and was a safe ringer and accurate striker.

Some seven or eight years ago he moved on to a small farm, which terminated his regular service ringing, but his interest was maintained, and he was present at the opening of Preston bells on November 4th last.

He was laid to rest in Samlesbury Churchyard on March 14th amid many signs of regret. It was at this church that he had learned to ring, and where he attended as a young man. The bells were rung muffled prior to the interment and half-muffled afterwards by the local band, assisted by two of the Preston company. By special request of the Vicar, a half-muffled peal was rung on the Sunday, and the method selected was the deceased's favourite, Double Norwich. May he rest in peace.

Another Lancashire veteran has passed away in the person of Mr. Richard Scholes, who was a ringer at St. James', Accrington, for over 50 years. A muffled peal in his memory was rung on Saturday.

A CORRESPONDENT 'PROVED WRONG.'

The Swindon Branch quarterly meeting was held at St. Mark's, Swindon, on Saturday, March 16th, and proved that Mr. E. J. Taylor, of Newbury, is wrong when he says first-class striking is never heard at meetings as a good rise was heard, some beautiful ringing and a good fall.

The towers in the branch were well represented, with visitors from Bristol, Aldbourne, Marlborough, Fairford, Faringdon, Nailsea and Southwark, while the ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major.

The next meetings were provisionally fixed for Purton, Malmesbury and Bishopstone, of which due notice will appear.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very successful meeting of the Southampton District was held on Saturday week at North Stoneham, when members were present from Bishopstoke, Fareham, Kings Somborne, North Stoneham, Portsmouth, Southampton, Sheffield English, Soberton, Wickham and Ventnor. Mr. W. Viggers, from Aldershot, was a welcome visitor.

Various methods, ranging from Minor to Royal, were rung upon the ring of ten bells to cater for the taste of all.

The Vicar of North Stoneham (the Rev. H. G. Peile), who was elected an honorary member, conducted the service, and, in an interesting address, pointed out that it was the duty of all church-workers to develop the 'homing instinct' of people to their parish church.

The next meeting was arranged to be held at Broughton on May 4th.

A TRIO OF BIRTHDAYS.

At St. Peter's, Colchester, on Sunday, March 17th, the local ringers rang a quarter-peal (1,286 changes) of Cambridge Surprise Major: *V. Kerridge 1, *H. T. Pye 2, G. M. Rashbrook 3, *F. L. Bumpstead 4, G. Wightman 5, *R. W. Stannard 6, W. Chalk 7, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 8. * First quarter-peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the birthdays of G. M. Rashbrook, V. Kerridge and F. L. Bumpstead, the last named on attaining his 80th birthday. He has been connected with the tower for 42 years and filled the office of steeplekeeper for 39 years. The band and also the Vicar (the Rev. R. B. Bertin) joined in wishing them all 'many happy returns.'

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM. — On Sunday evening, February 17th, for divine service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): E. G. Evans 1, W. J. Meers 2, F. S. Sanders 3, A. S. Bayley (Coalbrookdale) 4, A. Short 5, W. Davis 6, F. Price (conductor) 7, J. Preston 8.

IRISH ASSOCIATION.**A ST. PATRICK'S DAY MEETING IN FUTURE.**

The annual meeting of the Irish Association was held at Waterford on Monday, March 18th, and was attended by 73 members. Luncheon was served in the Parochial Hall, and at the business meeting following, the chair was taken by the president (Mr. G. Lindoff), supported by the Dean of Waterford and Alderman Edmonds, senior Alderman of Waterford. The two last named welcomed the association to Waterford, and to this the president replied.

The report showed the association to be in a healthy position, special attention being called to the strides made by the Northern Branch, mainly due to the efforts of their hon. secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.

Twenty-two new members were elected, including St. Finbarr's Cathedral Society, Cork.

A vote of sympathy with the relatives of two members who had passed away, Mr. W. Pye, of London, and Mr. J. Armstrong, of Dublin, was accorded by the members standing in silence.

The day for the annual meeting was altered permanently from Whit Monday to St. Patrick's Day, Limerick being selected for next year's meeting.

The following officers were elected: President, the Dean of Waterford; hon. treasurer, Mr. D. Gibson; hon. secretary, Mr. G. Lindoff; Ringing Master, Mr. R. S. F. Murphy, P.C.

The shield for attendance at Sunday ringing was presented by the Dean to Christ Church Cathedral Society, Dublin, and St. Saviour's Society, Arklow, both societies gaining 100 per cent.

A grant of £5 was voted from the Bell Restoration Fund towards the renovation of Arklow bells.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the donors of the tea, which was provided before the visitors left.

Ringing took place during the day upon the eight bells of the Cathedral, the most interesting feature being the contest for the 'Murphy' Cup, a silver cup presented by Mr. R. S. F. Murphy, P.C., for striking. Only two societies being fully represented, viz., St. Finbarr's, Cork, and Waterford, it resolved into a contest between these two hands. The cup was won by Waterford, who were congratulated upon their success.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 2nd, a combined practice was held at Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno, a good company being present from Bangor, Rhyl and the local ringers. Under the direction of the Ringing Master (Mr. A. Pegler, Bangor), methods from Stedman Doubles to Bob Major were practised for about three hours.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Russam, of Birmingham, on celebrating to-day their diamond wedding. Mr. Russam was for long a stalwart of ringing in Birmingham, and, although indifferent health has prevented him doing much in the last few years, his interest in it is as keen as ever. Mr. Russam is a storehouse of anecdotes of Birmingham ringing in Henry Johnson's days.

An extremely nice bookcase has been provided at St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, for the reception of the albums and other volumes taken out by the English tourists. Other books have been added and the nucleus of an interesting library formed.

At Hobart, too, other books on bells and ringing have come into possession of the society at Holy Trinity Church, and have been placed in the library with the gifts taken out by the English ringers. These additional books have been presented by the son of the late Mr. F. Milson, a former Hobart ringer.

The Vicar of The Lee, Great Missenden, Bucks (the Rev. K. W. Mumford), announces that there has been many requests lately for the return of large silver coins placed in the collections in mistake for copper.

So far he has refunded the required sums out of his own pocket, but he can do this no longer. His rule is: No rebates out of collections.

The Rev. K. W. Mumford was hon. secretary of the Maidstone District of the Kent County Association 1913-1914, when he left to become assistant curate to the late Rev. Canon Baker at Dunstable.

Mr. John Overton, of Bridgnorth, Salop, has completed 60 years of unbroken service as leader of the ringers at St. Leonard's Church, and peals in his honour have been rung at Bridgnorth and Coalbrookdale. Mr. Overton is the highly respected Ringing Master of the Bridgnorth District of the Hereford Diocesan Guild.

Youth has again asserted itself. Last Saturday a band of the average age of 22 years rang a peal of Spliced Surprise in four methods. What would the 'old 'uns' of the past generation have said to this? 'Ought not to be allowed' would probably have been the comment of some of them. The peal at Dartford, however, is a very encouraging sign for the future of change ringing.

Congratulations to Mr. Charles E. Bassett, of Petersfield, Hants, on ringing his first peal of London Surprise Major at Petersfield last Saturday at the first time of asking. He is the first Petersfield man to ring a peal in this method, and it was fitting he should ring it in his own tower. He rang very well throughout. He is the hon. secretary of the Alton and Petersfield District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

Mr. Joseph Thackray, who took part in a handbell peal at Headingley, Leeds, last week, is the sole survivor of the band who rang Holt's Ten-Part on Monday, March 18th, 1895, the conductor, Mr. Harry Williams, being blindfolded. After this peal the band made provisional arrangements to ring another peal on the corresponding date of 1975!

Alfred John Kirchen, who has achieved football fame by rising from Lynn junior football to the ranks of the Arsenal in two years, has been a ringer at Shouldham, his native village, and a member of the Ely Diocesan Association.

Hearty congratulations to that veteran of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, Mr. George Henry Coombes, of 25, Swanmore Road, Ryde, I.O.W., who celebrated his 92nd birthday anniversary on Thursday.

This 'grand old man' is still on 'active service' at All Saints', Ryde, where he rings regularly for evensong every Sunday and seldom misses the weekly practice on Tuesdays. He has been a service ringer since 1886, when the bells were installed in the Ryde tower by Taylor and Co.

SERVICES AT RINGERS' MEETINGS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Can any reader tell me what is the object or purpose of the service usually held in connection with ringers' meetings. When a vestry or parochial church council meeting is held to transact business, or a choir practice for the singers to practise the art of singing, a service is not held. Why this distinction? Christ said He came not to save the righteous but to bring sinners to repentance, and this, I take it, is the object of religion, and therefore the object of services. If this is so, why are ringers, when they meet to transact business and practise their art of ringing, treated differently from other church-workers unless they are considered to be greater sinners?

A. T. MILTON.

[Reference to this letter will be found in our leading article.—Editor, 'Ringing World'.]

ST. CUTHBERT'S DAY.

On St. Cuthbert's Day, March 20th, the 1,300th anniversary of the birth of the saint was celebrated, and before a special service of commemoration at St. Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by G. Brown (first quarter-peal) 1, W. O. S. Heathcote 2, J. Luck 3, M. A. K. Simpson 4, Miss A. I. Whitson 5, H. Mann 6, C. R. Raine (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, A. Burman 8.

A SURREY VILLAGE PEAL.

BELLS RESTORED BY GREAT PAROCHIAL EFFORT.

By a magnificent parochial effort, the people of the picturesque Surrey village of Albury have restored their parish church bells and saved their tower from disaster. They are now in possession of a very fine ring of six, recast by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., and relunging in a new iron frame, with, of course, all the latest appurtenances.

Albury bells have a long and interesting history. In the 1552 inventory there were four bells in the tower of the old Parish Church, which stood in Albury Park. In 1695 William Eldridge, of Chertsey, made them into a peal of five, and these did duty until 1841, when the old Parish Church was dismantled and the present building of red brick, on another site and dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul, erected. Then the fifth was recast by Thomas Mears, who added a treble to make a ring of six. The old oak bell frame was never a good fit in the new tower, and in recent years, when the bells were rung, its decrepit state set up a vibration that became a menace to the fabric of the tower, and indeed dislodged some of the uppermost copings. In addition, three of the bells were cracked. It was on the report presented to the authorities by the Master of the Guildford Diocesan Guild (Major J. H. B. Hesse) that the complete restoration of the bells was undertaken, the tower having been materially strengthened by the rolled steel girders which brace the walls and carry the bell frame. The new tenor is approximately 15 cwt. 1 qr. in F, and the bells form a very fine peal. The church stands well up on the side of a hill in the valley of the Tillingbourne, and near that famous beauty spot, Newlands Corner. To the thousands who visit that glorious viewpoint on Sundays in the summer the bells will be a reminder of higher things.

ALL THE VILLAGE HAS SUBSCRIBED.

To the villagers also they will mean a good deal, for these bells have a warm place in their hearts. Nearly every household in the village has subscribed, and the bells were opened free of debt. The Rector (the Rev. Philip Gray) had a touching story to tell of the last ten shillings received on the morning of the rededication of the bells. It was a ten shilling note from an old parishioner whose wife had died two days before, and who gave it to the bell fund 'for her.'

The very full church on Saturday afternoon was further evidence of the parishioners' interest in the bells, and when the service of dedication opened with the processional hymn, 'Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven,' there was hardly a spare seat in the building. The specially arranged service was conducted by the Rector, and the dedication was performed by the Rural Dean (the Rev. Sir Paget Bowman). This was relayed by loud speaker from the tower, and then the bells were heard for the first time. Their fine tones delighted everyone. After the clergy had returned to the chancel, special prayers were offered, and then followed a hymn redolent of the countryside:—

In town and in village our church bells to-day
Cry, come, you good people, and put care away,
For He Who made blossom and sunlight and May,
Be certain rejoices in hearts that are gay.

The preacher was the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), who spoke of the valuable instruments which had been dedicated that afternoon. They were bells made of the very best metal, and consequently they would get the very best tone out of them. To use an old phrase, they were 'very good and tuneable bells.' He congratulated the inhabitants of Albury on the fact that the bells, rung that day for the first time, were opened free of debt. Had there been any debt on them he would have refused to come there to speak, because he was one of those who allowed nothing in church to be used for the service of God until it was paid for to the last farthing. He had heard that the last half-sovereign had come in that morning. Their bells, he continued, were to be used for a high purpose, mainly, of course, for summoning parishioners to worship. But that could not be done properly unless there were regular practice nights for the ringers beforehand. The ringers should give their very best in the way of ringing, as the choir should do their best in the way of singing, to God on Sunday, and the choir could not sing properly, nor the ringers ring properly, unless they thoroughly practised beforehand. He was delighted to know that a band of young ringers had been trained to ring the bells. He reminded these young men that bellringing required tremendous application and study outside the tower as well as practice in it. 'Ringing required a good deal of work and intelligence, and yet men had become good ringers who could neither read nor write. Some of the famous old band of ringers at Benington could hardly tell one figure from another, but by the aid of bits of tile and slate they learned to ring the most intricate methods. The young men who were learning at Albury must begin properly; they must learn first of all to handle the ropes properly. If they did not do that they could not expect to strike their bells accurately. He reminded them that they were engaged in a definite piece of work for God, and each must put his whole heart into it. The parishioners who had come together to take part in the dedication of the bells ought to make it a time of questioning. The bells were dedicated for ever to the service of God. Were their lives so dedicated? If God called them at that moment, were they ready to stand before Him? Every good bell would respond to

its own note; every good word and deed brought out an answering note from Heaven. Let all their lives ring true and bring out the echoes from Heaven.

The service concluded with the hymn, 'Angel Voices,' and the Blessing.

TWO BANDS OF RINGERS.

Albury possesses two bands of ringers, the seniors, who have been giving service for years, and a number of young men who, during the last four months, have been trained by Mr. A. H. Pulling. The seniors rang the bells in rounds at the dedication and also rang the congregation out of church. An opening 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was then rung by H. Hutton 1, R. H. Dove (who represented Messrs. Taylor and Co.) 2, J. S. Goldsmith 3, W. J. Robinson 4, J. H. B. Hesse 5, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 6. Next the young band had a turn at the ropes and rang some very creditable rounds. Thereafter the bells were available to visiting ringers, who numbered over 30, and touches in a variety of methods rung, up to Cambridge Surprise Minor.

The inscriptions on the new bells are as follow:—

Treble.—In memory of Mary Dearman Lloyd, 1848-1932.

4th.—This peal of six bells was recast in the year of our Lord 1935. Philip Gray, Rector; C. F. Lloyd, W. Dyson, Churchwardens. 'Fear God—Honour the King.'

5th and tenor.—The recasting of this bell was undertaken by R. Malthus and relations, in memory of Henrietta Malthus, who died December 21st, 1930.

In addition to the restoration of the bells, the clock has been cleaned and adapted to the new conditions, and the ringing chamber redecorated.

The local ringers with some of the visitors were entertained to tea by the Rector and churchwardens at the Drummond Arms, when the Rector, proposing a vote of thanks to Canon Coleridge, revealed an old family acquaintanceship which led to the telling of many amusing reminiscences. One related to the fact that in his young days the Rector and his brothers were constantly endeavouring to build motor-cars, and they waited for the coming of Canon Coleridge so that they could give him a ride to test the springs. These rides generally ended in the Canon being tipped unceremoniously out of the vehicle.

The Rector said he was sure the old and young ringers would get on most amicably together with the new ring of bells.

Canon Coleridge, replying to the vote of thanks, gave some very practical advice to the young ringers, and this was supplemented by Major Hesse and Mr. Pulling, both of whom asked the Albury ringers to give wholehearted support to the Diocesan Guild.

This part of the proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for their hospitality, proposed by Mr. T. Ansell, the local secretary.

Mr. F. Thornton, who has been ringing at Albury for over 50 years, has been reappointed captain.

DEATH OF AN ILKESTON RINGER.

HAD RUNG ON THREE PEALS OF BELLS IN ONE TOWER.

With regret we have to record the death of Mr. Samuel Burgoyne, which occurred at his residence in Wood Street at the age of 64. He had been in ill-health for some years, but his death came rather unexpectedly on March 18th. He was for many years a member of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and he served with the R.A.M.C. in the South African War. He had been a ringer at the Parish Church for 40 years, starting when the tower contained only five bells and having rung on all three peals of bells which the tower has contained. He was not a great peal ringer, having only six peals to his credit, two of Grandsire and one of Stedman Triples, one of Bob Major and two of Spliced Treble Bob Major.

Deceased was a miner until his health compelled him to cease work. He leaves a widow, two daughters and a son to mourn their loss.

He was laid to rest on Thursday week at the Park Cemetery, and was carried to his last resting place by four of his brother ringers, who also, as a mark of respect, rang the plain course of Grandsire Triples at the graveside: J. F. George 1-2, E. C. Gobey 3-4, H. Harrison 5-6, T. Wragg 7-8. After the funeral touches were rung half-muffled on the tower bells, and also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Trevor Wragg 1, J. Hufton 2, J. F. George 3, F. Tarlton 4, H. Harrison 5, F. Brown 6, E. C. Gobey (conductor) 7, W. Tarr 8. Other touches included a 504, with G. W. Harvey 2nd and S. Hufton 3rd.

THE PEAL OF OXFORD AT DARTFORD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Bailey's letter, may I point out that the present Dartford bells date from 1916, so that the peal rung there on March 2nd is still, what it was claimed to be, the first of Oxford on the bells.

I believe that it was the custom of the Chumberlands to put compositions as well as peals in their peal book. In view of the fact that internal proof for Treble Bob was not thought necessary until 1763, if Mr. Bailey could find the figures of the 1763 peal we could decide whether it was true or not, and most probably this recent peal would prove to be the first of Oxford in Dartford as well.

E. A. BARNETT.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM PYE.

TRIBUTES AT COLLEGE YOUTHS' MEETING.

At the fortnightly meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths held at The Coffee Pot on Tuesday week, reference was made to the passing of Mr. William Pye.

The Master, Mr. E. P. Duffield, who presided, said that owing to his own sense of personal loss it was very difficult for him to speak of the loss of one with whom he had always had a complete understanding and for whom he had a profound respect, after several years of very close friendship. Mr. Pye, he said, had once been a member of the society and retained to the end a warm regard for many of its members. It was an unquestionable fact that ringing in the London area gained immensely from the strong competition existing at various times between Mr. Pye's band and the members of their society, and he could not help wishing they had a little more of such rivalry at the present time. It would be sheer hypocrisy, said the Master, to pretend that the relations between Mr. Pye and the society had always kept within the bounds of friendly rivalry, but they could easily overlook a little over-keenness, and it was true to say that no body of ringers were more appreciative of the greatness of Mr. Pye than they of that society.

The Master went on to speak of the national reputation of Mr. Pye as a change ringer and conductor, saying there could scarcely be any part of this country, however remote, that Mr. Pye had not visited and where some ringers had not taken part in or listened to the ringing of Mr. Pye and his touring parties. In conclusion, he said that, whilst they would meet William Pye no more in the flesh, his spirit would ever remain a vivid reality to them all.

Mr. G. W. Roberts (senior steward) paid a tribute to Mr. Pye's abilities, and said how much he himself and many of the younger ringers of all societies owed to Mr. Pye for their initiation into the realms of advanced method ringing, such as Spliced Surprise, etc.

Mr. H. R. Newton (one of the trustees) said that, as a very old friend of Mr. Pye, he much regretted his passing and the suddenness with which it had occurred. He (Mr. Newton) was a great admirer of Mr. Pye's large number of very fine performances.

Mr. A. A. Hughes (hon. treasurer) spoke of the unusual modesty of Mr. Pye in referring to his own great performances, and said how pleased he was to hear the tribute of Mr. H. R. Newton, who himself had many very fine performances standing to his credit, and who could, as a heavy bell ringer of great repute, the better appreciate the merit of many of the things Mr. Pye had done.

Mr. C. F. Winney (trustee) and Mr. L. Porter also associated themselves with the tributes, and the members signified their approval of the Master's proposition, that a letter be sent to Mrs. Pye expressing their deep sympathy with herself and family in their loss, by standing in silence.

Mr. C. T. Coles, hon. secretary of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, was present at the meeting, and responded to a very cordial welcome given him by those present. He thanked the Master for inviting him to attend, and said how much it helped those whose loss was the greatest to know they had the genuine sympathy of the kindred societies such as the Ancient Society of College Youths. He was very pleased to meet the society for the first time at one of its meetings, and remarked how, even from such a sad occurrence as that which brought about his presence there that night, good could result, inasmuch as a better spirit of understanding was fostered between their respective societies. He would take the earliest opportunity of conveying to the members of his association the kindly and sympathetic expressions to which he had listened.

Having referred to the intimate association, extending over a period of about 30 years, between Mr. William Pye and himself, Mr. Coles said that, with the possible exception of Mr. G. R. Pye, he doubted whether anyone had a closer knowledge of the views and opinions held by Mr. Pye on ringing matters than he had. From that knowledge he could assure the Ancient Society that Mr. Pye held many of its members in high esteem, and was keenly appreciative of the many fine performances which they had from time to time put up. It was very nice, said Mr. Coles, to see present at the funeral on the previous Saturday a good number of College Youths desiring to pay their last respects to a great ringer.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

Prior to the half-muffled peal at Romford, a short memorial service, conducted by the Vicar, was held in St. Edward's Church.

Before a peal at Coalbrookdale, Salop, on Wednesday, March 20th, the ringers stood in silence in remembrance of Mr. Pye. A finely illuminated and framed record of the 18,027 Stedman Caters at Loughborough, conducted by Mr. Pye, has hung in Coalbrookdale ringing chamber ever since the great performance was put up.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mrs. W. Pye and her son desire to return sincere thanks to all who have sent them messages of sympathy in their bereavement. They hope this will be accepted as an acknowledgment, as the letters are too numerous to reply to individually. They also wish to thank the many friends who sent such beautiful floral tributes.

RINGING HISTORY AT A SUSSEX CHURCH. HAPPY GATHERING COMPLETES ANOTHER PAGE AT WARNHAM.

Ringling history has been made in the Sussex village of Warnham, and another page was completed on Saturday week, when two peal boards in the belfry of St. Margaret's Church were unveiled, the local band and a number of visiting ringers combining for the occasion.

The first peal board, of which the donor was Major J. H. B. Hesse, of Haslemere, records a peal of 10,432 Kent Treble Bob Major rung on these bells on April 29th, 1933, in 6 hours and 12 minutes, and conducted by Alfred H. Pulling. It established a Sussex County Association record for this method and was rung to celebrate the 42nd anniversary of the previous record, also rung in the same tower.

The second peal board, given by Mr. F. W. Freeman (churchwarden), commemorates a peal of 5,088 College Single Major, rung on March 15th, 1924, in 3 hours and 10 minutes, by the local band, and conducted by Walter Charman.

All the ringers taking part in the peal of Kent Treble Bob, Walter Charman, Major J. H. B. Hesse, John Cook, Peter Charman, C. Ernest Smith, William Stanford, Arthur J. Bartlett and Alfred H. Pulling, and those concerned in the peal of College Single Major, George Woodman, Wesley Pettifer, Jack Branch, John Stanford, with John Cook, Walter Charman, Peter Charman and William Stanford, were present, and the Vicar (the Rev. F. S. Farebrother) performed the dedication.

Among those also present were Mrs. Farebrother, Miss Darvill (Capel), Mr. W. T. Besson (Holmbury St. Mary), Capt. Manley (Crawley Down) and Mr. C. Cristian (Lower Beeding). Mr. Albert A. Hughes, son of the founder of Warnham's bells, was a visitor during the afternoon.

One very interesting point about the gathering, said the Vicar, was that Walter Charman (who has been ringing at Warnham for more than half a century) took part in the peal 42 years before and was still with them. The Vicar spoke of Major Hesse's kindness in presenting the peal board; and, after uncovering it, Major Hesse recalled the many happy times that he had spent in Warnham tower. 'It is a real piece of history, and we shall always appreciate it, because it was given by someone outside the parish,' said the Vicar.

Unveiling the second peal board, Mr. Freeman thought it would be 'very nice to keep company with the other.' In the ceremony of dedication, the Vicar spoke of the wonderful service performed by the bells. It is interesting to note—another tablet in the belfry records it—that George Woodman and Walter Charman were in the local band of ringers who, on March 1st, 1889, rang a peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major, 13,440 changes, in 7 hours and 45 minutes.

Following a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major rung on the bells in the morning, the band were the guests of Mr. Walter Charman at lunch, and, following a social hour with the handbells, the party returned to the tower to join with the local band in ringing touches in various methods. Then at 5.30 the Vicar performed the dedication service, after which all gathered at the Sussex Oak Inn, where the Vicar presided over high tea.

In a further address of welcome to the guests, Mr. Farebrother conveyed the regrets of Capt. Lucas at his inability to be present owing to a prior engagement. 'I do not think I have ever found a happier feeling than in our belfry,' said the Vicar, and he submitted that a parish without any bells was without a 'something' which was not to be found in other directions.

Walter Charman, popularly referred to as the 'Mayor' of Warnham, also spoke, welcoming the Vicar and guests to the gathering. Major Hesse said there was no tower he liked visiting more than Warnham, and Mr. Pulling remarked that visiting ringers always received the same welcome at Warnham, whether they brought their own band or combined with the local ringers.

Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor on handbells concluded the day, and everyone went away with the feeling of another happy day spent at Warnham.

SPliced MINOR RINGING. QUICK CHANGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have noted with interest the Spliced Minor peals at Disley and Deeping St. James, which had 71 and 115 changes of method respectively. I should like to add that in the peal in 14 methods rung at Bigby, Lincs, on Thursday, February 14th, there were 163 changes of method, 24 changes in each 720.

Bigby.

G. E. FEIRN.

A VICAR'S 80th BIRTHDAY.

At St. Bartholomew's, Westhoughton, Lancs, for evening service, March 17th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Odd Bob): R. Walmsley 1, A. W. Leigh 2, A. Greenhalgh 3, R. V. Hart 4, T. Smith 5, J. Halsall 6, J. L. Wright (conductor) 7, W. Smalley 8. Rung as a compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. Canon G. H. St. P. Garrett, on his 80th birthday.

AUSTRALIA TO NEW ZEALAND.

A SIGET-SEEING WEEK IN N.S.W.

The story of the great tour to the Antipodes is here continued by Mr. W. H. Fussell, who, with Messrs. G. Martin, W. Linter, J. Hardcastle and R. Maude, returned to England via Panama, after visiting New Zealand.

The parting of the clans, he writes, was not too happy on that eventful day, Saturday, November 24th, 1934, when the S.S. 'Bendigo' sailed from No. 9 Wharf, Sydney Harbour, for far distant England. Numerous Sydney friends, including Messrs. Macdonald (2), Scammell, Fussell, Kearns, etc., attended to wish—with the 'faithful five'—a safe and sound voyage to their 'bigger half.' This was accentuated by a maze of coloured paper streamers stretching from the taffrail to the wharf, only to be torn apart as the stately vessel slowly moved away, whilst hands and handkerchiefs were freely waved in the morning sunshine as a last farewell. There were no tears, the last handshake took place in the saloon, near the bar, with a cup of kindness together, and the fervent hope that all would meet again some day, D.V., in the dear old Motherland.

Only a week or two earlier the team were spending a jolly day on the goldfields of Bendigo with H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester; now they were about to trust their Goldsmith to the care of the 'Bendigo' for better or for worse. My readers will have read in 'The Ringing World' how the married fraternity reached home; it is now proposed to tell you, by request, how the boys that were left behind fared during their week in Sydney—previous to going to New Zealand—on their journey round the world.



CATHEDRAL OF ST. MARY BASILICA, SYDNEY.

There is a fine ring of eight bells in the central tower, and a peal of Kent Treble Bob was rung here during the English tourists' visit.

First, proceeds Mr. Fussell, we decided to enjoy a well-earned week-end rest, so we took off into the country 25 miles out to visit friends. At Cronulla, a pretty little seaside resort, we were the guests of Mr. J. R. Fussell at Onslow, and were introduced to the captain and members of the Cronulla team (and the boat) which won the great Australian surf riding contest at Manly beach, when 29 teams paraded before the Duke that afternoon.

Sunday and Monday were idly and peacefully spent exploring the coast, but, having made a promise to join the Darling Point team for Sunday service ringing, we took a cross-country trip—by bus, train and tram—and were able to score Grandsire Doubles for even-song, with rounds and queens for everyone. The Rev. Howard Lee and Mrs. Lee had kindly spread a substantial tea at the Rectory, and we were here introduced to the Lord Bishop of Christ Church, New Zealand, on his way up country to do duty in New South Wales. Considerable discussion at the Rectory about English bells and their use disclosed that our host had fully gone into these matters and was giving his parishioners an interesting address in his church the same evening, following upon the recent visit of the Englishmen.

The Rector personally knew Mr. Percy Howard, of Bedford, who took part in the third peal at Melbourne, and with whom I rang—as a fellow Cumberland—in London 50 years ago. He also deplored the illness of Mr. Charles Porter, who did so much for his tower in the six-bell days. I may add that Mr. Porter, in his old age, is being well looked after by his daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Pearce. Many were the inquiries he made, when I called to see him, about old Bucks ringers he used to meet when residing at Woburn in the 1880's.

There was much formal business to be done on Tuesday, after our return from Cronulla, the clearing up of our return boat tickets via Panama from New Zealand to London; satisfying the Customs by a

signed declaration that none of our five had made a fortune in Australia. After lunch we decided to cross over as well as under the famous bridge and get a view of the city and its bays from another angle on the north.

The evening was spent in missionary work at the belfry of St. Mary Basilica Cathedral. With new found ringers and locals we rang Stedman and Grandsire Triples, with Doubles for the beginners, and the practice did not end until 10 o'clock. Messrs. Macdonald, Scammell, Kearns, Botting and Ward were present, and a batch of Central Council literature was distributed.

A visit to the bell chamber revealed the crown staple of the 6th bell to be loose, thus accounting for its false striking both ways. An acetylene welder is to be employed before the bell is cracked. Late as the hour was, we were detained by the Rev. Fr. Bartlett to discuss the fire in the transept roof on the Sunday previous, which appeared to me to have started from the lightning conductor. Do not be surprised if Australia in the near future possesses a second ring of twelve bells. I gathered that the church authorities have discussed the possibility of adding four more to the existing octave.

One may say of old ringers, like old soldiers, they never die, they simply fade away. Mr. A. R. Botting, who assisted at St. Mary's, Sydney, is a native of Betchworth, Surrey, and was born on November 11th, 1877. He joined the Cumberland Youths in 1889 when living at Croydon, and conducted Holt's Original when 21 years of age, and had rung 15 peals before leaving England 22 years ago. His last touch was a 504 Stedman Triples at St. Mary's, Sydney, 18 years ago, conducted by Mr. Macdonald, sen.

A LESSON WITH A BOOMERANG.

One of our hottest days in Sydney occurred on Wednesday, November 28th. The narrow, winding streets, similar to many in our Cathedral towns, hold the sun's rays, and there is little air circulation. It was decided to go seaward again in a fresh direction, so to Botany Bay. A long tram car ride to La Perouse, where our feet were hardened in the salt water before lunch at the local hotel. Busy little motor-boats take you across the famous bay to a point near Kurnell, where Captain Cook landed in 1770, marked by a stone obelisk and tablets recording this historical event. We came across aborigines, who make boomerangs and other articles, one by name Wesley Sims, who soon took us in hand, showed how the weapon is thrown so that it returns to the thrower, and each of us bought one. We did not hurry away from these pleasant surroundings till after tea. On the tram ride back we passed our point and were 'fleece'd' by an inspector for 2d. each—the only instance of offensive officialdom in all our journey round the world. I should like to have thrown my boomerang at him as he left the car!

Our evening was spent with Mr. R. H. Macdonald at his home with a game of billiards, at which Joe proved the champion; a few touches on handbells till a clapper broke; a game of cards till a chair broke, when we all thought it was time to 'break up.' When I told Father Macdonald that we had a set of Birmingham bellropes with us, he began telling me his early history. He rang his first and only peal—Grandsire Triples—at St. Chad's Church, Birmingham, in 1878, and was one of the team who rang 3 hours 10 minutes at the Basilica for a peal of Stedman Triples when the light failed.

Another restful day on Thursday helped our party to overcome the strenuous time of the previous week, and there were many little personal matters to be seen to, such as laundry, camera refills and much neglected correspondence. Reminders of good old London occur in this city. Bayswater Road tram to the docks, via King's Cross, etc. The nimble ferry boat took us this time to Manly. Here a 13ft. shark, caught that morning, was held captive in a wired enclosure near the pier with a similar monster. The gay decorations of the town for the royal visit were admired, the beach utilised as suitable spot for a rest cure, followed by a nice lunch at the Chelma. These ferry boat trips are most enjoyable. One can visit a fresh bay each day of the week and find new interest. Suburban residents use them daily on business to and from the city. At certain seasons of the year sharks often come close in shore, and watchers are appointed at all the beachers to warn the bathers. During our stay in Sydney one swimmer disappeared.

At all the Australian seaside resorts life saving clubs are formed. Unlimited numbers of very strong swimmers are enrolled, who take turns on the beach, with a life reel, as lately advocated by the Press in this country. The way these men tackle the huge breakers rolling inward is marvellous, and thousands of people are said to have been saved by this means annually.

Friday was reserved for our Blue Mountain trip. We found local quotations for car hire rather expensive, so interviewed the traffic superintendent at the Central Railway Station, who pointed out that the B.M. Express was cheaper even than party tickets, so away we went second class in comfort, gradually climbing the 3,000ft. altitude to Katoomba. A local car took us higher still to all the points of beauty and interest in time to leave again at 4.40 p.m. The finest 15s. worth in the world in my experience. Prince Henry Drive, Laura Point, Wentworth Falls, Echo Point and the coal mine railway were all safely negotiated. Many of the Sydney families have season tickets during hot seasons and travel out week-ends, the air being always cool at this spot after Sydney. Coal is worked in some of the rocky valleys, which Mr. Linter can tell you about, as he wasn't sure if the seat of his trews was intact after travelling on the coal

trolley down a fearful incline. You pay to go down and pay again to come up. The alternative is a three mile walk round the mountains to find your conveyance.

On our return to Sydney at 7 p.m., Mr. Kearns met us and carried us by car to the home of his parents at Darling Point, where a family party with some of St. Mark's men were waiting to receive us with unbounded hospitality. The handbells—in tunes and change ringing—were employed, autograph books signed and kindly words of appreciation given our hosts for their well-planned English reception. The joining of hands and 'Auld Lang Syne' ended a jovial night at 11.50, with one regret—our bigger half was not there to share it. Our beds at the Clarendon were occupied at 12.30, not a bad finale to our stay in Sydney, and one to be remembered with gratitude by all the 'Darlings,' the New Zealanders, as well as those in N.S. Wales.

Saturday, December 1st—our last day in Sydney—was a busy one. It began early with packing and labelling luggage and paying our landlady. Mr. Macdonald came to our rescue and conveyed men and luggage to the docks, where we boarded the 'Wanganelia' and fixed up sleeping berths. This left us free all day till the boat left, but this was delayed till 10 p.m. for the band of H.M. Grenadier Guards, who were engaged at the Town Hall, to come aboard. We could not very well leave New South Wales without paying our compliments to the old Parish Church of the Settlement, St. Philip's. It was consecrated in 1856, and the tower completed two years later. It was built near the site of an older building dedicated in 1810—the first Christian foundation in Australia—with a circular tower 12ft. diameter by 50ft. high. The present edifice consists of chancel, nave and western tower in line, north and south aisles, vestry, and porches on north and south sides. The architecture is Early English, and the building is entirely in stone, which has sadly become defective through faulty bedding, and is now undergoing repairs, especially to the tower.

The Parsonage is near the church and I called there to pay my respects to the Right Rev. T. J. Kirkby, Bishop Coadjutor, who kindly took me to the vestry and showed me views of the earlier church completed on the 29th May, 1807. The small eight bells for this were brought out from England by Governor Hunter and stored, but Governor Bligh discovered them and had them hung in the tower, and they were rung for the first time on the above date. Owing to the thickness of the walls, they could not be heard distinctly beyond the distance of 300 yards from the tower. On 7th June, 1807, they rang out a merry peal in honour of the King's birthday.

Five of these original bells have been traced in various buildings about the city. I recommend a search for the remaining three bells by the Australian Historical Society, and, if successful, to have them all installed in some other church. It would be a wonderful achievement to recover the first octave of bells ever sent to Australia. They were the gift of King George III. When the sailing ship 'Guildford' arrived on April 1st, 1818, these bells were rung in memory of the Princess Charlotte of Wales on receipt of the news of her death. On the anniversary of the foundation of the colony they always sounded until the tower was pulled down. The ancient Bible and Prayer Book is still preserved, and inscribed, 'Botany Bay, 14th December, 1788.'

Before leaving I thanked the Bishop for his letter regretting his inability to place the bells at our disposal, and explained our not visiting him as a team owing to the limited time we had to carry out our 'ringing' fixtures. He presented me with a history of the church, from which I am able to add to the notes already given by our Editor. The present bells began with an octave cast at Whitechapel, tenor 20 cwt., in 1850, and presented to the church by the Hon. John Campbell. A new bell was added in 1888 for the centenary of the Colony, and another in memory of the Hon. C. Moore to make the set of ten. John Campbell was one of three brothers residing in Sydney. In the church is a very fine marble tablet to the memory of Robert Campbell, the youngest son of the last of the Lords of Ashfield, who died April 14th, 1846, aged 76 years. This history briefly mentions the peal rung at St. Philip's at Easter, 1890—'A start was made at 11 o'clock, and at 15 minutes past 2 they had finished their task.' No names are given; they, however, are already well known, but the difficulty of the 'task' has not been told. The incumbent at the time was the Rev. J. D. Langley—appointed in 1882—and as the peal progressed he decided to visit the ringing room and watch the ringers, but found the door locked. With only a half-hour to go, the band naturally wondered what the knocking was about, and manfully carried on with their work, having received the Vicar's consent for a peal. A little later a violent attack with some heavy object shook their nerves until the welcome end came. On opening the belfry door in burst the Vicar in a towering rage, called them scoundrels and asked what they meant by locking him out of his own tower. Mr. Albinson, an old College Youth, who knew the ropes, very quietly made himself the spokesman on behalf of the band, and explained that they had only adopted the usual practice in case of strangers coming up to interrupt their concentration. He also explained they had conferred the honour on St. Philip's Church by performing the very first peal in Australia. Mrs. Langley helped to soothe the Vicar's feelings, and this brought about the peal tablet now in the tower.

The last house of prayer we visited in Australia was St. Andrew's C.E. Cathedral, near the Town Hall, a handsome ornate Gothic building in stone with a fine hour bell of 25 cwt. by Taylor and Co.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

BELLS DEDICATED AT LONG SUTTON

LINCOLNSHIRE SIX RECAST AND INCREASED TO EIGHT.

St. Mary's Parish Church, Long Sutton, has seldom had a more inspiring service than that held on March 7th, when the Bishop of Lincoln (Dr. F. C. N. Hicks) attended to dedicate the bells and electric light. It was also a thanksgiving service for the preservation of the church when it was struck by lightning last April. The six old bells in the tower have been recast, while two new bells have been given by Mrs. Proctor, of Long Sutton, and her family in memory of the late Mr. M. H. Proctor, J.P., a well-known agriculturist of Long Sutton.

The previous peal consisted of a ring of six cast by Henry Penn, of Peterborough, in 1716. The tenor bell weighed less than 11 cwt., and the tonal quality was very poor indeed. Now there is a musical ring of eight bells, tenor approximately 15 cwt., and many of the parishioners and visitors expressed their keen appreciation of the wonderful improvement which has resulted by the recasting of the former six bells and completing the octave. The work has been carried out by John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, in their usual first-class manner, and they were represented at the opening by Messrs. J. Oldham and J. P. Fidler. Among the visitors was Mr. Rupert Richardson, Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

The service was conducted by the Vicar of Long Sutton (the Rev. H. Gorse, M.A.), and among the many clergy present were the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake (Vicar of Walsoken and hon. secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association).

After the dedication of the electric light installation, a procession was formed to the belfry with the cross bearers, followed by Mrs. Proctor, Mr. John Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. Robin Proctor and Mrs. G. Mortimer, churchwardens, clergy, and finally the Bishop and his chaplain.

After the formal ceremony, the Long Sutton bellringers rang the bells until the procession re-entered the church.

Addressing the congregation, the Bishop spoke on 'The joy of the Lord is your strength,' and said it would be difficult—and almost impossible—to touch upon all the things which were gathered up in that great service. They had a picture to start with in the perfect ordering and dignity of the service. It was not often in a parish church a great occasion like that came, but when it did come they had an object lesson such as they had that night.

Speaking of the electric light, the Bishop said he could not think of any other fairly modern invention like electric light which was used for the service of God in an ancient church like Long Sutton's. Referring to the bells, the Bishop said he wondered how many in that church were accustomed to travelling on the Continent. If they had, they would know what he meant when he said the bells in their English church had a beauty all of their own. There was an extraordinary beauty and almost irresistible appeal of the music of bells as their sound was carried over the English countryside. It was not only the thrill of hearing them when close to them, but that sweetness they gained when they travelled over distance. What it was he did not know, but there was something in the sound of bells which appealed to the country church and which no other country possessed.

Bells were a call to worship and they succeeded in doing their duty in a way many of those working for the church did not succeed. The clergy called people to worship, but they might not be heard. The bells were irresistible. These were no longer days when people were compelled to worship; compulsory church attendance had gone, to the good of religion, but he was of the opinion that there should be one call to worship which no one could escape from, and that is what they had through the bells.

They thought also that night of the great deliverance of the church when it was struck by lightning. It came in an unexpected moment; in the daylight when everybody was about. Their church might have gone; not only the woodwork, but the stone, which could be twisted and charred to such an extent that it would have to have been rebuilt from the ground. Earlier he had said that 'The joy of the Lord is your strength,' and on that radiantly happy occasion they had joy for the preservation of that church. Such happenings as that church being struck by lightning were parables of things eternal. God taught them about life, and of the things they could not see by the things they could see. He asked them to take a lesson from what happened to their church, and when they would know in their hearts that whatever happened God was with them.

There was a very large congregation, and the collection reached the splendid sum of £56.

(Continued from previous column.)

British Grenadiers and bellringers had a rare and boisterous send-off to New Zealand on the good M.V. 'Wanganelia' that did not leave her moorings till after 11 p.m. There was some difficulty in clearing the decks of visitors and friends, and the crowds on the wharf appeared to swallow up our Sydney brothers when the band struck up as the boat moved away.

Passing out of the harbour, the city illuminations were a wonderful sight, reflected in the dark water from the surrounding hills, with the famous bridge looking like an electric rainbow joining up the north and south halves of the city. Thus we said, 'Good-bye' to Australia, her church bells and our friends, and—'we will remember them.'

W. H. F.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

Notices must be received not later than Tuesday.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

HINDLEY, LANCS.—The dedication by the Lord Bishop of Liverpool will take place at St. Peter's Church at 3.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 30th, of the ring of eight bells restored by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kingston Seymour on Saturday, March 30th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock to be followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By permission of Rev. Canon Tonks, the next by-meeting will be held at Walmer on Saturday, March 30th.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Woodbridge on Saturday, March 30th. Tea at St. Mary's Hall at 4.30 p.m., at 1s. each. Meeting follows.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, March 30th. S. Nicolas' bells (10) from 3 p.m., Cathedral bells (8) from 3.30 p.m. Service in the Cathedral 4.30. Tea in Holy Trinity Parish Hall, 1s. each, 5.15. Business meeting to follow. After the meeting Mr. Rupert Richardson will show his Australian tour cinematograph pictures.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover Cottage, Pyrford, Woking.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Northill on Saturday, March 30th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. (Please come.) Let's have a good meeting.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Saviour's, Bolton, on Saturday, March 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at York on Saturday, March 30th. The Minster bells (12) will be available from 2.30 to 4 p.m., and from 6.30 to 8 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., at 1s. 6d. per head. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., immediately after tea. Subscriptions for 1934-35 are now due and annual report available.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Elm, near Wisbech, on Saturday, March 30th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringers and friends will be made welcome.—Edward Barker, Dis. Sec., Shouldham, King's Lynn.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Cheshunt on March 30th. Bells all the afternoon and evening. Tea and service, address by the Vicar. All welcome. May we have a good attendance!—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—The restored and augmented peal at Earls Barton Parish Church will be dedicated at 6 o'clock on Sunday, March 31st. An open ringing day will be held the following Saturday, April 6th. Bells ready 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30. Please notify A. Bigley, 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

EARLS BARTON, NORTHAMPTON.—The bells will be dedicated by the Bishop of Peterborough on Sunday, March 31st, at 6 p.m. The peal has been restored and augmented to 8 by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on April 2nd and 30th, St. Magnus' on the 4th, Southwark Cathedral on the 11th, St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 23rd, St. Andrew's on the 25th, at 7.30 p.m. * Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general committee meeting. This meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, April 6th, at 3.15 p.m., in St. Laurence's Hall, Abbey Street. As business of importance will be discussed, a good attendance is earnestly desired.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec. 69, York Road, Reading.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Coppull on Saturday, April 6th. For tea, please send names to Mr. H. Lomax, Avendal, Park Road, Coppull. Meeting 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Wm. O. Farrimond, Branch Sec.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Coalbrookdale, Saturday, April 6th. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. All requiring tea to notify me by April 2nd.—R. R. Pole, Hon. Sec., 88, North Street, Castle Fields, Shrewsbury.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION will hold a quarterly meeting and six-bell contest on Saturday, April 6th, at Liversedge. Draw 2.45 p.m. Those who require tea, 1s. 6d. each, please send not later than March 3rd to L. Hargreaves, 30, Bankfield View, Halifax.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 6th, at Yardley Parish Church, Birmingham. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Short service in church at 4.30. Tea at 5.15. Business meeting to follow. Please notify regarding tea by Wednesday, April 3rd.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Reigate on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (10) available at 3 and after the meeting. St. John's, Redhill, bells (8) from 3 to 4. Service at Reigate Parish Church 4.30. Tea and meeting at the Parish Hall, Lesbourne Road, 5.15. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. G. F. Hoad, 20, Warren Road, Reigate, by Wednesday, April 3rd.—Chas. H. Kippin, 10, Courtney Road, Croydon.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Great Baddow on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Will those intending to be present please advise me by Wednesday, April 3rd?—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., Brooklea, Danbury.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes and Salisbury Branches.—A combined meeting will be held at Heytesbury, on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Other bells available by arrangement. All ringing friends welcome. Please inform for tea.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Devizes Branch, Melksham.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Kingsbury, on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Notification for tea required by Wednesday, April 3rd. Railway station, Wembley Park (Met.), and Nos. 83, 8 or 46 bus to Blackbird Cross.—M. L. Cross, 9, Beverley Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury and Clare District.—A meeting will be held at Glemsford on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting, at Prince of Wales, 5. Bus service from Sudbury and Long Melford.—Harold G. Herbert, Hon. Dis. Sec., 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at South Anston (eight bells) on Saturday, April 6th. For tea, please notify (important) Mr. C. Fowler, Princess Villas, North Anston, by April 4th.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield 3.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Keele on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Will all who intend to be present please notify me not later than April 4th?—C. S. Ryles, Hon. Sec., Rhos, Leek Road, Milton, Stoke-on-Trent.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Dallington on Saturday, April 6th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea to secretary by April 2nd.—J. C. Dean, Branch Sec., 16, St. Peter's Street, Northampton.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at Necton on Saturday, April 6th.—W. J. Eldred, Hon. Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Badby (six bells) on Saturday, April 6th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Colne Parish Church on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Sydling on Saturday, April 6th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and short business meeting to follow. Cattistock and Frampton bells also available.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Staindrop on Saturday, April 6th. The bells of St. Mary's (8) available for ringing from 2 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m.—Robert Jeff, Dis. Sec., 29, Reid Street, Darlington.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Kings Langley on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Numbers for tea by the 3rd, please. All ringers and those interested are welcome.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Meeting at Stoke Golding, Saturday, April 6th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, 5 p.m. Meeting following. All ringers welcome.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Kegworth on Saturday, April 6th. Bells (6) available 3.30 p.m.—D. S. Collins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilford Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Lilbourne (5 bells) on Saturday, April 6th. Usual arrangements. Please notify hon. secretary not later than Tuesday previous of those requiring tea.—Geo. A. Hollick, Hon. Branch Sec., West Street, Welford, Rugby.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Wootton (6 bells) recently restored by Taylors, on Saturday, April 6th. Bells ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., Grange Road, Bromham, Beds.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meetings: Monday, April 1st, practice, St. Clement Danes, 7 p.m., and quarterly meeting 8.15 p.m.; Sunday morning, 7th, service ringing, 10 a.m., St. Clement's; Monday, 8th, practice, All Saints', Wandsworth, 7.30 p.m.; Wednesday, 24th, practice, St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, 7.30 p.m.; Sunday evening, 28th, service ringing, Bow, Cheapside; Monday, 29th, practice, St. Clement Danes, 7.30 p.m.; Tuesday, 30th, practice, St. Mary's, Lambeth, 8 p.m.—Chas. O. Moore, Hon. Gen. Sec., 7, Camberwell Station Road, S.E.5.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—Please book these dates: Saturday, April 13th, Feltham; and Saturday, May 18th, Isleworth. Details later.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods on Saturday, April 13th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. Important business will be discussed, so a good attendance is desired.—J. Charnock, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Prescott on Saturday, April 13th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5.15 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. For tea (9d. each) notify the Vicar, St. Mary's Vicarage, Prescott.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting of St. Mark's, Dalston, on Saturday, April 13th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Short service at 5. Tea, 1s. each, at 5.30, with meeting to follow. All ringers welcomed. Please advise me by April 10th for tea.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary Cray on Saturday, April 13th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea, by kind invitation of the local ringers, only for those who notify me not later than Monday, April 8th. These bells were put at our disposal at short notice. Please show your appreciation by ensuring a good attendance.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 55th annual general meeting will be held at Rochester, on Easter Monday, April 22nd. Committee meeting at 11. Association service in the Cathedral at 12 noon. Address by the Very Rev. the Dean of Rochester. Luncheon in the Corn Exchange at 1 o'clock, followed by the general meeting. The following towers will be open for ringing: Cathedral (10), 10.30-12, 3-4, 4.45-8.30; Rainham (8), after meeting till 8.30; Gillingham (8), Chatham (8), Frindsbury (8), Rochester, St. Margaret's (8), all from 10.30-11.30, and after meeting until 8.30. The nearest six-bell tower is about five miles distant, and arrangements will be made for same if requested. Tickets for luncheon (which includes reasonable refreshment), 1s. each to practising members, 3s. each others. Application for tickets must be made to the undersigned, together with remittance, on or before Tuesday, April 16th.—Fred M. Mitchell, Gen. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

DIAMOND WEDDING.

RUSSAM—ISLIP.—On Easter Monday, March 29th, 1875, at St. John's Church, Perry Barr, Birmingham, Thomas Russam to Kate Cecelia Islip. Present address 267, Stratford Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham, 11.

SITUATION VACANT.

Wanted, a **VERGER** for Penshurst Parish Church. Reply to the Rector, stating age, qualifications and wage required; ringer preferred.—Address, The Rectory, Penshurst, Kent.

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MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. J. D. MATTHEWS.

The following is the first list of donations towards the memorial to the late Mr. J. D. Matthews, Master of the Royal Cumberland Youths: Mr. C. J. Matthews 10s. 6d., Mr. J. Hunt 5s., Mr. Robert H. Knight 3s., Mr. G. Radley 2s. 6d., Mr. A. H. Pulling 2s. 6d., Mr. G. H. Cross 2s. 6d., Mrs. G. H. Cross 2s. 6d., Mr. F. Smith 2s. 6d., Mr. G. A. Card 2s. 6d., Mr. T. Newman 2s. 6d., Mr. T. Bevan 2s. 6d., Mr. A. Neale 2s., Mr. R. Bevan 1s., Mr. G. W. Steere 2s. 6d.

Members are reminded that the time is short. The committee will be grateful if all intending subscribers will forward their contributions to the hon. treasurer, Mr. G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey, as soon as possible.

BENHILTON, SUTTON.—On Sunday evening, February 24th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: R. Foreman 1, H. Good 2, F. Randall 3, G. Rayner 4, G. Chiverton 5, H. Smerdon 6, E. Enticknap 7, W. C. Smith (conductor) 8. Rung to celebrate the first birthday of the 7th ringer's son.

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