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CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS

By JOHN E. SPICE.

RINGERS will welcome the Central Council's new publication, 'Change Ringing on Handbells,' by Christopher W. Woolley. This valuable little book is a guide to handbell ringing from the earliest stages up to Surprise Major. Assuming only a knowledge of the rudiments of change ringing, it begins with the plain hunting positions on six bells, and goes on to the work of the various parts in courses and touches of Bob Minor and Bob Major. This is the longest section of the book and the most important, since most methods are based—both in theory and in handbell ringing practice—on the plain hunting positions and the Plain Bob method, which must therefore be known inside out. If the extremely lucid treatment given here cannot ensure such a understanding, then nothing will. Other Plain and Treble Bob Minor methods are then discussed, carefully, directions are given for the ringing of Double Norwich, and finally there are sections on Surprise Major methods (the standard four) and on conducting. Little is said about Stedman, and less about Grand-sire, but, as is pointed out, the former method offers its own peculiar problems which need to be solved in isolation from the other standard methods, while the latter should offer no particular difficulty to the ringer well accustomed to Plain Bob.

'Ringing by the places' is advocated throughout, and handbell ringers of the 'two blue-lines' school may for this reason feel that the book is not for them. But they will nevertheless find much in its pages to interest and help them, and they must in any case remember that a handbell treatise based exclusively on the 'two blue-lines' technique need only consist of the one sentence, 'learn all the possible work of your pair and practise hard.'

The least satisfactory part of the book may be felt to be that on Surprise methods, consisting as it does of a somewhat indigestible list of places to be made and directions to be followed. This underlines the fact that the book is most emphatically a companion and guide to handbell ringing, rather than a set of infallible, ex cathedra pronouncements. In conjunction with actual ringing practice, the most formidable looking explanations have new light thrown upon them, and seemingly intractable difficulties usually sort themselves out. All the same, more stress might have been laid on the section (i.e., the four rows with the treble in any one dodging position) as the working unit of Treble Bob and Surprise methods. It may not always be a theoretically sound unit, but when actually ringing it helps immensely to 'think in fours' and to get into a Treble Bob dodging frame of mind—even though the internal places often cause plain hunting instead of dodging. Again, to think of (say) 5ths and 8ths being made when the treble is dodging in 3-4 in Cambridge Major is more difficult in practice to regard the work as 'plain hunting at the back,' when the places will be made automatically. But, of course, every ringer who has progressed so far will have his own particular angle on the art, and the object of any set of directions must be to put one on the right road, rather than map out the route completely. Critics of 'ringing by the places' sometimes object that it destroys the sense of movement in ringing—that handbell ringing thus becomes nothing but a 'pricking of changes' and a static rather than a dynamic process. In a sense this is true; but as soon as the handbell ringer acquires confidence he begins to use so many different aids in his ringing, and to rely not least on a new and delightful kind of rhythm—a rhythm quite peculiar to handbell ringing—that, in fact, the objection carries but little weight.

It is to be hoped that users of the book will follow the advice given in the foreword, and mark in the lines on the diagrams. For these lines to have been printed would have meant the use of blocks, and the book would then have been much more expensive. One minor criticism is the lack of any index or table of contents. On the other hand, a particularly pleasing feature is the way in which long stretches of explanation are enlivened with practical hints, which

are valuable both in themselves and for the way in which they continually keep theory wedded to practice. These hints are evidently culled from long (and sometimes bitter) experience, and reading between the lines one feels that if, some day, the author had time to produce a collection of personal reminiscences of the funnier side of handbell ringing, such a volume would be well worth reading. For the time being, however, we must be content with the present work, and the grateful thanks of the Exercise are certainly due to Mr. Woolley for the very capable way in which he has carried it out.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Sat., Jan. 8, 1949, in 3 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN PINFOLD Treble	*JOHN S. WALTON ... 7
HENRY H. FEARN 2	ALBERT WALKER 8
FRANK E. HAYNES 3	ARTHUR D. COOK 9
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 4	JOHN N. LINDON 10
HERBERT C. SPENCER 5	GEORGE E. FEARN 11
ALLAN SHORT 6	JOHN SCOTT Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by HERBERT C. SPENCER.

* First peal on twelve bells.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 8, 1949, in 3 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM TILLET Treble	SYLVIA R. E. PIPE ... 7
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 2	GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 8
*GEORGE W. PIPE 3	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 9
HOBART E. SMITH 4	LESLIE G. BRETT 10
HARRY R. ROPER 5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS ... 11
CECIL W. PIPE 6	JOHN F. TILLET Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

* First peal of Cambridge Maximus, aged 13.

TEN BELL PEALS

EVEESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 29, 1948, in 3 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT THE BELL TOWER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES;

Tenor 31½ cwt.

EWART A. ANDREWS Treble	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... 6
MISS MARGARET ROWLAND ... 2	PATRICK HARRIS 7
GEOFFREY J. HEMMING 3	HARRY A. PLUMB 8
JOHN THOMAS 4	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN ... 9
FREDERICK G. NURDEN 5	WILFRED J. NEWMAN ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. Oliver Hunt, town clerk of Evesham, interred the same day.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 8, 1949, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E flat.

JOYCE A. ENGLAND Treble	HAROLD N. PITSTOW ... 6
DAVID E. PARSONS 2	JOHN F. GALYER 7
*JILL BRITAIN 3	ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ... 8
DENIS N. LAYTON 4	FRANK D. JENNINGS ... 9
ALBERT J. ADAMS 5	EDWARD G. TALBOT Tenor

Composed by A. E. PITSTOW. Conducted by HAROLD N. PITSTOW.

* 25th peal. First peal on ten as conductor. A birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

CARDIFF.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 8, 1949, in 3 Hours and 21 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

FRANK J. BAILEY Treble	ERNEST STITCH 6
JOHN W. JONES 2	*GWYN I. LEWIS 7
TREVOR M. RODERICK 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 8
FREDK. J. HANNINGTON ... 4	ROBERT E. COLES 9
*ALFRED HANNINGTON 5	SEYMOUR R. BARKER ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by ERNEST STITCH.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Hannington for their silver wedding. Tenor 27 cwt.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 8, 1949, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

*DONALD PEARSON Treble	*HAROLD C. LONYON ... 6
MRS. C. W. LAWTON 2	JOHN WORTH 7
*STANLEY PICKFORD 3	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER ... 8
*JUNE HENSHAW 4	FRANK YATES 9
CHARLES W. LAWTON 5	GORDON HENSHAW ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 15, 1948, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Heywood's Transposition.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

ROBERT A. FREEMAN Treble	JOHN THOMAS 5
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 2	PATRICK HARRIS 6
MISS MARGARET ROWLAND ... 3	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN ... 7
MRS. J. THOMAS 4	GEORGE FREEMAN Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

A 21st birthday compliment to Mr. John Champion, son of the Rector of Hinton.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb.

DAVID BEVERIDGE Treble	†T. MARK WHITE 5
MARGARET FIDELL 2	WILLIAM ROGERS 6
EDGAR R. RAPLEY 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 7
*C. ERNEST SMITH 4	PHILIP A. CORBY Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

* 200th peal for the Guild. † First peal in the method 'inside.'

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*MAURICE G. TURNER Treble	*ERIC E. SPEAKE 5
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 2	THOMAS HEMMING 6
*HOWARD HOWELL 3	*ARTHUR V. PEARSON ... 7
*RICHARD J. WARRILOW ... 4	*ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY (No. 8). Conducted by A. V. PEARSON.

* First peal in the method. Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb.

STONHAM ASPAL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAMBERT,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*SYLVIA R. E. PIPE Treble	*WILLIAM J. BUTTON ... 5
†RUSSELL PARKER 2	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 6
GEORGE A. FLEMING 3	ALBERT E. WHITING ... 7
CHARLES E. FISHER 4	LESLIE G. BRETT Tenor

Composed by F. E. W. MEADOWS. Conducted by L. G. BRETT.

* 25th peal together. † First peal. Tenor 24 cwt.



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NANTWICH, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*HERBERT SUTTON Treble	*FREDK. S. SUTTON ... 5
*WILFRED KERR 2	*EDWARD J. BOFFEY ... 6
RICHARD D. LANGFORD ... 3	*J. WILLIAM EDGE ... 7
*JOHN E. BROUGH 4	GEORGE A. PACKER ... Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by GEORGE A. PACKER.

* First peal in the method. First in the method as conductor. First in the method on the bells. For the engagement of Wilfred Kerr and Miss Kathleen Youd. A 21st birthday compliment to the 5th ringer. Tenor 14½ cwt.

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Andrew J. Corrigan's Six-part, No. 3.	Tenor 8 cwt. 48 lb. in G.
*ARTHUR W. DICKERSON Treble	GEORGE SAYER ... 5
*ALBERT PEGG 2	*ARTHUR J. E. SMALLS ... 6
H. WILLIAM BARRETT ... 3	*GEORGE POYNTZ 7
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	THOMAS SIMMONS ... Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Triples. Composition is now rung for the first time.

SALFORD PRIORS, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*FRED C. LYNE Treble	*ARTHUR SHOREY 5
FRED G. KINCHIN 2	*CHARLES N. EDWIN ... 6
VIVIAN B. HUNT 3	C. ARTHUR MANNING ... 7
*KENNETH WHEELER ... 4	LEONARD KINCHIN ... Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER. Conducted by C. ARTHUR MANNING.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal on eight bells.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part.	Tenor 12½ cwt.
GEORGE MARTIN Treble	EDWARD TIMPSON 5
ARTHUR NEWTON 2	F. DONALD BOREHAM ... 6
ARTHUR R. BLABY 3	ROLAND BIGGS 7
PERCY NEWTON 4	VICTOR EVANS Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND BIGGS.

In memoriam Frederick G. Biggs.

BUCKLEY, FLINTSHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Heywood's Transposition of Thurstans'.	Tenor 14½ cwt.
JOHN W. BEST Treble	PERCY SWINDLEY ... 5
JOHN W. GRIFFITHS ... 2	*DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD 6
MISS NANCY P. BIRKS ... 3	HENRY O. BAKER 7
*JOHN HAYES 4	*AMOS LEWIS Tenor

Conducted by HENRY O. BAKER.

* 150th peal. † First peal of Stedman on a working bell. ‡ First peal.

REPTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WYSTAN,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

WM. J. LEACH (comtee.) Treble	E. W. BEADSMORE (c'tee.) 5
J. W. COTTON (sec.) ... 2	WM. CURSON (chairman) 6
*J. H. BRITAN (treas.)... 3	SID. H. JONES (comtee.) 7
T. MARRIOTT (comtee.) 4	B. G. KEY (R'g. Master) Tenor

Composed by M. J. MORRIS. Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.
* First peal in the method 'inside.' All are officers of the above Guild. Tenor 17½ cwt.

WAKEFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part.	Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb.
*VERNON BOTTOMLEY ... Treble	*GORDON C. BRIGGS ... 5
*ERNEST RAYNER 2	HAROLD WALKER 6
LEONARD DRAKE 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... 7
*ARNOLD COLE 4	RONALD H. DOVE ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. The first peal on the light eight.

ARKSEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in F sharp.	
*MRS. IRENE SOMERVILLE Treble	*J. MARTIN THORLEY ... 5
*MILTON C. FOWLER ... 2	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY ... 6
HARRY MORGAN 3	*ERNEST COOPER 7
J. EDWARD CAWSEY ... 4	ARNOLD HILL Tenor

Composed by GEORGE BAKER. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSEY.

* First peal of Major and of Treble Bob. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. The conductor's 200th peal for the Yorkshire Association.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Middleton's (Johnson's Variation).	Tenor 24 cwt. in F flat.
ERNEST T. CARVELL ... Treble	CHARLES B. PEMBERTON 5
JOHN COOKE 2	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN... 6
ALFRED W. CUSICK 3	*FRANK T. PARRY 7
JAMES H. COOKE 4	WILLIAM DEAN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM DEAN.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Jan. 3, 1949, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part (7th the observation).	Tenor 10 cwt. 14 lb. in G.
*WILLIAM M. STEPNEY ... Treble	*BENJAMIN STEPNEY ... 5
GEORGE BEENEY 2	FRANK H. HICKS 6
*E. GAVAN D. TONKIN... 3	JOHN HOBDEN 7
*ERNEST F. BREED ... 4	*MAURICE PUTTOCK ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN HOBDEN.

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

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Jan. 4, 1949, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

H. Johnson's Variation.	Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in A flat.
*ERNEST T. CARVELL ... Treble	*JAMES H. COOKE 5
*ALFRED W. CUSICK ... 2	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN... 6
*CHARLES B. PEMBERTON 3	*JOHN COOKE 7
*BRIAN D. THRELFALL ... 4	*WILLIAM DEAN Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by ALEXANDER J. MARTIN.

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Surprise Major. First peal in the method as conductor. First peal in the method on the bells. A 20th birthday compliment to B. D. Threlfall.

TUNSTALL, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Jan. 4, 1949, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt.	
GEORGE KENWARD ... Treble	*PETER T. ROBBINS ... 5
BETTY SPICE 2	*S. GEOFFREY WATERS... 6
DORIS G. DOBBIE 3	STANLEY B. DOBBIE ... 7
GEORGE H. SPICE 4	WILFRID F. MORETON... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by BETTY SPICE.

* First peal of Surprise.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Jan. 5, 1949, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Comprising 960 London, 480 Rutland, 320 Eastcott, 320 Bristol, 320 New Gloucester, 320 Wordsworth, 320 Wembley, 320 Norfolk, 320 Cambridge, 320 Superlative, 320 Yorkshire, 320 Lincolnshire, 320 Pudsey, and 160 Watford, with 139 changes of method.	
Tenor 7½ cwt. in A flat.	
EDWIN G. MOORE ... Treble	BETTY SPICE 5
VICTOR J. F. BENNETT ... 2	ALAN R. PINK 6
MARGARET L. TUTT ... 3	WILFRID F. MORETON ... 7
MARIE R. CROSS 4	WALTER F. JUDGE ... Tenor

Composed by ALBERT J. PITMAN. Conducted by W. F. JUDGE.

The first peal of Spliced Surprise Major in fourteen methods by all the band.

SIX BELL PEALS

BARCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 5, 1948, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores (4 callings). Tenor 9 cwt. 2 lb. in F sharp.

*C. JOHN PIPER (13) ... Treble	E. G. D. TONKIN (14) ... 4
†MICHAEL G. COLLINS (14) ... 2	FRANK H. HICKS ... 5
WM. M. STEPNEY (13) ... 3	BENJAMIN STEPNEY ... Tenor

Conducted by E. GAVAN D. TONKIN.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor. First peal of Plain Bob Doubles by all the band. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

COUNTSTHORPE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 27, 1948, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. 17 lb.

*BERTRAM HUBBARD ... Treble	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ... 4
ERNEST MORRIS ... 2	ALAN CATELL ... 5
HAROLD KILBY ... 3	JOHN J. MORRIS ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN J. MORRIS.

* First peal of Surprise.

BLANKNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 30, 1948, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN W. MOORE ... Treble	CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 4
MISS EVELYN WRIGHT ... 2	KENNETH W. MAYER ... 5
CHARLES E. BROWN ... 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... Tenor

Composed by Rev. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

Rung to welcome Rev. J. Lawson, Rector of Blankney.

HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Dec. 31, 1948, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt.

*MRS. R. RENDELL ... Treble	R. W. WHITE ... 4
MISS F. POOLE ... 2	W. C. TURNER ... 5
A. S. ATYEO ... 3	G. W. RENDELL ... Tenor

Conducted by G. W. RENDELL.

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

CHELFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 31, 1948, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*ERNEST PIMBLOTT ... Treble	JOHN WORTH ... 4
JOHN W. L. SLACK ... 2	CHARLES W. LAWTON ... 5
MRS. C. W. LAWTON ... 3	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Minor.

PELSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Fri., Dec. 31, 1948, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 6 extents April Day, 8 of Plain Bob (4 callings), 8 of Morris' 240 (8 callings), 12 of Grandsire (10 callings). Tenor 7 cwt.

WILLIAM C. STACKHOUSE Treble	GEORGE GOLDER ... 4
HARRY CLARIDGE ... 2	JOSEPH GREGORY ... 5
ERIC CLARIDGE ... 3	WILFRED ROWLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH GREGORY.

SMARDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Dec. 31, 1948, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 18½ cwt.

HARRY BAKER ... Treble	MARK S. LANCEFIELD ... 4
*JOHN L. MORRIS ... 2	MARK W. MARSHALL ... 5
WILLIAM C. MARSHALL ... 3	*FRANK C. W. KNIGHT Tenor

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal of Minor.

BULKINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Three different callings. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH Treble	ALFRED J. HINDE ... 4
MARGARET D. REEVES ... 2	W. BRIAN ELLENDER ... 5
DOUGLAS E. ELLENDER ... 3	HUBERT E. ASHLEY Tenor

Conducted by MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH.

* First peal of Plain Bob Minor. First as conductor, aged 13 years. Rung to mark the completion of 21 years' ministry at the above church by the Vicar, Rev. J. H. Dingley, a vice-president of the Guild.

DEAL, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 extents, 10 callings. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

WILLIAM BOTTRILL ... Treble	†WILFRED C. E. GOLDPUR 4
ALFRED C. GAMBRILL ... 2	EDWARD J. WELLS ... 5
*JOHN H. BAXTER ... 3	†MARTIN M. MILNER ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM BOTTRILL.

* First peal of Doubles. † First 'inside.' † First peal. To commemorate the 250th anniversary year of the granting of the Charter to the Borough of Deal.

DOWNHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

HERMON J. OLIVER ... Treble	GERALD FROST ... 4
FRANK C. MAY ... 2	FRANK B. LUFKIN ... 5
DONALD COOMBS ... 3	WILLIAM THEOBALD ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in seventeen methods, viz.: (1) (Spliced) Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise and Norbury Treble Bob; (2) (Spliced) Willesden and Newdigate Delight; (3) (Spliced) Old Oxford and College Bob IV. Delight; (4) (Spliced) Wragby and Charlwood Delight; (5) (Spliced) Neasden and St. Albans Delight; (6) (Spliced) Kingston, Sandal, Capel and London Scholars' Pleasure Treble Bob; (7) Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

NORMAN MEAKIN ... Treble	ARTHUR HIBBERT ... 4
*ALEX RICHARDSON ... 2	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER ... 5
*SYD HOUGH, JUN. ... 3	JAMES A. MILNER ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES A. MILNER.

* First peal in 17 methods 'inside.'

HITCHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Kent Treble Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, Single Oxford, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 11 lb.

DAVID H. PEARCE ... Treble	WILLIAM F. BUTLER ... 4
MISS MARY R. JAYCOCK ... 2	*ERNEST E. GOSLING ... 5
WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM ... 3	†GEORGE GILBERT ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

* First of Minor 'inside.' † 150th peal of Minor. In memoriam Fred Biggs, buried at Hughenden on January 1st.

WARSOP, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 Cambridge Surprise, three 720's Kent T.B. and one 720 each of Oxford T.B., St. Clement's College Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

*ARTHUR B. COOPER ... Treble	*DONALD CHADWICK ... 4
*ROLAND T. FLINT ... 2	FREDERICK FLINT ... 5
*WILLIAM DICKINSON ... 3	HERBERT T. ROOKE ... Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT T. ROOKE.

* First peal in five methods. A silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Flint. Also a birthday compliment to Mr. F. Flint.

Continued on page 45.

QUARTER PEALS

ADLINGTON, LANCS.—On Jan. 2nd, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: T. Barker 1, A. Rigby 2, J. Charnock (cond.) 3, J. Hill 4, T. Turner 5, F. Brownlow 6, J. Blackburn 7, J. H. Gartside 8.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCS.—On Jan. 2nd, at St. Peter's, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Wolstencroft 1, W. Harrison (first quarter 'inside,' 13) 2, J. B. Robinson (13) 3, R. H. Wimpenny 4, D. Ogden (cond., 15) 5, G. Taylor (11) 6.

BORDEN, KENT.—On Jan. 2nd, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: W. C. Marshall 1, W. A. Oldfield 2, P. D. Huckslepp 3, S. B. Dobbie 4, F. G. Huckslepp 5, M. S. Lancefield (cond.) 6, W. H. Dobbie 7, H. Parkes 8.

BOSTON, LINCS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,386 Grandsire Caters: K. Thompson 1, Miss L. Briggs 2, A. Freeston 3, R. Brown 4, S. Jessop 5, D. White 6, J. Pitch 7, F. Dewey 8, W. E. Clarke (cond.) 9, T. Freeston 10. Longest length in method for 1, 2, 3, 6 and 10.

DARLEY DALE, DERBYS.—On Dec. 27th, 1,386 Grandsire Triples: E. Paulson 1, Miss C. Broome (first quarter) 2, Miss J. Dunn 3, H. W. Gregory 4, G. H. Paulson 5, D. Scott (first 'inside') 6, H. E. Taylor (cond.) 7, N. Hotchen 8. Also 1,260 Grandsire Triples, conducted by G. H. Paulson, in which E. Paulson rang first 'inside.'

DODDERHILL, DROITWICH.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Wilson 1, G. E. Large (cond.) 2, R. G. Morris 3, A. Morgan 4, R. W. Sayers 5, R. Woodyatt 6, D. R. Morris 7, F. G. Yates 8.

EBBW VALE, MON.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Major: Miss R. Mary Davies 1, T. Stephens 2, R. Stephens 3, J. Alsop 4, J. Worrell (cond.) 5, B. D. Price 6, D. G. Clift 7, Leonard Derrick 8.

EXETER, DEVON.—At St. Thomas' on Dec. 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. L. Oliver (first quarter) 1, E. W. Biffin 2, E. J. Ryall (first 'inside') 3, W. A. Wills 4, R. Truman 5, C. P. Yates 6, F. Wreford (cond.) 7, H. Wills 8.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.—On Jan. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. G. Bartholomew 1, W. J. Barrett 2, A. Hubble 3, A. Edwards 4, H. W. Shadrack 5, A. Meadowcroft 6, P. J. Eves (first of Triples as cond.) 7, B. Bover 8. First of Triples 6 and 8.

GLASGOW.—At St. Mary's Cathedral on Jan. 2nd, 1,295 Grandsire Caters: A. E. Haynes 1, R. O. Street (cond.) 2, J. Hutchison 3, Miss Ruth How (first of Caters) 4, H. F. Sargent 5, R. M. Preston 6, E. Bumphrey 7, E. A. Stafford 8, T. C. Winderam 9, R. W. Sear 10.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On Dec. 24th, 1,280 Double Norwich: V. Evans 1, J. Kape 2, R. Biggs 3, A. Cox 4, Miss A. Smith 5, D. Cox 6, A. R. Blaby 7, W. Lee 8. First in method by 1, 2 and 5.

HUNTINGDON.—At All Saints' on Jan. 2nd, 1,440 Plain Bob: A. T. Howes (first quarter Minor) 1, J. Blythe 2, J. Spicer 3, C. J. Young 4, C. Gravette 5, S. Gilbert (cond.) 6.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On Dec. 31st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. K. Parr 1, Sheila E. Harris 2, Mrs. O. L. Rogers 3, S. Croft 4, F. D. Bishop 5, R. W. Rogers (cond.) 6, D. J. Charnley 7, H. Brooks 8.

LEYTONSTONE, E.—On Dec. 12th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: J. H. Lott 1, Miss A. M. Castle 2, N. G. Hollingworth 3, T. H. Taffender 4, C. W. Ottley 5, W. A. Theobald 6, J. Bullock 7, E. D. Smith (cond.) 8.

NEW ALRESFORD, HANTS.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. A. Tremear 1, F. N. Lane (first quarter 'inside') 2, Miss E. K. Knight (first of Triples) 3, H. Newnham 4, A. D. Tremear (first as cond.) 5, G. Allen 6, E. Lane 7, J. Nicholl (first quarter) 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Dec. 31st, at St. Mary's, Portsea, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. Duguid 1, Miss C. Burbidge 2, Miss H. Da'e (first as cond.) 3, Mrs. E. F. Salmons 4, J. D. Harris 5, L. Pearson 6, E. F. Salmons 7, H. T. Macey 8.

PLYMOUTH.—On Dec. 25th, at St. Andrew's Church, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: C. Holmes 1, A. S. Weatherly 2, G. H. Myers 3, A. W. Myers 4, J. H. Tippet 5, A. Mitchelmore 6, H. F. Myers 7, S. O'Shaughnessy 8, T. G. Myers (cond.) 9, D. F. Wheeler 10. This is the first quarter-peal ever accomplished on these bells on a Christmas Day.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.—On Jan. 2nd, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Miss Ann Turner 1, P. Coombes 2, A. Reeve 3, R. Brown 4, W. Perry 5, J. Belcham 6, T. Loxton 7, F. Souter 8, F. B. Lufkin (cond.) 9, B. Sadler 10.

PUTNEY, S.W.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss A. M. Castle 1, T. H. Taffender (cond.) 2, Miss K. Branson 3, J. Bullock 4, N. G. Hollingworth 5, W. A. Theobald 6, C. W. Ottley 7, F. W. Wicks 8.

READING, BERKS.—On Jan. 2nd, at St. Laurence's, 1,261 Stedman Caters: A. Diserens 1, Mrs. D. Catterall 2, H. Tucker 3, Miss P. Hart 4, H. Sweetzer 5, T. Lanaghan 6, E. Humfrey (cond.) 7, R. Burton 8, C. Watts 9, E. G. Foster 10.

RINGWOOD, HANTS.—On Dec. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Strand 1, R. E. Tiller 2, C. W. Reed 3, L. Harris 4, R. Marlow 5, B. R. Tiller 6, W. E. Cheater (cond.) 7, C. Drayson 8. In memoriam H. Kerley, former member.

RUGBY.—On Dec. 24th, at St. Andrew's Church, 1,260 Reverse Stedman, St. Simon's, Canterbury, Grandsire, Bob Doubles, Stedman and April Day: Mrs. W. Vann 1, W. Vann 2, A. E. Barlow (cond.) 3, R. Gibbons 4, C. Underwood 5.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Dec. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Butler 1, R. Purchase 2, J. Brooks 3, R. Posnett 4, D. H. Pearce (first quarter as cond.) 5, E. J. Briden 6.

WOODCHESTER, GLOS.—On Dec. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire and St. Dunstan's Doubles: B. Latham 1, S. C. Thain 2, G. Latham (cond.) 3, E. Risbey 4, R. J. Thain 5, F. Garland 6.

WROTHAM, KENT.—On Jan. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. S. B. Marchant 1, A. V. Kemp 2, Edna M. Sills (cond.) 3, C. E. East 4, R. L. Sills 5, C. Shaw 6.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH



The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

STOP PRESS.

Peals rung in 1948 totalled 2,637 (2,364 tower bells, 273 handbells), compared with 2,176 in 1947. The Kent County Association head the Associations with 150 on tower bells and six 'in hand.'

First peal by a band of ladies for the Royal Society of Cumberland Youths was scored at Bexley, Kent, on January 15th. It was Cambridge Surprise Major; conductor, Miss Betty Spice.

Mr. G. H. Cross was elected Master of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths on Saturday in succession to Mr. Walter Ayre. The voting was Mr. G. H. Cross 43, Mr. Frank E. Hawthorne 20, Mr. T. G. Bevan 13. A report will appear in our next issue.

Names omitted from our list of ringers who have rung 40 or more peals during 1948 are Mr. Jack L. Millhouse, Lincoln, with 59 peals and Mr. Charles W. Roberts, London, with 40 (conducted 19). Of Mr. Roberts' peals 29 were in Surprise methods.

There has been a change in the Mastership of Cambridge University Guild. Mr. M. R. D. Harford has resigned owing to the pressure of work, and Mr. Geoffrey Dodds (Emmanuel) has been elected his successor.

The peal attempt at Rotherfield, Sussex, in honour of the diamond wedding of Mr. E. Bishop, was successful. 'It was a first-class peal, well struck, and was much appreciated by the large gathering of friends,' reports our correspondent.

'We are quite proud of the performance of Mr. H. Buckingham, who at the age of 79 rang his bell faultlessly. . . . It is 12 years since he rang his last peal.' Thus writes our correspondent from Marlow in sending a report of the local peal. Others, we feel sure, will share Marlow's pride.

Mr. A. Miller, captain of Christ Church, Mitcham, has been 54 years a ringer. To mark his 69th birthday on Jan. 2nd, 1,260 Doubles was rung by F. Uden 1, A. Miller 2, H. Allen 3, T. Miller 4, P. E. T. Allen (cond.) 5, H. Uden 6.

St. John's, Deptford, specialise in quarter-peals, conducting being shared by F. W. Richardson, J. Warner, jun., and P. G. Parrott. In their list to hand is a quarter of Grandsire Triples at 7 a.m. on Christmas Day.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. Charles J. Sedgley and Mr. G. E. Symonds have both rung 60 peals of Surprise Maximus in seven different methods.

Mr. Vernon Sykes has 'circled' the tower of St. Thomas', Moorside, Oldham.

Mr. A. C. Hazelden, of Guildford, is making good progress after his operation. He wishes to thank all enquirers.

Miss Stella M. Wickens believes that she is the first lady to call a peal for the East Grinstead and District Guild.

Mr. George E. Oliver had his young band performing at Willenhall, Staffordshire, with a peal of Stedman Triples on Jan. 8th.

The peal at Audley, Staffordshire, on Jan. 8th, was a compliment to Mr. John Jebb, for 53 years a ringer at Audley and for 22 years leader of the local band.

Mr. A. P. Cannon's six months old record of ringing 840 changes on Brooklands (Kent) bells was beaten by 2,040 Plain Bob Doubles rung on Jan. 8th by Miss Frances Wood 1, J. Owen Santer 2, W. Gorrings 3, M. S. Clarke (cond.) 4, L. T. Pope 5. The attempt, like the previous one, came to grief when a rope jumped the wheel of the tenor.

Eighty-nine-years-old Mr. W. Sears rang the treble to 1,260 Grandsire Triples rung on December 29th at Mangotsfield, Bristol, as a birthday compliment to him. Next to him stood M. Jefferies, aged 13, ringing his first 'inside.' A. Rodway had a similar privilege. J. G. Jefferies conducted.

The 'Bristol Evening Post' comments that the 12-bell ring in Trowbridge Parish Church is silent much more than it should be in these days because of the lack of ringers. The bells did not herald the birth of the Royal Prince or the New Year. An appeal for learners is made by Mr. Gilbert Harding.

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Hinckley District at Dinner

POPULAR SOCIAL EVENT.

Another example of enterprise on the part of Leicestershire ringers was the second annual dinner of the Hinckley District, held at Burbage on January 8th, which attracted a company of 128.

The dinner was preceded by ringing at St. Catherine's, Burbage, during the afternoon. Mr. E. C. Turner, the genial district chairman, presided, supported by the Guild president (Mr. H. J. Poole) and Mrs. Poole. Mr. W. Wood (secretary) and Mr. A. Rowley (treasurer) were also present.

In reply to a welcome by the chairman, Mr. Poole said how gratified he was to see such a truly representative gathering of the district ringers. It showed how enthusiastic were the members and how truly they emphasised the social spirit and good comradeship in the district.

Mr. Frank K. Measures, district secretary, was responsible for the social and dance which followed. There was never a dull moment and great thanks are due to him. There were hilarious turns on the stage by local ringers, and handbell ringing, which was a revelation in good striking. Thanks are also due to the Earl Shilton and Barwell Male Voice Choir for their excellent singing.

The games, in which everyone took part, were a riot, and numerous prizes were given. Midnight came all too soon, and a fleet of buses saw everyone safely home.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

NORTH-EAST BRANCH.

At the annual meeting of the North-East Branch, held at Silvertown on January 8th, a noticeable feature was the large number of visitors, some of whom came from as far afield as Combe Martin, Chivenor, Newton Abbot, Wellington and Milverton.

The report showed that good progress had been made during the past year, both as regards the numbers of peals and quarter-peals rung and also in the instruction of beginners.

All the retiring officers were re-elected, and it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Sampford Peverell on April 23rd.

In addition to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, touches of Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich were rung.

HELLINGLY'S PLIGHT

There has always been enthusiasm for bell-ringing in the Sussex village of Hellingly, and the parish was fortunate in that ringers were available throughout the war.

Two years ago an effort was made to introduce young blood into the tower with excellent results. Soon Kent Treble Bob Minor was being rung in addition to Grandsire Doubles before the Sunday services and seven Minor methods amongst various Doubles methods on practice nights.

In the spring of last year the sad discovery was made that the death-watch beetle had badly affected the timbers in the tower in addition to much damage in the church itself.

Expert advice declared the condition of the bell frame (in August) to be such as to make further ringing unsafe and the church is set to raise £2,000 to treat the roof timbers, replacing as necessary, and to install an iron frame for the bells, to recast the third and complete new fittings.

Nevertheless, great enthusiasm still prevails among the ringers, who take every opportunity available to ring in other towers, including a visit a short time ago to Barcombe, when they rang a peal of Bob Doubles.

If any of our ringing brethren feels that he (or she) has any money to spare to help this country parish in its big effort, donations will be most gratefully received by the Vicar, the Rev. R. W. Shaw, Hellingly Vicarage, Hailsham, Sussex.

FRANK H. HICKS.

Ringer Awarded B.E.M.



Mr. Frederick W. Middleton, a ringer well known and beloved in the Norwich Diocese, was awarded the B.E.M. in the New Year's Honours List in recognition of 50 years' service as sub-postmaster at Mulbarton, which he completed on December 9th last.

Born at Brooke, Norfolk, on December 1st, 1870, Mr. Middleton was taught to ring on the heavy six in the ancient round tower when a boy of 14. On moving to Mulbarton, he found a light ring of five and continued his interest in bellringing. In 1946 Mr. and Mrs. Middleton added a treble in memory of their only son, killed at Dunkirk in the Second World War.

Mr. Middleton joined the Norwich Diocesan Association in 1905 and rang his first peal 'inside' to Bob Major in that year. Since then he has taken part in 24 peals, recent ones being in honour of his 78th birthday and the B.E.M. award. In addition, Mr. Middleton has been a regular supporter of district meetings both far and near and most hospitable to ringers visiting Mulbarton. The affection with which he is held in ringing circles is shared with the general public as letters to the local Press and the many private tributes he has received have testified. Numerous people have given expression to the ability, friendliness and co-operation which have typified Mr. Middleton's work as sub-postmaster at Mulbarton for such a long period. It is the toast of his ringing friends that he may enjoy many more years of health and happiness.

N. G.

EAST GRINSTEAD & DISTRICT GUILD

A meeting of the Guild at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, on January 8th, proved quite a success, when over 40 ringers, representing 17 towers, enjoyed ringing on this handy octave. As usual, the learners were there in force, to the detriment of the striking, but they had some very good practice. Double Norwich went quite well, as did Yorkshire Major, until two leads from the end.

After a short service, conducted by the Rev. — Ellis, tea was taken in the Parish Hall, followed by the business, with Mr. H. Lamb, a churchwarden, in the chair.

Essex Association

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting of the South-Eastern Division was held at Boreham on January 15th, 40 members and friends attending. The Rev. T. W. J. House conducted the service, Miss Jean Thomas being the organist. Tea was provided by the kindness of Mrs. M. R. French, an honorary member.

At the business meeting Mr. H. Mansfield, of Maldon, after 15 years as Master, relinquished office. Several members spoke appreciatively of Mr. Mansfield's service to change ringing, and Mr. H. W. Shadrack, of Springfield, was elected Master. The secretary and committee members were re-elected.

In his report for 1948 the secretary (Mr. A. H. Everett) reported an average attendance of 39 at meetings. The standard of ringing in many individual cases had greatly improved, whilst younger members had widened their knowledge of methods. All Saints', Maldon, with structural defect repaired, had recommenced ringing. The year had been satisfactory financially, £10 13s. 7d. and £11 8s. 6d. being handed to the general secretary on the Bell Restoration Fund and General Fund accounts respectively. Five ringing and 10 probationers had been elected during the year.

Sixteen peals were rung during 1948, shared by seven conductors. Two members conducted their first peal, which was most welcome news.

Tribute was paid to those who, having passed the three score and ten, continue to give faithful service, including G. Green (Great Baddow), and H. Allen (Chelmsford), who joined this Association 63 years ago. In conclusion the secretary stressed the need for recruits so that all the bells might be rung every Sunday.

The Rev. T. W. J. House and Miss Joan May were elected ringing members, and D. Wallace, T. Whitesmith and J. Gowers probationer members.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

On January 8th, the Northern Division held its annual meeting at Braintree, when some 55 members and friends attended. The Association's form of service was held in the church, conducted by Mr. D. Smith, the Vicar being indisposed. After the service tea and meeting followed in the Church Hall.

Miss H. Snowden was re-elected Master and Mr. H. A. Pratt secretary. Mr. H. W. Smith and Mr. G. Trendell were elected to the committee. Stisted was selected for the next meeting. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and local ringers and friends for arranging the tea.

Ringing was resumed after tea, and Bocking tower was also available.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting of the Canterbury District was held at Wingham on January 8th. A company of 70 attended, and ringing was enjoyed on the fine eight until 4.30. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. D. Brockman, who is learning ringing.

Tea, very generously provided by the Vicar, Mr. R. Miles and Mr. Elgar, was followed by the usual business meeting. Fourteen new practising members were elected, also one new honorary member. Upper Deal tower was also elected in union with the Association. From four towers proposed for the next quarterly meeting, St. Lawrence's, Thanet, was selected. Ospringe beat its opponents for the next by-meeting.

Mr. G. H. Spice read a report on the work of the Central Committee, prepared by Mr. J. W. Unwin, who was unable through illness to be present.

Further ringing was held until 8.30.

ENDERBY, LEICS. — On Dec. 30th, 1,320 Grandsire Doubles: Miss Lucy Muggleton 1, Mrs. L. E. Rivers 2, D. T. Oliver 3, W. Salt 4, L. E. Rivers (first as cond.) 5, B. Stevens 6. First quarter by 1 and 6. First 'inside' 2.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CENTURY MAKERS OF THE PAST

Dear Sir,—By ringing 108 peals during 1948, Mr. George Fearn becomes the first century maker since 1933, when Mr. George R. Pye's total was exactly 100, and only the second since 1913, in which year Mr. Alfred W. Grimes rang 136 after his previous year's 114, he being the only ringer to have accomplished the feat more than once. The only other men who rang more than 100 peals in a year were Messrs. J. W. Washbrook, with 127 in 1888, and, I think, Bertram Prewett, who did so in 1912 or 1913. All this is from memory, but I don't think it is far wrong.—Yours faithfully,
Crayford, Kent. E. A. B.

40 PEALS AND OVER

Sir,—With reference to your publication in this week's 'Ringing World' of the list of those members of our fraternity who have rung 40 peals and over during the past year.

Although this is a matter for our congratulations to them for achieving this number, I wonder how many of these same ringers could claim to have rung for Sunday services on 40 Sundays during this same past year? Of those who can claim this, how many stayed to the services for which they rang?

There seems a tendency nowadays to amass a large number of peals, but if that is not coupled with the primary objects for which our Guilds stand—I mean that of ringing regularly for Sunday services, and training learners—then, to have rung 40 or more peals in a year seems to lose the greater part of its value. Peal ringing should be a means to an end and not the end in itself. The bells belong to the church, and we are members of the church; our ringing for services should be a service and duty to that church, and not merely a hobby to satisfy our desires. I am glad, therefore, to see that many of those names published are, in fact, of such ringers who do fulfil their obligations.

I feel also that those who faithfully carried out the objects for which their Guilds stand, and have been good and loyal members of their churches and perhaps have not rung or had the chance to ring 40 peals in a year, are equally deserving of such worthy recognition as has been given to these more prolific peal ringers of our fraternity.

Could not, therefore, a list be published of those who have rung for service and stayed to those services on 40 Sundays in the past year?—Yours faithfully,

E. F. N. SAMSON, Capt.

D. and N. School, R.A.E. Centre,
Bovington Camp, Dorset.

[NOTE.—We have not the space for such a list. In the Editor's own tower ten ringers rang for more than 40 services, there being a number exceeding 130.—EDITOR.]

THE LONDON PEAL OF 1899

Dear Sir,—Re the peal of London Surprise rung at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, on Jan. 14th, 1899. In addition to Mr. Williams, the conductor, there are at least two other survivors of that peal in Brighton, i.e., George Baker and Frank Bennett.

Whether George King, who also took part in the peal, is still alive I do not know. He went to Canada many years ago, and for some years nothing has been heard of him.—Yours faithfully,
GEORGE BAKER.
Brighton.

THE MISSION TO LONDON

Dear Sir,—In preparation for the Mission to be held in May, we are forming a small discussion group between some of the ringers at Kilburn. We feel that this will help us in the part we hope to play in the Mission and would like to welcome any other ringers who would care to join in the discussions. I should be glad to supply further particulars.—Yours faithfully,
E. M. ATKINS.
18, Westbere Road, N.W.2.

THE CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Dear Sir,—It seems that once again I have put my foot right in it! Contrary to all 'Kewsett Laws,' once again error has crept into the Christmas Quiz. 'Quizzed' writes, 'Perhaps Kewsett will explain how John and Arthur, ringing the 2nd and 3rd respectively, manage to be dodging in 4-5 when Bob on the 7th is in quick.' The only explanation I can offer is that I inadvertently took a slow six-end to be a quick one.

It appears that there were alternative answers to several of the 'Round England Quiz.' Many have pointed out that Holy Sepulchre, Northampton, is a round church with a ring of eight, and that St. Maurice's, Winchester, has a ring of six with a roadway underneath.

The Darts Problem was also solved in different ways, which, however, all used the natural coursing order. I submit that writing out the lead-ends of Plain Bob is the quickest way to solve the problem.—Yours, etc.,

'KEWSETT.'

[NOTE.—In marking the papers, these alternatives were taken into consideration.—EDITOR.]

CHRISTMAS CARD WANTED

Dear Sir,—A few days ago I received a Christmas card from Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, with a fine view of St. Margaret's Church on the front, which brought to my mind a thought for something I have often wished for—a real bellringer's Christmas card, suitable for any church.

My suggestion is a view and name of one's own church on the front leaf, and on the inside leaf three bells, the centre bell in the down position, and one each side, mouth upwards, complete with stock, stay and wheel. Underneath this illustration would be 'The bells of St. Mary's' (or other church), 'How sweetly they ring,' and lower, in a half circle of music lines, the first eleven notes of the bells of St. Mary's. On the other leaf could be included a photo of oneself, with Christmas greetings from —.

I hope to get this worked out before next Christmas, when some of my old friends will receive a card.—Yours faithfully,

ERNEST WEATHERBY.

1235 Mullen Avenue, Los Angeles 6,
California, U.S.A.

RINGERS' NOTEBOOK & DIARY, 1949

We regret that the Ringers' Notebook and Diary, 1949, contains the following false touches and other errors which we ask owners to note.

Page 5.—Secretary of the Truro Diocesan Guild is the Rev. W. H. R. Trehwella, The Vicarage, Crantock, Newquay, and not as printed.

Page 29.—The 111 Grandsire Triples is false. Page 33.—Second 180 in last column; the part-end should be 2315647 (not 2315674).

Page 34.—Bottom of second column: the fourth course-end of the 1,260 should be 234156 (not 243156). Also bottom of third column: the heading of the last 1,260 should be 231456.

Page 38.—The 320 Plain Bob Major is false.

Page 39.—Two consecutive bobs in Little Bob Major do not come round. Also in the 1,344 Plain Bob Major the first bob of the third part produces 8674523 (not 8764523).

Page 48.—The 224 is produced by seven consecutive bobs (not five).

Page 52.—Both touches of 384 London Surprise Major are false.

End-Paper.—One of the bells in the design is the wrong way round.

W. VIGGERS and M. HODGSON.

GRESSENHALL, NORFOLK.—On Dec. 31st, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: S. G. Eke 1, A. W. Barber 2, R. C. Bunning 3, A. G. Chambers 4, S. Marshall 5, G. T. Bunning (cond.) 6. First quarter by all.

OBITUARY

THE REV. A. A. DE VERE.

The Rev. Allan Augustin de Vere, the much loved Vicar of Christ Church, Ealing, died suddenly on January 15th. Prominent in Anglo-Catholic circles, he was also a man of wide interests and a tremendous worker. He had been a soldier in the first world war, holding a commission in the 1st Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment, and seeing service in France, before being seconded to the Ministry of Supply. Following the war, and after obtaining his degree at Oxford, he took Holy Orders, and served at several well-known Anglo-Catholic Churches, including St. Matthew's, Westminster, the Church of the Annunciation, Bryanston Street, and others. In 1939 he was appointed to Christ Church, Ealing, following his Vicariate at St. Anne's, Brondesbury. His period at Ealing was one of great stress and hard work. In June, 1944, his beautiful church was very badly damaged by a flying bomb. Due to his untiring efforts, within a comparatively short time, the church was restored to something like its pre-war state. The restoration, so far, has included the rebuilding of the organ, which was badly damaged, and the rehanging and recasting of some of the bells. He was a great lover of his bells and the beautiful restored ring was a great joy to him.

At the request of Father R. W. F. Cowdry, priest-in-charge, the bells were rung half-inflated for as many of the services as possible up to the time of the funeral. On Saturday evening, January 15th, the ringing was carried out by members of the Middlesex County Association, following a meeting at Acton. On the Sunday morning, following ringing for Matins, the 'whole pull and stand' was rung 55 times to correspond with the age of the departed, by W. G. Wilson 1, D. R. Judd 2, P. A. Finch 3, E. C. S. Turner 4, J. E. Lewis Cockey 5, J. King 6, W. J. Ellis 7, A. Jones 8. On the Wednesday afternoon the body was brought to lay in state in the chancel, and ringing was again carried out by the local company, prior to Vespers for the Dead. A watch was then set until the time of the funeral, watches being taken by Mr. W. G. Wilson and Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey, on behalf of the ringers.

Preceding the funeral service at 10.45 a.m. on Thursday, a representative band again rang the 'whole pull and stand': W. G. Wilson 1, T. J. Lock 2, J. E. Lewis Cockey 3, A. A. Hughes, J.P. 4, E. Maurice Atkins 5, A. T. Parker 6, H. J. Eldred 7, F. Miller 8. Miss D. Luke (Christ Church) and Mr. W. Pickworth (Richmond) also took part in the ringing.

The funeral service was most impressive, the church being packed, with many more waiting outside. Requiem Mass was sung, presided over by the Bishop of London, supported by the Bishop of Kensington, the Archdeacon of Middlesex, the Rural Dean of Ealing, the Vicar of Ealing and nearly all the clergy of the Ealing Deanery.

The ringers connected with the church express their deep sympathy with Mrs. de Vere and her two sons.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

DEVIZES BRANCH.

The annual meeting of this branch was held on January 8th at St. James', Trowbridge, attended by 40 members. The Rev. R. J. Pelly conducted the Guild service, and Mr. A. T. Weeks was at the organ.

Tea was served in the Court Cafe, followed by the meeting, presided over by the branch chairman, Mr. W. C. West. All the officers were re-elected with the exception of the secretary, who has left the district, and Mr. Fred Slatford was elected to this office. Five new members were proposed. Votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector, and to Mr. G. Harding for making all the usual arrangements, and a welcome was given to the visitors, to which Mr. A. Prince replied.

FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Catherine,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. in F sharp.
*TONY PRICE ... Treble ... 4
FRANK C. PRICE ... 3 ... 5
WALTER SPARROW ... 4
G. WILLIAM MORRIS ... 5
RICHARD E. PRICE ... Tenor

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

* First double-handed tower-bell peal.

LLANELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE.
ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Elli,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores.

*J. G. EDWARDS ... Treble ... 4
*J. EVANS ... 2 ... 5
C. H. HAWKINS ... 3 ... Tenor
I. HURREN ... 4
J. T. WILLIAMS ... 5
J. HURREN ... Tenor

Conducted by C. H. HAWKINS.

* First peal. In honour of the Vicar, the Rev. J. C. Jones, becoming Bishop of Bangor.

FISHTOFT, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Guthlac,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Rev. E. Banks James' Arrangement. Tenor 12 cwt.
THOMAS CUMMINS ... Treble ... 4
JOHN R. KEMP ... 2 ... 5
JOHN R. YOUNG ... 3 ... Tenor
*GEORGE DAWSON ... 4
†E. FISHER ... 5
ALBERT E. FLATTERS ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. YOUNG.

* First peal of Minor away from treble. † First peal of Minor.
First Surprise peal on the bells.

PETERBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each Cambridge Surprise, Oxford T.B., Kent T.B., Double Oxford, Single Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.
*GEORGE S. BUSH ... Treble ... 4
*HERBERT GOAKES ... 2 ... 5
CHARLES W. WOOD ... 3 ... Tenor
JOHN H. BLUFF ... 4
WILLIAM H. WALDRON ... 5
FRANK WARRINGTON ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

* First in seven methods.

RIPPINGALE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Norfolk, London, York, Durham, Primrose, Ipswich and Cambridge. Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb.
GEORGE R. DAWSON ... Treble ... 4
*WILLIAM B. DAWSON ... 2 ... 5
HORACE M. DAY ... 3 ... Tenor
CECIL WADE ... 4
*CYRIL WANDER ... 5
ALBERT E. SCOTT ... Tenor

Conducted by HORACE M. DAY.

* First peal in seven Surprise methods.

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.
FREDERICK A. SALTER ... Treble ... 4
*MRS. W. E. SIMPSON ... 2 ... 5
THOMAS W. ROBINSON ... 3 ... Tenor
WILLIAM E. SIMPSON ... 4
†J. KENNETH WAGSTAFF ... 5
WALTER NICHOLS ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK A. SALTER.

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

SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Denys,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six 240's by Morris, three by Pitman and 24 120's.
Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in A.

FRANK R. MITCHELL ... Treble ... 4
MISS MARY SMITH ... 2 ... 5
HENRY T. COLLIN ... 3 ... Tenor
MISS JOAN WRIGHT ... 4
JAMES H. MUSSON ... 5
*FRED J. WRIGHT ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

* First peal. In memoriam the Rev. Hector Maetuk, M.A., 24 years incumbent of the above parish.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents. Tenor 11½ cwt.
*BRIAN RADLEY ... Treble ... 4
GEORGE TRENDLELL ... 2 ... 5
CLAUDE SNOWDEN ... 3 ... Tenor
FRANK CLAYDON ... 4
RONALD SUCKLING ... 5
HILDA G. SNOWDEN ... Tenor

Conducted by RONALD SUCKLING.

* First peal (age 13 years).

MULBARTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Jan. 6, 1949, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. in A.
F. CHARLES GOODMAN ... Treble ... 4
ARTHUR J. E. SMALLS ... 2 ... 5
GEORGE SAVER ... 3 ... Tenor
HARRY J. HALL ... 4
FREDK. W. MIDDLETON ... 5
NOLAN GOLDEN ... Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Rung in honour of the award of the British Empire Medal to Mr. Frederick W. Middleton.

HANDBELL PEALS

WICKHAM ST. PAUL, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., July 14, 1948, in 1 Hour and 53 Minutes,

At the Methodist Chapel,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.
REGINALD RIPPINGALE ... 1-2 THOMAS BIRD ... 3-4
RALPH BIRD ... 5-6
Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes,

At 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.
WILLIAM G. YOUNG ... 1-2 ... 5-6
DANIEL T. MATKIN ... 3-4 ... 7-8
Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 7 Minutes,
At 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.
WILLIAM G. YOUNG ... 1-2 ... 5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ... 3-4 ... 7-8
Composed by GEO. HUGHES. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 1, 1949, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
At TRENTWOOD,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 14½ in C sharp.
MRS. J. BRAY ... 1-2 ... 5-6
FRANK LORD ... 3-4 ... 7-8
*PHILIP BARNES ... 9-10

Composed by G. HAYWARD. Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

* First ten-bell peal.

LONDON.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sun., Jan. 2, 1949, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes,
At 18, WESTBERE ROAD, HAMPSTEAD,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor size 8 in C.
ANNE B. STOCKDALE ... 1-2 ... 5-6
E. MAURICE ATKINS ... 3-4 ... 7-8
Arranged and Conducted by EDWIN J. LINDLEY.

The conductor's 50th peal on handbells.

PORTSLADE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Jan. 2, 1949, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes,
At MEROK, 3, CARLTON TERRACE,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 13 in E.
ALBERT W. BOND ... 1-2 ... 5-6
*DAVID GALLOP ... 3-4 ... 7-8
Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by R. GORDON CROSS.

* First peal on an 'inside' pair.

A NOTE ON METHOD STRUCTURE

(Continued from page 34 of the previous issue.)

By A. YORK-BRAMBLE.

THE GRID-PATTERN OF A METHOD.—

The terms 'red line' and 'blue line' are familiar to all ringers as the indicators of the respective paths of treble and working bells as shown in Snowdon's 'Standard Methods.' If the paths of all the bells are marked by such lines, omitting the figures and using, preferably, a distinguishing colour for each bell, we derive a distinctive network of bell-paths. This network IS the method. We call it the Grid-pattern of the method. Each method has its own, quite different from any other method's Grid-pattern. It is instantly recognisable on sight, far more quickly and positively, in fact, than even an expert could recognise a 'lead' of figures of a method.

Any reader who has never seen a Grid-pattern is advised to stop here and take squared paper and red crayon (or ink) and pencil, and to draw up grid rectangles for Minor, Major, Royal and Maximus. Then take a standard method, say Plain Bob or Cambridge, and make out the Grid-pattern for the Minor, using lines only to run from square centre to square centre, the treble's path being distinguished in red. Draw cross lines to divide off the Grid-sections. Now note: 1. The way the pattern repeats in the sections, and changes at the junctions of the sections. 2. How this is all 'governed' by the position of the hunt-controlling bell, i.e., the treble. Now, without reference to any book of rules, repeat the pattern in the Major, Royal and Maximus grids. Notice: 3. The pattern is 'identical' throughout. (It must be so, for this Grid-pattern is, as we have said, the method itself.) Check the bell-paths down to the grid-base row, put in the grid-link, and see what row of figures you obtain. There is no question as to whether or not you have the method. 'All very well,' I hear some readers saying, 'with methods such as he suggests. But what about irregular ones?' 'Right,' we reply, 'how about London, the Queen of irregular patterns? Later we shall do the same with London. And get a surprise, no doubt!' The process holds good for odd-bell methods, of course, and for 'principles,' too, such as Stedman. Now whilst the ordinary ringer may manage with the blue line, the advanced performer and certainly the skilled conductor need a working acquaintance with the interdependence of the bell-paths, i.e., what we have called the Grid-pattern. To the method-builder, however, it is indispensable.

CONES.—If the red line of the treble's path be followed across the Grid (Plain or Treble Bob), from leading to lying, and back again from lying to leading, it will be seen to form a cone, with its base along the 'A' columns of the grid, and its apex in the 'Z' columns of the grid at the half-lead position; or, as we may preferably call it, the 'Grid-junction' position, since it is where the two reflective halves of the grid are joined together. The whole of the Grid-pattern enclosed within this 'front' cone we shall describe as 'front-cone work.' Again, the treble, in coming down from behind to leading, in the last half of a grid, and in moving up behind again in the first half of the ensuing grid, traces out a similar cone with its base along the 'Z' columns and its apex in the 'A' columns, at the grid-link. And all the Grid-pattern lying within this cone we shall describe as 'Back-cone work.' Note that both cones are halved, through the apex, by the axial dividing lines at Grid-link and Grid-junction respectively. Now, all these unfamiliar names may seem unwelcome at first contact, but their con-

venience, usefulness and even necessity quickly become apparent in any serious pursuit of this subject.

THE ARBITRARY CONVENTIONS.—

All methods are subject to certain arbitrary 'Conventions,' demanded by usage and custom throughout the Exercise over long years. Fundamentally all methods spring from the 'Original' principle of plain hunting, the hunting being varied, from method to method, by causing bells to pause in their paths at varying positions and 'make a place.' This pausing, in turn, compels the bells beyond the place-making (i.e., beyond as considered from the direction in which the place-making bell was moving beforehand) to compels, we were saying, those bells to 'dodge.' The whole combined process of disturbance may be conveniently known as a 'Stat.' (The nature and effect of stats is a separate and absorbing branch of the subject for study.) The 'coursing order,' that is, the order in which the bells follow one another as in Original, is accordingly disturbed, at any rate temporarily.

In hunt-controlled methods this order is usually regained by the time the Grid-base row is reached, except in so far as the order of the working bells in relation to the hunt-bell appears. This convention results in what are known as 'natural' (sometimes 'Bob Major,' though a poor name) lead-rows, that is, the rows at the Grid-links. Further, especially on the higher numbers, is the convention that the heavier bells should not be separated, by stats, in the first grid of the plain course, to a degree which could place them oppositely in the grid. This has the effect of ensuring, in the main, that the heavy bells are congregated throughout. Again, no more than two blows, except in certain 'calls' and method adaptations such as Plain Bob on odd numbers, are to be laid consecutively in any one place. Again, no penultimate place is to be made unless the treble lies next behind.

In extensions it frequently occurs that characteristic portions of the work unavoidably turn up in an order differing from that in the basic, and with additional bits to accommodate the expanded grid. In a choice between two variants, proximate order would be a determining factor. Again, Grid-head rows of an extension should be not only in 'natural' coursing order, but also, if possible, in the 'associated' order of those of the basic—another influencing factor in deciding approximation of extension. Finally, for the ringer himself, the 'blue lines' must be similar in extension or contraction. These conventional requirements have a very restrictive effect in method construction and extension, not to discuss the even more vital factor of nature of rows, whether 'in phase' or 'out of phase,' affecting even 'pealability.' The optimum version clearly is that satisfying the greatest number of conditions in order of importance. We are now ready to consider how to draft a method's Formula.

(To be continued)

THE ATTRIBUTES OF A RINGER

In an appeal in the Hillingdon (Middlesex) Parish Magazine for more ringers, the Vicar writes: 'We find it difficult to define the attributes of a ringer, but a sense of rhythm, a keen ear, a quick intelligence and a friendly disposition are an advantage! Physical strength is not important, and sex or age no impediment. So will some of you, to use a contemporary phrase, have a go? Interested persons will be welcomed in the tower any Monday evening.'

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is one penny per word, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no change one-half above charge for each insertion. Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

BIRTHS

LEWIS.—On Jan. 23rd, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Lewis, a daughter. Both well. 4745

PYE.—On Jan. 23rd, 1949, at White Lodge Hospital, Newmarket, to Madeline (nee Broyd), wife of Ernest William Pye, the precious gift of a son (William Robert Edward Ernest). 4742

IN MEMORIAM

COLES.—In loving memory of Charles T. Coles, who died Feb. 2nd, 1946.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr. Frank C. W. KNIGHT'S address is now 19, Austin Road, Orpington, Kent. 4711

MISCELLANEOUS

Would any ringers wishing to tour Reading area by bus for week August 13th to 20th please write for details before Feb. 19th to Box 4713, 'Ringing World,' Woodbridge Press, Guildford.

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

FOR SALE

INKWELL, bell model, 3in. diameter, in solid silver, 5 gns.; other sizes made to order. —E. Ronnebeck, silver craftsman, 153, High Street, Guildford. 4684

HANDBELLS WANTED

A SET of eight to twelve handbells. Must be good condition. Preferably about size 15. Please send all particulars to Peter Cole, Pembroke College, Cambridge. 4717

PUBLICATIONS

'CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.'

—The first official book on this subject. Price 2s. post free, from Hon. Librarian, Central Council, W. H. J. Hooton, Osmington School, Tring, Hertfordshire.

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3 Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price. 3373

MODERNISED in the light of recent experience, Central Council's handbook on the Installation, Preservation and Repair of Bells, Bell-frames and Fittings. Price 1s. post free. Hon. Librarian, W. H. J. Hooton, Osmington School, Tring, Hertfordshire.

MEETINGS

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—North and East District.—Annual meeting at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, Jan. 29th, 2.30. Service 4.30, tea and business meeting to follow. St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, and Willesden bells during evening.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Sec. 4652

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—Annual meeting, Basingstoke, Jan. 29th. St. Michael's and All Saints' bells available. Service 4.30. Tea 5. 4655

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Next business meeting Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Saturday, Jan. 29th, 3. Ringing afterwards St. Dunstan's, Stepney.—A. B. Peck. 4672

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—South Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Wulfram's, Grantham (10), Jan. 29th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—B. H. Dalton, Hon. Sec. 4669

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Annual meeting at Farnham (8), Saturday, Jan. 29th, 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.30 in Coffee House (near Church).—G. S. Joyce, Hon. Dis. Sec. 4671

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—Meeting St. Thomas' (8), Moorside, Oldham, Jan. 29th. Bells 2 to 6.45 p.m. Meeting 4.30.—N. Edwards, 16, Portugal Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs. 4667

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual meeting at Doncaster on Jan. 29th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. No names, no tea.—W. E. Critchley, 38, Castle Hills Road, Scawthorpe, Doncaster. 4705

OXFORD GUILD.—Southern Oxon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Watlington, Oxon, Saturday, Jan. 29th, 3. Service 4. Tea and meetings afterwards. 4697

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Butterwick on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Bells (6) from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea in Church Hall 5. 4699

OXFORD GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Compton, Saturday, Feb. 5th, 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names to Mr. W. Turvey, Fair View, Compton, Newbury, by Wednesday, Feb. 2nd. 4700

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, Feb. 5th, at Southwark, St. George-the-Martyr, 3 to 4.45. Cathedral, 4 to 5 and evening. Service 5 in Cathedral. Tea 5.45 in Chapter House. All peal books available. Handbell contest. Report book 1939 to 1948 inclusive available, price 1s. 6d. Everyone welcome. Names for tea, please. Practice meeting Lambeth, Monday, Feb. 7th, 7.15.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth, HOU 3921. 4680

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Junior Section.—Annual social, St. Mary's Hall, Hemel Hempstead, Saturday, Feb. 5th, 7-11. Tickets 2s. (including refreshments) from T. G. Morton, 46, Belmont Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. Please apply early. 4701

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSN.—S. Norfolk Branch.—Annual meeting, Diss, on Sat., Feb. 5th. Bells (8) 2. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45 in Waveney Cafe (opposite Corn Hall) for those who notify by Feb. 1st. Special invitation to Suffolk ringers. Subscriptions, please.—A. G. Harrison, 10, Mount Pleasant, Diss, Norfolk. 4708

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Meeting at St. John's, Deptford, on Saturday, Feb. 5th, 3. Service 4.30. Tea in Church Hall at 5. Tea (2s. 6d. per head) for those notifying me by Jan. 29th. There are no other facilities nearby. Next combined practice Dartford, Feb. 10th, 7.30 to 9, and second Thursday in each month thereafter.—A. G. Hill, 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent. 4694

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Bury St. Edmunds District.—Annual district meeting, Bury St. Edmunds, Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells (10 and 8) at 3. Important business of election of new district secretary. Names for tea by Feb. 2nd, please.—A. Gilling, Horringer. 4686

CUMBERLAND AND N.W. ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—Annual meeting, Saturday, February 5th. Bells (8) available 2.30. Meeting 5.30. Names for tea before Jan. 31st to M. Johnston, 24, Bedford Street, Hensingham, Whitehaven. 4688

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Annual meeting at Leatherhead, Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells from 2. Service 3.45. Tea and business meeting at Duke's Head 4.30. Please notify Mr. Marriner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead, by Feb. 2nd. 4709

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—Annual meeting, Hereford, Feb. 5th. Service, All Saints', 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., Garrick Hotel. Please notify me by Feb. 1st.—J. W. Downes, The Cottage, Roundway, South Bank Road, Hereford. 4722

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.—Meeting, Loughton, Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells 3 o'clock. Cups of tea. Bring own food.—W. Carnwell, Hon. Sec. 4715

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Annual meeting, Feb. 5th, at St. Peter's, Bedford, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, St. Peter's Hall.—P. S. Gilbert, Hon. Dis. Sec. 4714

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—District annual meeting, Watford (10), Saturday, Feb. 5th, 3. Service 5. Tea 5.30.—S. Hoare, 56, Acme Road, Watford. 4716

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Annual meeting, Stockport (St. Mary's), Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea (2s. 6d.) 5.15.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec. 4723

OXFORD GUILD.—Sonning Deane Branch.—Combined practice at Twyford (8) on Saturday, Feb. 5th, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.—B. C. Castle. 4712

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—Meeting, Saturday, Feb. 5th, Ormskirk Parish Church. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, 3s. per head, to those who notify Mr. W. Pilkington, 5, Edgeley Drive, Tower Hill, Ormskirk, by Feb. 2nd.—J. Burns. 4721

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Annual meeting, Cuckfield (8), Feb. 5th, 3 p.m. Tea. Names by Feb. 2nd to G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley. 4720

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—St. Mary's, Redcliffe, Feb. 5th. Ringing 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business to follow in the Under Croft: Book teas by Feb. 2nd. 4719

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Meeting, Buckland, Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea by Wednesday, Feb. 2nd.—R. F. J. Gilling, Fernham, Faringdon. 4727

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting, Oswaldtwistle, Feb. 5th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Meeting in the tower 6 p.m.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 4726

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY and DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Chesterfield District).—Joint meeting, Chesterfield, Feb. 5th. Tea in nearby cafes.—H. O. Chaddock and G. C. Briggs, Hon. Secs. 4737

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—Meeting, Kirkby Lonsdale, Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Names for tea by Wednesday, Feb. 3rd, to Mr. Proctor, 7, Greenside, Kirkby Lonsdale.—J. Skeats, Branch Sec. 4740

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Loughton, Saturday, Feb. 5th, at 5 p.m.—R. H. Howson. 4738

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting, Cromhall (6), Feb. 5th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—Miss D. M. Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall, Glos. 4730

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—Quedgeley (8), Feb. 5th, 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 at Plough Hotel, 2s. Names by Feb. 3rd to W. Sidwell, 3, Honyatt Road, Gloucester. 4729

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly meeting, Lutterworth, Feb. 5th. Bells (8) 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea 5 at Denbigh Arms. Names by Tuesday, 1st, to E. W. Tipler, 47, Baker Street, Lutterworth, near Rugby. 4735

LEICESTER GUILD.—Melton District.—Meeting at Melton Mowbray, Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells (10) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Please notify Mr. E. Bartram, 55, Kings Road, by the 3rd.—J. H. Cook, District Sec. 4736

LLANFAFF AND MON. ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting, Llantwit Major (6), Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Cups of tea provided; bring food.—F. J. Hannington. 4691

DEVON GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—Bovey Tracey (8), Saturday, Feb. 5th. Usual arrangements.—A. L. Bennett, Cornerways, Bockfastleigh. 4724

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Isle of Wight Branch.—Annual meeting at Carisbrooke on Feb. 5th. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea only to those who inform the secretary by January 31st.—Mrs. A. M. Guy, 3, Merrie Meade, Watergate Road, Newport. 4707

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—Annual meeting, Petersfield, Feb. 5th. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5, St. Peter's Hall. Business meetings follows. Numbers for tea by Monday, Jan. 31st.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., Sunnysbrook, Brook Lane, Warsash, Hants. 4733

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—Meeting, West Haddon, on Feb. 5th. Names for tea by Feb. 1st to E. Orland, High Street, Long Buckby, Rugby. 4734

HEREFORD GUILD.—Bridgnorth Branch.—Annual meeting will be held Saturday, Feb. 5th, at Bridgnorth. Ringing 3 p.m. Tea at 5, followed by meeting. Those requiring tea notify me not later than Feb. 3rd.—H. G. Thomas, 104, Victoria Road, Bridgnorth. 4746

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Meeting at Dartford, Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All gentlemen welcome.—D. E. Lidbetter. 4731

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—South and West District.—Annual meeting at Heston on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells 3.30. Committee meeting 4.30. Tea in Church Room 5.30, followed by business.—F. A. Finch, Hon. Sec. 4732

BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual meeting, Barnsley, Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. in Rectory Room, Huddersfield Road. All those requiring teas must notify Mr. E. Stainrod, 6, Ledbury Road, Smithies, near Barnsley, not later than Feb. 9th. Bells have been overhauled and are in good going order. A good meeting desired.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley. 4739

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—Meeting, Badby, Feb. 12th. Tea for those who send names to me by Friday, Feb. 4th.—F. W. Hancock, Willoughby, Rugby. 4721

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Annual district meeting at Elveden, Feb. 12th, 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Requests for tea by Wednesday, Feb. 9th, to Miss Reeve, Hockwold, Thetford. 4728

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Greasley (8), Saturday, Feb. 12th, 2.30 p.m. Tea 2s. Names to Mr. T. Wheat, 7, Main Street, Newthorpe, Notts, by Wednesday, Feb. 9th. 4741

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tring (8), Saturday, Feb. 19th. Dedication of peal board by the Bishop Suffragan of Bedford (Rt. Rev. C. T. T. Wood). Ringing 2 p.m. Service 3 p.m. Further ringing after tea. Tea tickets (2s. 6d., with remittance) from D. Cartright, 56, Longfield Road, Tring. 4744

QUARTER PEALS

GUILDFORD, SURREY.—At S. Nicolas' Church on Dec. 27th, 1,260 Grandisle Triples: Mrs. Hazelden 1, E. Etheridge 2, Yvonne Eloie (first quarter, first attempt) 3, F. Radford 4, F. Oldroyd 5, C. Hazelden (cond.) 6, Eric Lee 7, C. Slyfield 8.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 22nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: E. Rapley 1, Stella M. Wickens 2, P. Romney (first of Major) 3, F. Lish 4, M. Thomas 5, C. Longhurst 6, R. Congreve-Pridgeon 7, B. White (cond.) 8. Also on Dec. 24th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: E. Morey 1, Catherine A. Lish (first of Stedman) 2, E. Rapley 3, E. Lish 4, F. Parsons 5, C. Longhurst 6, B. White (cond.) 7, F. Crutenden 8.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Jan. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. C. Chandler 1, W. T. Godfrey 2, J. Sansom 3, W. W. Webb 4, W. A. Lewis 5, E. R. Gladman 6, B. A. Rose (first as cond.) 7, W. J. Winter 8.

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