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THE CHANGING SCENE

THERE can be no pursuit that has undergone such a revolution as the art of change ringing has done in the last half-century. Let us look back fifty years. The man who could ring four Surprise Major methods was in the top rank of ringers, and there were not so many men who could. Lady ringers were almost unknown. Method splicing was in its infancy, and was often confined to extents of Minor where the method was changed at the half-way single. Ringers as a class remained very much as they had been for the previous century. In general, their activities were confined largely to their own towers, or to the close corporations that existed, particularly in cities. Visitors from other towers were somewhat rare, and the manner of their reception was often in doubt. While they were received civilly enough, they were often not asked to ring, or, at best, begrudgingly. It is a fact that a certain ringer whose band could ring a plain course of Grandsire Doubles used weekly to walk to the neighbouring city, some eight miles each way, in order to find out how to make a bob. Did the city ringers enlighten him? Not they; in spite of the fact that they weekly accepted his hospitality. The promising youngster was 'kept in his place'; he was given little encouragement and was even actively discouraged in many towers. This served one purpose. Only those who could withstand rebuffs and disappointments, and were real enthusiasts, became ringers. On the other hand, much harm was done. No thought for the future was taken. Most ringers of forty or more years' experience can remember good bands who grew old together, and when they began to pass away, no younger men were there to fill the gaps. Such things are now mainly of the past. Few towers can be found without their complement of youth. Men who really know are anxious to help all young ringers, and no teacher is so happy as the one whose pupil has surpassed him. At the same time it must be admitted that some ringers aspire to teach when they are in need of instruction themselves, and that leads to stalemate or even retrogression.

Ringers nowadays are drawn from a different stratum of the populace. No longer does the public regard ringers as hayseeds and halfwits. Only a small section of the popular Press still appears to do so. Until recently, none was so ignorant of the art of change ringing as the average journalist. The fact that people realised that there was considerable interest attached to ringing drew a different

type of person to the belfries, and generally they fitted in very well. They dropped into their places as novices very gracefully. They did not seek to open the batting when their rightful place was last man in. There were exceptions, however; there have been and still are men who, by reason of scholarship or birth or rank, sought or seek to take a leading part in the Exercise, but whose natural aptitude for ringing and composition was or is low or non-existent. Such people are obstructionists, and they can be an unmitigated nuisance. A story could be told anent this and it could be entitled 'The Tower Master and the Rope.' We cannot tell it here.

Events which fifty years ago would have roused much discussion and comment now pass almost unnoticed. Who, at the turn of the century, would have thought that 13 young men could ring a peal of Stedman Cinques at Exeter and ring it well, as they certainly did, a short while ago? Who would have envisaged a Universities Association as strong as it is to-day? It has made rapid strides particularly in the more complicated side of change ringing. It has also firmly established that it can strike its bells, contrary to some sections of public opinion. He or she who rings with the U.A.C.R. rings in good company. It could not possibly have attained its present stature in ringing had it not been for the active, efficient and willing co-operation of the established resident ringers in university towns.

It was at the age of 17 years that the writer first heard Big Ben, and he can still recall the thrill that ran through him. Now everyone in the land is familiar with its note. It is often argued that radio is an unsuitable medium for carrying the sound of bells. That is a common contention in the countryside, where on a Sunday morning it is often possible to hear bells other than one's own. As many as seven different rings have been heard from one place at the same time. On the other hand, it enables ringers to hear bells and ringing they would never do otherwise, and surely the sound brings to our countrymen overseas memories of home that nothing else can do.

During the thirty years or so that bell ringing has been broadcast many changes have taken place. Ringers at first expected too much, in view of the comparative few who could listen with appreciation. The B.B.C. was not far wrong when it said that to the majority of listeners one bell broadcast was like another. On the other hand, the radio has been, and will be, a means of educating laymen. It may even attract recruits to our towers. In the West, much sympathetic consideration has been given to bell

ringers, an effort has been made to understand them and their views, and some attempt has been made to ensure that broadcast ringing is reasonably good, although it must be admitted that two almost incredibly bad performances have crept in during the last year or so. In one case, it was obvious that the band could not handle its bells. In the second the band could not achieve rounds properly, and came to grief in the very elementary method which it was attempting. These things should not be. In spite of the temptation to get on the air, ringers should refrain unless they are absolutely certain that what they attempt will be at least good. If they are incapable of judging for themselves, the least they can do is to ask for independent and skilled opinion, which is readily available.

Until these imperfections are pointed out, the perpetrators themselves are unaware of them. How rarely does the purist critic hear perfect rounds? The condition that the bells must strike clear of one another is very far from what is needed to produce even good rounds. How often does the 5th man on eight bells unmistakably divide each round into two? How often does one hear some slovenly 7th ringing in rounds, perceptibly too close at hand and equally, apparently, too wide at backstroke?

One thing that the fifty years have produced is what is sometimes known as a nursery tower, where one man, year after year, spends time in teaching the elements of ringing, completely selfless in that he neglects his own opportunities for advancement in the art for the sake of learners. Such men are not few; invariably are they good churchmen and command the respect of all who know them, for they are incapable of a mean action. When such a man calls a peal, the ringers know that it is a peal. Would that one could say that of all conductors. J. T. D.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 4 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CAMPANILE BELL TOWER,

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 35 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in C sharp.

C. KENNETH LEWIS Treble	SIDNEY T. HOLT 7
*GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 8
FRED DUNKERLEY 3	WALTER ALLMAN 9
BASIL JONES 4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS .. 10
JOHN WORTH 5	RALPH G. EDWARDS .. 11
JOHN E. BIBBY 6	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

* 200th peal and first of Cambridge Surprise Maximus, now completing the cycle from Minor to Maximus in the method. First peal of Maximus on the bells.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5016 PLAIN BOB MAXIMUS

Tenor 26½ cwt. in D.

*CLIVE M. SMITH Treble	*HARRY GRIFFITHS 7
†MAURICE G. TURNER .. 2	*WILLIAM DAVIES 8
†J. NORMAN HADLEY .. 3	§SAMUEL BIRCH 9
†GEORGE A. PACKER .. 4	§AUBREY M. PICKERING .. 10
FRANCIS BROTHERTON .. 5	†EDWARD V. RODENHURST 11
†ERNEST STITCH 6	HOWARD HOWELL Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* First peal of Maximus. † 50th peal together. ‡ First peal of Maximus in the method and completes Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus. § First peal of Maximus in the method. First peal of Maximus in the method as conductor.

TEN BELL PEALS

APPLETON, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 19 lb.

REGINALD HOLMES Treble	CHARLES SANGWIN 6
MRS. P. LEWINGTON 2	FREDK. A. H. WILKINS .. 7
WILLIAM HIBBERT 3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 8
FRANK WHITE 4	RICHARD WHITE 9
CYRIL E. LEWINGTON .. 5	FRED WHITE Tenor

Composed by JOHN COX.

Conducted by GEORGE HOLIFIELD.

Rung on the 134th anniversary of the opening of the bells. Ringer of 6th hails from Bude, Cornwall.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5080 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

REGINALD A. REED Treble	†BETTY FAITHFULL 6
*TOM CHAPMAN 2	§RICHARD M. CURRIE .. 7
JESSIE M. KIPPIN 3	†ARCHIBALD L. MITCHELL 8
*MOLLY DENBY 4	MAURICE J. BUTLER .. 9
†NORMAN HAYES 5	NORMAN V. ANDREWS .. Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY.

Conducted by REGINALD A. REED.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Royal. ‡ First peal of Treble Ten. § First ten-bell peal and of Kent.

A birthday compliment to the ringer of the tenor. The conductor has now 'circled the tower.'

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt.

*SUSAN JACKSON Treble	R. GEORGE MORRIS 6
GEORGE E. LARGE 2	RALPH HARRIS 7
REGINALD WOODYATT .. 3	E. TREVOR NEWBURY .. 8
JOHN THOMAS 4	CYRIL TANSELL 9
FREDERICK E. NURDEN .. 5	THOMAS W. LEWIS Tenor

Composed by W. H. BARBER.

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

* First peal on ten bells.

Rung as a welcome to the new Rector, the Right Rev. Bishop C. E. Stuart, M.A., D.D.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

LODDON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Feb. 23, 1953, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

*EVELYN KILLINGTON .. Treble	REGINALD A. DRANE .. 5
NOLAN GOLDEN 2	STANLEY W. COPLING .. 6
LIONEL A. LESTER 3	GODFREY G. WALPOLE .. 7
JAMES W. FORDER 4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Major.

Rung in honour of Mr. R. E. Browne's 81st birthday.

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., March 2, 1953, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 HERWARD BOB TRIPLES

Composition 'C.C.C. Triples Methods,' No. 1, p. 39.

Tenor 8 cwt. 48 lb.

THOMAS R. SIMMONS .. Treble	ARTHUR G. BASON 5
NOLAN GOLDEN 2	GEORGE SAYER 6
WILLIAM LOVE 3	BERT GOGLE 7
F. CHARLES GOODMAN .. 4	DAVID HEIGHTON Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in method by all and for the Association.

DERBY.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., March 4, 1953, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Bruerton's Twelve-part.	Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.
WALTER SHAW Treble	JACK BAILEY 5
FRANCIS R. LOWE 2	*WALTER STEEN 6
MARK BARKER 3	WM. LANCASTER 7
ALFRED MOULD 4	BEN BARKER Tenor

Conducted by JACK BAILEY.

* First peal in the method on an 'inside' bell.

Rung half-muffled in memoriam John W. Glew, captain for 50 years. Francis R. Lowe has now 'circled the tower.'

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr.

IAN W. TAYLOR Treble	WILFRED L. ROBINSON .. 5
JEAN C. BROWN 2	*DAVID A. EDWARDS .. 6
ALAN PENDLEBURY 3	BRIAN HARRIS 7
GEOFFREY PEARSON 4	DEREK OGDEN Tenor

Composed by J. W. PRITCHARD. Conducted by WILFRED L. ROBINSON.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor and by the Guild.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a second daughter to Rev. R. Trueman, M.A., S.T.M., and Mrs. Trueman, of Bolton Parish Church.

BUSHEY HEATH, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt.

NEVILLE JENKINS Treble	ALBERT WENBAN 5
RONALD W. R. PICTON .. 2	†THOMAS H. NORRIS .. 6
*MRS. T. H. NORRIS .. 3	LEONARD J. NORTH .. 7
JOHN E. ROOTES 4	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN. Conducted by CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY.

* First peal on a working bell. † First peal in the method.

A 21st birthday compliment to Miss P. Bedford, of Watford.

CHEPSTOW, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

JOHN E. MORGAN Treble	REGINALD G. HOOPER .. 5
JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. 2	ROBERT E. COLES 6
WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT .. 3	ROGER O. FRY 7
HAROLD L. PARFREY .. 4	DAVID J. KING Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ROGER O. FRY.

50th peal as conductor. The first peal in the method on the bells.

CONISBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5024 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

F. BERNARD DITCHER .. Treble	*RAYMOND C. WESTNEY .. 5
*HOWARD SCOTT 2	*DENNIS A. CHAPMAN .. 6
MILTON C. FOWLER 3	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 7
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 4	*ALFRED SMITH Tenor

Composed by JAMES TOPP. Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

CURDRIDGE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 26 cwt.

E. WINIFRED KEYS Treble	JOHN W. MEADE 5
BLANCHE M. BALL 2	PATRICK PAGE 6
BRIAN J. LUFF 3	JOHN H. HUNT 7
NORMAN J. SMITH 4	FREDERICK W. BURNETT .. Tenor

Composed by J. H. BARRETT.

Conducted by JOHN H. HUNT.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in E.

HARRY D. LISTER Treble	DUDLEY H. P. BUXTON .. 5
MAX P. PAGE 2	ROBERT E. LISTER 6
*PATRICIA M. CLARKE .. 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL .. 7
WILLIAM J. BUTTON .. 4	RONALD W. STEWARD .. Tenor

Composed by NOLAN F. GOLDEN. Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

* 25th peal, aged 16 years. First peal in the method by all except 3rd and tenor.

A birthday compliment to Robert E. Lister,

MONKEN HADLEY, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt.

HAROLD J. HAZELL Treble	REV. M. C. C. MELVILLE 5
ALICK CUTLER 2	†PETER J. COLES 6
ERNEST C. S. TURNER .. 3	JOHN E. LOFTY 7
*MONTAGUE J. SOPER .. 4	THOMAS J. LOCK Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by THOMAS J. LOCK.

* First peal. † First peal away from treble.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Brooks' Variation of Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 32 cwt. in C sharp.

CHARLES J. SEDGLEY Treble	*GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. 5
WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN .. 2	JAMES BENNETT 6
CECIL W. PIPE 3	GEORGE W. PIPE 7
GEORGE A. FLEMING .. 4	HERBERT G. JILLINGS .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

* 400th peal.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, PORTSEA,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17 cwt. 7 lb. in F.

JOSIAH D. HARRIS Treble	ARTHUR V. DAVIS 5
C. ERNEST SMITH 2	LESLIE D. DUGUID 6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY .. 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS .. 7
CHARLES H. KIPPIN 4	WILLIAM T. BEESON .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.



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SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Tenor 12 cwt.

GRACE BURCHNALL .. Treble	HAROLD DENMAN 5
KATHERINE BURCHNALL .. 2	*FRANK W. VERNON .. 6
HERBERT T. ROOKE .. 3	*JAMES W. RAITHEY .. 7
*†ALLAN WILSON .. 4	F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by HERBERT T. ROOKE.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal on eight. First peal of Grandsire Triples as conductor.

Rung as a 75th birthday compliment to Mr. E. A. Midwinter, who has been a ringer at the above church for 57 years and churchwarden for 27 years.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES

Parker's Six-part, C.C.C. No. 6.	Tenor 17½ cwt.
*MARTYN HAWKES (15) .. Treble	DAVID BEACHAM 5
FRANK LAWRENCE .. 2	ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY .. 6
FRED HAWKES .. 3	CHARLES J. CAMM .. 7
†MURIEL WILLETT .. 4	†LEN DOVEY Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES J. CAMM.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside' in the method. ‡ First peal on eight bells.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and the treble ringer.

WOODSTOCK, OXFORDSHIRE. THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 3 Hours and 6 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt.

*MRS. G. F. BURTON .. Treble	EDMUND E. PEARSON .. 5
ALAN R. PINK .. 2	CYRIL H. KINCH .. 6
HERBERT H. ALEXANDER .. 3	REGINALD H. JARVIS .. 7
EDGAR J. SMITH .. 4	GEORGE F. BURTON .. Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal.

Rung for the Feast of St. Perpetua.

WESTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., March 8, 1953, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Washbrook's Transposition.	Tenor 10½ cwt.
BLANCHE M. BALL .. Treble	E. WINIFRED KEYS .. 5
*JOY GUMBRELL .. 2	PATRICK PAGE .. 6
NORMAN J. SMITH .. 3	JOHN H. HUNT .. 7
†ALEXANDER PAGE .. 4	S. JOHN HARDING .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. HUNT.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method.

CLAYBROOKE, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., March 10, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.

MRS. P. J. STANFORTH .. Treble	ARTHUR H. BEAMISH .. 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE .. 2	HAROLD J. POOLE .. 6
MRS. D. E. BEAMISH .. 3	ALFRED BALLARD .. 7
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 4	PETER J. STANFORTH .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

In memoriam George Straw, late of the Leicester Cathedral Band, who died on March 14th, 1951.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., March 10, 1953, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Rev. C. D. P. Davies' Five-part.	Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.
*STEPHEN WALTON .. Treble	PERCY H. DARBYSHIRE .. 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. 2	JOSEPH THORNLEY .. 6
ANNIE POTTER .. 3	ALBERT GREENHALGH .. 7
NORMAN TOMPKINS .. 4	HENRY PRESCOTT .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

* First peal.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled in memoriam James Denner, a ringer at this church, who was interred this day.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., March 14, 1953, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 PAINSWICK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

ALBERT E. WHITING .. Treble	RUSSELL G. PARKER .. 5
PATRICIA M. CLARKE (16) .. 2	WALTER RUFFLES .. 6
FRANK RUFFLES .. 3	WALTER W. MILLER .. 7
ERNEST E. GRIMES .. 4	LESLIE G. BRETT .. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY (No. 42). Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.

First peal in the method by all the band.

Rung half-muffled to the memory of the Rev. J. Dobbs, retired Vicar of Framsdén.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

EAST FARLEIGH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Feb. 24, 1953, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents, 10 callings.	Tenor 8½ cwt.
*RICHARD HARRIS .. Treble	*LESLIE MAYNARD .. 4
*ARTHUR WEBB .. 2	*JOHN HARRIS .. 5
STANLEY HAYZELDEN .. 3	*RUPERT STEDMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY HAYZELDEN.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. First peal on bells by resident band.

CADOXTON, NEAR NEATH.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 28, 1953, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATWG,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being 2,160 Kent Treble Bob and 2,880 Plain Bob.	Tenor 7½ cwt.
TREVOR M. RODERICK .. Treble	ALFRED HANNINGTON .. 4
HARRY BOYCE .. 2	EDMUND J. MORRIS .. 5
JOHN T. WILLIAMS .. 3	GWYN I. LEWIS .. Tenor

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

Rung on the eve of St. David's Day.

STANWELL, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 28, 1953, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being three extents each of: Stedman Slow Course, Rugby Slow Course, Bedford Slow Course, Place Bob, Accrington Bob, Blackburn Place, New Bob, Huntspill, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Nicholas', Winchendon Place, Plain Bob, St. Simon's and St. Martin's.

Tenor 13 cwt. 14 lb.

ALAN COOKE .. Treble	WILLIAM BUTLER .. 3
BRIAN TAYLOR .. 2	PETER A. LAWRENCE .. 4
FRANK T. BLAGROVE .. Tenor	

Conducted by FRANK T. BLAGROVE.

SUTTON VENY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 28, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (10 callings).	Tenor 8½ cwt.
*JAMES H. CASE .. Treble	PERCIVAL W. J. HARDING .. 4
EDWARD C. MARLOW .. 2	FREDERICK S. SLATFORD .. 5
THOMAS E. MALLARD .. 3	LAURENCE E. HITCHENS .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK S. SLATFORD.

* First peal.

SPROUTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sun., March 1, 1953, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob, and five of Plain Bob, called differently.	Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.
*ROBERT E. LESTER .. Treble	DEREK A. WOODWARD .. 4
ALAN FEYER .. 2	†GEOFFREY F. PAGE .. 5
JOHN S. WYBREW .. 3	MAX P. PAGE .. Tenor

Conducted by MAX P. PAGE.

* 75th peal. † 25th peal for the Guild.

A birthday peal for the conductor.

HARSTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., March 2, 1953, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents.

*MARIE K. ROBERTS Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 4
JOHN G. GIPSON 2	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. 5
MICHAEL N. BLAND 3	CYRIL A. HURST Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL A. HURST.

* First peal of Treble Bob.

STOKE MANDEVILLE, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., March 2, 1953, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being one extent of St. Simon's, one of St. Martin's, eight of Reverse St. Bartholomew's, twelve of Plain Bob, sixteen and two 240's of Grandsire.

*DONALD G. WHEELER .. Treble	*A. J. WHITE 4
WALTER LEE 2	HARRY JONES 5
*BERNARD COLLINS 3	†REX BACON Tenor

Conducted by WALTER LEE.

* First peal in five methods. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal.

SUNNINGWELL, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Tues., March 3, 1953, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

*ASHLEY C. P. PUGH .. Treble	*JOHN SMART 4
*GLYN F. JENKINS 2	ROBIN G. TURNER 5
R. JAMES COOK 3	PETER BORDER Tenor

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* First peal.

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

On Fri., March 6, 1953, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE GREAT,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

REV. E. BANKES JAMES' Arrangement.

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb. in B flat.

VINCENT A. HEMMING .. Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN 4
CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. 2	WILLIAM C. DOWDING .. 5
MARGARET FIDELL 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

BOBBING, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

*ALBERT DUNK Treble	TREBOR A. CROSS 4
HARRY SPRINGATE 2	CYRIL S. JARRETT 5
PETER F. BORER 3	GEORGE KENWARD Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL S. JARRETT.

* First peal of Minor.

Rung as an 82nd birthday compliment to Mr. W. H. Sopp, father-in-law of the treble ringer.

EASTHAMPTSTEAD, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of (1) Double, Reverse, Canterbury, Fulbeck and Plain Bob, (2) Hereward Bob, (3) Cambridge Surprise, (4) Double Oxford and Thelwall, (5) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (6) St. Clement's and Childwall, (7) Single Oxford and Plain Bob, 99 changes of method.

Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

WALTER LEE Treble	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM .. 4
REGINALD L. SILLS 2	MICHAEL HATCHETT 5
WILLIAM H. J. PARKER .. 3	WILLIAM BUTLER Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM BUTLER.

First peal in fourteen Minor methods by all.



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AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



**FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**
*On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR*

Consisting of (1) Double, Reverse, Canterbury, Fulbeck and Plain Bob, (2) Cambridge Surprise, (3) Double Oxford and Thelwall Bob, (4) Oxford Treble Bob, (5) St. Clement's and Childwall, (6) Kent Treble Bob, (7) Single Oxford Bob, 80 changes of method. Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

WALTER LEE Treble	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM 4
RONALD I. SHEPHERD .. 2	REGINALD L. SILLS 5
WILLIAM H. J. PARKER .. 3	WILLIAM BUTLER Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM BUTLER.

First peal in 13 Minor methods by all the band.

**GRAFTON REGIS, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**
*On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES*

Being six six-scores Plain Bob, six six-scores April Day, six six-scores Reverse Canterbury and twenty-four six-scores Grandsire.

Tenor 9 cwt. in G sharp.

S. HALL Treble	G. ATKINS 3
E. J. LAMBERT 2	G. WEBB 4
E. R. LAMBERT Tenor	

Conducted by E. R. LAMBERT.

First peal as conductor, also first of Doubles. First peal in four methods by all.

**SHREWSBURY, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**
*On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR*

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7 cwt.

*JOHN F. BUTLER Treble	*WILLIAM A. FARMER 4
*CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 2	FREDERICK PRICE 5
*F. HECTOR BENNETT .. 3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

*First peal of Surprise Minor. First Surprise peal rung in Shrewsbury.

**SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**
*On Sat., March 7, 1953, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENIS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR*

Being one extent each of Single Oxford, Single Court, Double Court, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in A.

*HENRY P. COLLIN Treble	ALBERT E. SCOTT 4
JAMES W. HAW 2	WILLIAM OLDMAN 5
†CECIL WADE 3	JAMES H. MUSSON Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

*First peal in seven methods. †50th peal.

Rung with the best wishes of the company to Mr. Frank Gash (the conductor's nephew) and Miss Grace Barrand, who were married in the afternoon.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. W. Oldman, wife of the ringer of the 5th.

HANDBELL PEALS

**OXFORD.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.**
*On Thurs., March 5, 1953, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes.
AT 26, ST. MARGARET'S ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL*

Tenor size 15 in C.

KATHLEEN HIGGINS 1—2	R. JAMES COOK 5—6
ROBIN G. TURNER 3—4	PETER BORDER 7—8
FRANCES A. EDGAR 9—10	

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

**HORSHAM ST. FAITH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**
*On Wed., March 11, 1953, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes.
AT 26, BRABAZON ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR*

Tenor size 15 in C.

H. WILLIAM BARRETT 1—2	BERT GOGLE 5—6
NOLAN GOLDEN 3—4	ARTHUR G. BASON 7—8

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

ALVERSTOKE, HANTS.—On Mar. 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Doris Banks 1, T. M. White 2, Mrs. Audrey White (first quarter in method) 3, G. Verrill 4, H. A. Nobes (cond.) 5, Ann West 6, Kathleen Knight 7, F. G. Barron 8.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.—On Mar. 1st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. Mills 1, D. J. Laker 2, A. E. C. Gasson 3, I. Butcher 4, J. H. G. Gardner 5, A. E. Laker (cond.) 6.

BARROW-ON-SOAR, LEICS.—On Mar. 8th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. Chambers 1, R. Corbishley 2, J. Chambers 3, K. E. Lovett 4, R. G. W. Soars 5, F. K. Thompson (cond.) 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th.

BOCKING, ESSEX.—On Feb. 25th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: T. Senior (first quarter) 1, Mrs. Jarvis 2, Miss J. Starling 3, H. Moore 4, Mrs. Moore 5, R. Suckling (cond.) 6. A birthday compliment for the Dean.

BRADFORD, YORKS.—At the Cathedral, on Mar. 3rd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: E. A. Simpson 1, V. Copping (first quarter, aged 14) 2, J. F. Bryant (aged 15) 3, R. M. Mann 4, R. E. Moulds 5, R. Beaumont 6, G. F. Bryant (cond.) 7, S. Longbottom 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. J. Broadley, a ringer at this church for sixty years.

CLAPHAM, S.W.—On Mar. 9th, at the Redemptorist Church of Our Immaculate Lady of Victories, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss J. Pilkington (first in method) 1, Miss M. Fellows 2, Miss M. Powell 3, E. S. Rew 4, P. J. Hutchings (cond.) 5, E. J. Wall (first quarter) 6. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss M. Powell, secretary of the local band.

CLEWER, BERKS.—On Mar. 8th, 1,320 Doubles (240 Reverse Canterbury, 240 Reverse St. Bartholomew, 36) Plain Bob and 480 Grandsire: R. Crook 1, Monica Howard 2, A. Birds 3, W. Butler (cond.) 4, J. Brookes 5, R. Purchase 6.

CRANFORD, MIDDLEX.—On Feb. 27th, 1,260 Bob Minor: G. Thush 1, J. B. Sansom 2, B. K. Lunn 3, D. Fowles 4, P. J. Woodgyer 5, J. Chilcott (cond.) 6. First of Minor 1 and 3. A farewell to John Moore on taking an appointment in Norwich.

ESCRICK, YORKS.—On Feb. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Darbourne 1, C. McQuinn 2, Miss P. M. Reeves 3, D. Linington 4, D. Forth 5, J. E. Dews 6, H. Walker (cond.) 7, J. Bowers 8. Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to the ringer of the 5th.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On Mar. 5th, 1,320 Bob Doubles: K. Timbury (first quarter Bob Doubles) 1, P. Croft 2, W. Todd (first quarter Bob Doubles) 3, G. Cherry 4, F. Croft (cond.) 5.

QUARTER PEALS

GRANTHAM, Lincs.—On Mar. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. P. Armstrong 1, F. W. Pinchbeck 2, J. W. Watson 3, D. A. Frith 4, F. S. Parsons 5, J. Royce 6, R. C. Blakey (cond.) 7, R. Pick 8. A birthday compliment to Mr. T. H. Hall.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Mar. 8th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss D. Fleetwood 1, A. J. Salisbury (first in method as cond.) 2, J. Carrott 3, D. M. Salisbury 4, A. H. Worboys 5, C. E. Wright 6, S. Penfold 7, F. V. Gant 8.

HUNTINGDON.—At All Saints' Church, on Mar. 8th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: M. J. Dyer 1, J. Witney 2, G. D. Whitehead 3, J. R. Carrott 4, H. S. Peacock 5, S. Gilbert (cond.) 6. First in the method for 2 and 3.

HURST, BERKS.—On Mar. 6th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: E. Allum 1, C. W. Mortimer 2, Mrs. C. A. Eale 3, Mrs. B. C. Castle 4, C. A. Eale 5, L. Hall 6, B. C. Castle (cond.) 7, F. Hicks 8. First quarter in the method by all the band.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLEX.—On Mar. 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss P. Woodward (first quarter) 1, Miss R. J. Pett 2, Miss J. Creak (first quarter 'inside') 3, Mrs. O. L. Rogers 4, Miss E. Farrell 5, H. W. Rogers (cond.) 6, F. D. Bishop 7, S. Croft 8.

OFFWELL, HONINGTON, DEVON.—On Feb. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. J. Bakke 1, F. H. Parr 2, R. M. Broadhurst 3, J. A. Broadhurst 4, W. Webb (cond.) 5, Miss M. F. Broadhurst 6.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.—On Feb. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. Watson 1, R. Franklin 2, W. Welling 3, A. J. Coombes 4, A. Cross 5, D. W. Stone (cond.) 6, G. Coussins 7, A. H. Bates 8. Rung for Mats during a visit by A. J. Coombes, an ex-local ringer on leave from H.M. Forces.

PENDLEBURY, LANCs.—At Christ Church, on Feb. 28th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Woods 1, N. Tompkins 2, D. Ogden 3, J. Thornley 4, A. Pendlebury 5, G. Pearson 6, A. Tomlinson (cond.) 7, F. Jones 8. Rung in memoriam Dr. Guy Warman, late Bishop of Manchester.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—On Feb. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. M. M. Osborne 1, Mrs. J. C. Northan 2, Miss S. Booth 3, H. Corney 4, N. R. Phillips 5, T. H. Bullock 6, L. W. Bullock (cond.) 7, H. F. Perry 8. A birthday compliment to Miss L. Stella.

RUISLIP, MIDDLEX.—On Mar. 8th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: W. Bunce, jun., 1, Mrs. E. Savory 2, Mrs. Manchip 3, P. Thrift 4, A. Hunter 5, J. S. Barnes 6, T. Collins (cond.) 7, W. Pichall 8. Rung for the induction of the Rev. L. Fawcett to the living of Brandeston and Kettlebury, Suffolk.

SILSOE, BEDS.—On Mar. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: N. Stevens 1, T. W. Allen 2, D. R. Brazier 3, C. D. Mann 4, W. P. Billington 5, T. P. Harris (cond.) 6. First of Minor for 1 and 5.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Mar. 1st, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: A. D. Rivers 1, F. Scott 2, Miss R. Tabraham 3, W. Butler 4, J. C. Birt 5, M. Hatchett 6, W. Birmingham 7, J. M. Ellwood (first of Major as cond.) 8. First quarter in the method for 1, 2, 3, 6 and 8. A birthday compliment to the conductor's daughter.

SOUTHAM, WARWICKS.—On Mar. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Palmer 1, G. Smith 2, D. Harrison 3, G. Rathbone 4, A. J. Hobley 5, H. Windsor 6, A. P. Cannon (cond.) 7, P. Thorne 8. First quarter of Triples for 1, 2, 6 and 8. Also on Mar. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Palmer 1, R. Barrett 2, Miss M. Middlemiss 3, G. Smith 4, G. Rathbone 5, H. Windsor 6, D. Harrison (first of Triples as cond.) 7, W. Thorne 8. First of Triples for 2, 3 and 8. Rung for Confirmation service.

SWINTON, LANCs.—On Feb. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss S. Higham 1, Mrs. P. T. Robbins 2, B. Rothwell 3, Rev. P. T. Robbins 4, N. Tompkins (cond.) 5, W. Thompson 6, J. Thornley 7, F. Jones 8. The first ladies to ring a quarter peal in this tower.

TIVERTON, DEVON.—On Mar. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. W. Payne 1, L. H. May 2, Mrs. H. C. Miles 3, E. J. Taylor (cond.) 4, P. Maync 5, J. Kelland 6, I. Upton 7, A. Kerslake 8. A 90th birthday compliment to Mrs. B. L. Pethick, a great admirer of the bells, who has for many years lived close by the tower.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on Mar. 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss N. Hales 1, Mrs. R. K. C. Wilkings 2, Miss G. L. Friswell 3, J. Hales (first of Triples 'inside') 4, R. K. C. Wilkings 5, D. Neal (cond.) 6, G. A. Parsons 7, C. F. Neal 8.

WANSTEAD, ESSEX.—On Mar. 8th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: B. Petty 1, Mrs. J. H. Crampion 2, Miss J. Nash (first quarter) 3, H. Corney 4, J. Chalk 5, J. H. Crampion (cond.) 6. Rung as a last respect for the late Canon Birchenough, for many years Rector of the church.

A MEMORY AS THE OUTING SEASON APPROACHES

Baldock and Norton Ringers

May 17th, 1952

The ringers went off on an outing in May
To ring at some towers a long way away.
The friends and relations and ringers came
forth,
And by seven a.m. we were off to the North.

At Croyland's old Abbey we visited first,
And rang the six bells, which weren't voted the
worst.

While some rang the bells we explored the
village
Admiring the church or triangular bridge.

Soon after we went on to Spalding's grey
tower,
And rang eight fine bells there for over an
hour.

The next thing was lunch, for the ringers
were starved,
In a very short while the provisions were
halved.

To Mr. E. Buck was a fine pen presented,
A token of thanks from the towers represented.

I'm happy to organise outings like this,—
But—(here all the ringers drew breath with
a hiss).
I'm sorry there'll soon be more ringers than
room!

It was strange how this news seem'd to lighten
the gloom.

Some time on the handbells was merrily spent,
To Pinchbeck, with eight bells, the ringers then
went.

The view from the tower was flat, greens
with reds
In stripes and gay patches of late tulip beds.

Towards the next tower, at Boston, time speeds,
To find that a band who had come from West
Leeds,

Was ringing the ten bells, but soon they
were gone,
And ringers stepped in from Baldock and
Norton.

When some of us struggled upstairs for the
view,

(The height is two hundred and seventy-two!)
Three hundred and sixty-five steps to be
climbed—

For one of the locals we visitors primed.

From Boston, a city in Mass., U.S.A.

To Boston in England came money to pay
For repairs to the tower, and fifteen bells
more,

A thank-offering to God for the end of the
war.

When tea was completed the coach drove us on
To ring the eight bells of the locked Sutterton.

While some of the ringers were hunting
around

For the key to the tower, which was finally
found.

The outing's photographers took all their
snaps,

(Each time they shielded their lenses with caps)
Then onward to Surfleet, the cry is

Advance!

To ring the twelve bells in a tower that's
askance.

At last it was time for the coach to depart,
So turning for home, each with a light heart,

The ringers left Lincolnshire bells for a
while,

And started back in magnificent style.

On the way out we had seen a grey heron,
When we returned the bird still hadn't gone,
Then, taking the air with the greatest of
ease,
He sailed away on the westerly breeze.

At Langford the coach simply came to a stop—
We had no more oil left, not even a drop!

At last, with five gallons, we started again,
Eventually arriving just past one a.m.

But we're sure that all those who came out on
that day

Enjoyed their great outing that hot day in
May.

—Jean Sanderson.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL SOCIETY OF BELL RINGERS

At Southwark Cathedral on March 7th, after
evensong, in the presence of a congregation in-
cluding members of the Cathedral band and
the Ancient Society of College Youths, and
the 'Friends of Southwark Cathedral', a
memorial plaque to the late W. H. Seabrook
was unveiled and dedicated by the Provost.

The occasion was marked by half-muffled
ringing; before the service by the Cathedral
band, and after by three courses of Stedman
Caters by the Ancient Society represented by
E. G. Fenn, W. H. Passmore, H. Belcher, L.
W. Bullock, M. V. Chilcott, A. B. Peck, J. A.
Waugh, J. Phillips, W. H. Crampion and C.
J. Watts (tenor). The plaque donated by Miss
Seabrook (sister) was inscribed:—

In grateful memory

WILLIAM HARCOURT SEABROOK
1884—1950

Ringling Master,
Councillor, Steward,
and Friend,
of this Cathedral
Church.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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

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FRANK I. HAIRS.

JOSEPH T. DYKE.

HAROLD J. POOLE.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

It will be necessary for our 'Gratefully Acknowledged' list to appear during 1953. Through the generosity of ringers of peals and quarter peals, 'The Ringing World' finished 1952 with a balance in hand, but without that assistance there would have been a deficit. Our friends' help was much appreciated by the committee.

Great Tom, the old bell of Christ Church, Oxford, which tolls 101 times at 9.5 p.m.

each day is to be rehung and fitted with new tolling gear. It is hoped to complete the work in time for the Coronation. The present bell was cast on April 8th, 1680, by Christopher Hodson, of London, and its estimated weight is 7 tons, 7 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

Great Tom's gear consists of a plated elm headstock, strap gudgeons, brass bearings and a 17th century clapper to which has been fitted a 19th century head. 'There arc,' writes Mr. Frederick Sharpe, in his book 'The Church Bells of Oxfordshire,' some fragments of a bell-wheel of non-traditional type attached to the headstock, the lower half of this wheel has disappeared and about half the spokes. There are two disused 17th century ground tracks or rope rollers. The existence of these proves that two ropes were used for the purpose of swinging Tom.

A correspondent inquires when were the first peals of Double Court Bob Triples and Hereward Bob Triples rung?

By the peal of Plain Bob Maximus at Walsall on March 7th Messrs. E. Stinch, M. G. Turner and J. N. Headley have now completed the four standard methods from Doubles to Maximus.

Oddfellows who are attending the A.M.C. at Folkestone this year are asked to contact Bro. W. Frank Stenson of North Col, 142, Minshull New Road, Crewe, with a view to ringing for the Oddfellows' service and also at other towers.

Mr. J. W. G. Harwood, at the age of 76, has retired from the secretaryship of the East Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association, a post he has held for 21 years. During that long period he has only missed one meeting. His successor is Mr. P. G. W. Newstead.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The church service in the Midland Home Service for Passion Sunday, March 22nd, at 9.30 a.m., will be broadcast from St. Andrew's, Norwich. If practicable, the first item will be a course of Original on handbells. The address by the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow is about 'Where are we going in our national culture?' A reference will be made to ringing if this has formed part of the broadcast.

Participating in the memorial quarter peal at Bradford Cathedral to Mr. J. Broadley were six of the Sunday service band of All Souls' Halifax. It was the first quarter for 14-year-old V. Copping, who was introduced to the Exercise last September.

Central Council publications are now purchased from Miss P. J. Ayris, 10, Sherwood Close, Bicester, Oxon, and not from Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, who is retiring from the office of hon. librarian to the Central Council.

Would the ringer who 'borrowed' a book from Woburn at the recent meeting kindly return the same forthwith to Mr. C. A. Smith. The Cottage, Sedgemoor Road, Flackwell Heath, High Wycombe, so that it can be restored to its rightful owner.

The attempt for four peals in four counties in one day planned by Mr. Butler has had to be postponed owing to two members of the band being unable to ring due to work and the spare man being taken ill. A further attempt is hoped to be made later in the year.

A novelty arrived at our office this week—a peal report written in Welsh. Those familiar with Welsh will perhaps recognise 'Sain clychan 5,040 yn y Lleddf sef caint taro triphlyg 2,160, taro eglur 2,880,' as a peal of 5,040 Minor being 2,160 Kent Treble Bob and 2,889 Plain Bob. While one of the Editor's grandmothers was Welsh he regrets that he has never mastered the language.

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BELL ROPES

MUFFLES

Etc.

AN ENGLISH GIRL GOES TO AUSTRALIA

Joan Hills' Story of a Grand Welcome and Impressions of Many Towers

I WONDER if you have ever thought where you would like to go if you found yourself, unexpectedly, in possession of sufficient money to enable you to visit another country? This is the position in which I found myself two years ago, and the answer was not long in occurring to me—I would like to go to Australia. Why? Because it was the only other country in the world where I would be assured of some ringing. I had read in 'The Ringing World' from time to time how glad the people 'down under' were to see visiting ringers from the old country, and though my own standard of ringing was only average I thought that possibly I might be of some help to this comparatively isolated ringing community.

In July, 1951, I made preliminary inquiries regarding Australian ringing by way of Philip Cooper, and at the same time set in motion my plans for leaving England. These plans were not destined to mature until August, 1952, but in the meantime I commenced a most interesting correspondence with Phil, who is a member of the young band at St. Andrew's, Walkerville (a suburb of Adelaide). Through him I heard of the rehanging of St. Andrew's bells on ball-bearings, the work being carried out mainly by the local band; I heard, too, of the first tower-bell peal to be rung in South Australia, and also of the projected visit to Adelaide and Melbourne of a band of Sydney ringers. This visit was destined to play a large part in the very happy manner in which my visit to Australia commenced.

THE JOURNEY OUT

It was almost a year between making my first plans and actually sailing for Australia. On August 6th, 1952, I left Tilbury in the Orient liner 'Orcades' in company with another English ringer, Margaret Winter. We two had made our plans entirely independently, and it was only through Phil Cooper that each knew of the other's existence! We were both proceeding to Sydney, but with this difference: Margaret was going straight there, while I was leaving the ship at Adelaide to link up with the seven Sydney tourists, with whom (thanks to Phil) I had made contact. They would be arriving in Adelaide on the same day as I, having spent the previous week in Melbourne. If this were a travel talk and not a ringing article, I could tell you much about our month on board ship; our visits to Naples and Port Said and Colombo on the way; the beautiful tropical sunsets, the flying fish and porpoises—even the trials of sea-sickness, which took its toll of both of us.

There is, however, one happening of the voyage which should find its place here; our first Sunday on the water, Margaret and I were both surprised and delighted to hear the sound of ten-bell ringing floating out over the blue Mediterranean. It emanated from the lounge, and not a few passengers were surprised to see us desert our deck-chairs and rush to the doorway, the better to hear and appraise the ringing. We found out afterwards, by dint of badgering the Purser, that it was a recording of Stedman Caters made by St. Margaret's, Westminster, and this was used as a call to divine service every Sunday that we were on board ship. It certainly kept us in touch with the Exercise until such a time as we arrived on Australian soil. During our day's visit to Fremantle, we passed St. George's Cathedral, Perth, but could not find out anything about the present state of the eight bells which hang in its red brick tower, or whether there is any ringing there at all.

On Sunday, August 31st, we docked at Adelaide, and Margaret and I were met outside the Customs Shed by Phil Cooper and also Fred Staude. At Fremantle I had received a letter and photograph from Phil, and we had no difficulty in recognising one another. Fred Staude is captain of St. Andrew's, Walkerville, and he and his charming family had come down to the docks to meet me in the car (Port Adelaide is 14 miles from the City of Adelaide proper). Their kind action in greeting a visitor to a strange land in this fashion was my first experience of the Australian hospitality which, after almost six months, I still find rather overwhelming. Right from the word go I was not allowed to feel that I was a stranger, and was never treated as such. Margaret and I parted company temporarily at Adelaide docks, making contact again when I turned up in Sydney a week later.

FIRST 720 IN AUSTRALIA

Well, at three o'clock I first set foot in Adelaide; at six o'clock I was standing in 720 Minor for service at St. Andrew's—having booked in at the hotel and had tea with the Staudes in the interval. It had originally been intended that we should go for a quarter peal, but the Sydney contingent had spent the afternoon up in the hills by which Adelaide is encircled, and arrived back rather too late for a quarter to be attempted. No one would believe the thrill which I got out of my first ringing in a strange country. St. Andrew's has a handsome tower containing a ring of six (tenor 13 cwt.). Thanks to much hard work on the part of the local band, the 'go' of these bells is above reproach, and when you consider that they have to be largely self-reliant (there is only one other ringing tower in the whole State of South Australia), one has to take off one's hat to the progress made by this young band. With few exceptions they are all in their late 'teens or early twenties, and they ring a wide range of Minor and Doubles methods. With a little assistance they can tackle Cambridge Minor, while several of them have the makings of proficient eight-bell ringers, as we were to find out later on in the week. Before ringing commenced, I was introduced to three of the seven Sydney visitors, and over supper at the Staudes' (after we had attended evensong at St. Andrew's) I met the whole band, the other four members of whom had been into town to assist the Cathedral ringers.

Do you ever wonder what your fellow-ringers in Australia are like? I had often looked at their names in 'The Ringing World' and tried to conjure up a likely personality to attach to each. But in almost every case I was wrong. First of all I met the three representatives of St. Jude's, Randwick: stocky Bill Rowe, their tower captain, petite Ruth Donnelly and pretty, dark Betty Sloan; another captain, this time good-humoured Ken Stacey, of St. James', Turramurra, the sole representative of his band. I had a fellow Englishman in young John Boutland, but lately arrived in Sydney from Chester, and who now rings with All Saints', Parramatta; and finally the two boys from St. Mary's (R.C.) Cathedral. Here again they were represented by their captain, Laurie Curran, who I thought looked very youthful to carry on his shoulders the responsibility of a Cathedral band, and with him quiet John Cummins. I recollect my initial meeting with, and first impressions of, these seven very clearly, for it is with them that most of my subsequent ringing in Australia has been done.

Over supper that evening I also met the majority of the Walkerville band, my recollections of whom are much more hazy, but with whom I hope to renew acquaintance before leaving Australia. There were Dick Lamphee, Ron Nogare, Harvey Bagot and Jon. Eggleton, whose father is Rector of St. Andrew's. This

much I know, I ate much too much and before the end of the evening was sound asleep. I had good company in the persons of the two Sydney lasses, who had travelled all night from Ballarat and rung all day, and by now were almost out on their feet. I think that we all appreciated our beds that night! This Sunday marked the commencement of a delightful week, compound of sight-seeing and ringing.

ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL

On Monday night I had my first ring on the grand heavy eight at St. Peter's Cathedral, with its majestic 41 cwt. tenor named 'Great Fred.' There is one disadvantage to ringing at St. Peter's, and that is the acoustics. The bells would normally be inaudible inside the ringing chamber (which is more than one can say for them outside the tower!), and this has necessitated the setting up of an amplifier in order that one may hear one's bell. On Sunday morning the visitors had rung a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples here, and all were agreed that it was a highly creditable performance to have put on, after a practically sleepless night.

On Monday evening we had hoped to cap this with a quarter of Bob Major, which, alas, wouldn't go. It rather served us right, as we had 'cut it fine' having dinner, gobbled down our meal and rushed up the tower—not an auspicious beginning for any quarter. We had two more opportunities of ringing at St. Peter's, and on both occasions were joined by the local band and the Walkerville boys. The Cathedral's own band ring mainly Doubles, but with our combined strength we were able to try some Kent and some successful Stedman Triples. After the last visit we were entertained to supper by Canon Finnis and his wife in a right royal fashion. Return visits were also made to Walkerville during the week, but on no occasion did we succeed in ringing a quarter on this pretty six.

As far as sight-seeing went, the highlight of our week was the day when, in two hired Morris Minors, we visited the Barossa Valley (Adelaide's wine-producing district) and picked up by the road-side on sausages and potatoes roast in their jackets. Many were the criticisms from the menfolk on our cooking, but we three girls noticed that this in no way affected their appetites! Back through the Torrens Gorge, with Bill leading Laurie at a smart 40 miles an hour round breath-taking bends, in order to get him in to town in time for a dinner appointment (unfortunately, he was late, in spite of all!). Friday came all too soon, and 6.30 p.m. saw us on the first 'leg' of our journey back to Sydney, having been farewelled by half the St. Andrew's band in a spirit of 'here's to the next time.' And what a journey! Two nights and a day of it, with changes of trains at Terowie, Broken Hill and Parkes, necessitated by changes in ownership and gauge of the railways. But for entertaining travelling companions it would have been an extremely monotonous journey, but ringers are the same the whole world over, and there was truly 'never a dull moment' in our party.

(To be continued.)

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations to help to meet the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—A. R. 5s.

Peals.—Appleton 2s. 6d., Sproughton 3s., Upton-on-Severn 4s., Grafton Regis 2s. 6d.

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RINGERS' RULES (ANCIENT & MODERN)

(Continued from page 154)

ST. STEPHEN'S RINGERS OF BRISTOL.

All these early societies had their own particular rules or 'ordinances,' and one of the oldest of these is that of St. Stephen's Ringers of Bristol, which dates back to the time of Queen Elizabeth I., and is in plain unvarnished prose (Ellacombe, 'Church Bells of Gloucester,' p. 88, App. D), thus:—

'The ordinances underwritten were now transcribed from the ordinances dated 1747, which were transcribed from the ordinances dated 1693, which were transcribed from the ordinances dated 1657, and they were transcribed from the ordinances dated 1620.

'It is agreed and determined that is or shall be of the Company or Society of Stephen's Ringers shall keep Articles and Decrees that are or shall be specified in this Ordinary concerning the good Government and peaceable Society of the said Company, and that none shall be of the said Society, but that that shall be of Honest, Peaceable and good Conversation, and such that shall be at all time and times ready to defend whatsoever shall be alleged against the said Company, as well in regard of any Challenge, as of any other Wrong or Injury that shall be offered and done by any one of what Estate or Condition soever he be, so that we not only able able to stop the mouths of those that would or shall exasperate themselves against us, but also gain Credit and Reputation by our Musical Exercise, that others of our Rich Neighbours hearing these loud cymbals with their ears may by the sweet Harmony thereof be enlarged in their hearts to pull one string to make it more sweet, and for these and other like causes we have procured this Ordinary, and do confine and oblige ourselves to the Articles following:—

Imprimis, for the choosing of every Master you shall put three honest men into the Election, and he that hath most voices to pass on his side shall be Master of the Company of Ringers for the year ensuing.

2. Item. For the choosing of Wardens you shall put four honest men into the Election, and those two of the four that shall have most voices shall be Wardens of the said Company for the year ensuing.

3. Item. You shall have four Quarter days every year (that is to say) the first St. Stephen the Martyr, the second the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the third St. John the Baptist, the fourth St. Michael the Archangel.

4. Item. Upon every one of the said quarter days every one that is a freeman of the said Company shall pay to the Master for the time being for his quarteridge one penny, and if he doth or shall neglect or deny to pay the same he shall pay for such offence threepence, one penny thereof to the Sexton and the other twopence to the Company.

5. Item. Every Master (for the time being) shall give up his Account upon the Seventeenth day of November of all quarteridge and Fines as he shall receive in his year, and if he shall deny or neglect he shall pay for his Offence the sum of Twenty Shillings to the Company of his own proper money.

6. Item. Every Master shall be chosen on Michaelmas Day between five and eight of the clock in the morning. If the Master shall neglect to send the Wardens to warn the Company, so that by that means the day be deferred, he shall pay for his offence the sum of Six Shillings to the Company.

7. Item. There shall be none made free of the said Company unless he give the Company a Breakfast or pay the Sum of three shillings and fourpence in money.

8. Item. If the Master for the time being shall send to the Wardens to warn the Company, and if they neglect the same, they shall pay for their offence fourpence apiece, one penny thereof to the Sexton, and the other threepence to the Company.

9. Item. If the Master, for the time being shall neglect or forget to warn the Company once within every fourteen days for to ring a bissett sett peale, he shall pay for his offence One Shilling, to be divided among the Company.

10. Item. If the Master for the time being shall send to the Sexton concerning a Peale that shall be rung either at night or in the morning or at any other time that the Master shall please to ring, if he shall deny or neglect to come at the very hour that the Master doth appoint him, he shall pay for his offence twopence, to be divided among the Company.

11. Item. Everyone that is made free of the Company shall pay to the Sexton fourpence for his fee.

12. Item. If any one of the said Company after the time that he shall come into the Church shall Curse or Swear or make any noise or disturbance either scoffing or unseemly jesting, that the party so offending for his offence, threepence to be divided as aforesaid.

13. Item. If any of the said Company after the time that he shall come into the Church to ring shall be so saucy as to take the rope to ring before the Master (for the time being) and the eldest of the said Company who have been Masters shall be settled where they please to ring, the party so offending shall pay for such his offence twopence, one penny thereof to the Sexton and the other to the Company.

14. Item. If any one of the said Company shall miss to strike his Bell at the second sway in the rising of a peale, he shall for his offence pay one penny to the Company.

15. Item. If any of the said Company shall speak or make any manner of noise when the Bells do Ring so that the Ringers or any of them by that means may make a fault, the party so offending shall pay for his offence threepence, to be divided among the Company.

16. Item. If any of the said Company shall take a rope out of a fellow's hand when the Bells do ring well, and do make a fault to fly off too near he shall pay for his offence one penny to the Company.

17. Item. If any of the said Company do or shall, after they are come together, quarrel or misuse any of the said Company before they do depart, the party so offending shall pay for his offence sixpence, to the use of the said Company.

18. Item. It is agreed that every one that shall be chosen Master of the said Company, shall spend of his own proper money the sum of Two Shillings towards a Breakfast, and the rest of the Company to pay the rest of the Reckoning.

19. Item. It is agreed that the persons that shall be chosen Wardens shall give unto the Master for the time being a pint of Wine apiece.

20. Item. If any one of the said Company shall be chosen Master, and he shall refuse the same contrary to our Ordinary, he shall pay unto the Company three shillings and fourpence.

21. Item. If any one of the said Company shall be chosen Warden, and shall refuse the same, he shall pay unto the Company One Shilling and Sixpence.

22. Item. If any one of the said Company shall be so rude as to run into the Belfry before he do kneel down and pray as every Christian ought to do, he shall pay for his first offence Sixpence, and for the second he shall be cast out of the Company.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

The Third Session of the 21st Council (56th Annual Meeting) will be held at Bournemouth on Whitsun Tuesday, May 26th, 1953.

In accordance with Rule 13, notices of motion, signed by two members of the Council, must be received by the Secretary not later than six weeks prior to the meeting.

Due to the retirement of Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, nominations for the office of Librarian, signed by two members of the Council, are required under Rule 9 to be in the hands of the Secretary two calendar months before the meeting, i.e., NOT LATER THAN MARCH 26th.

E. A. BARNETT,
26, Iron Mill Lane,
Crayford, Kent.

23. Item. If any one of the said Company shall deny to any fine or fines that shall be imposed upon him by the Master or the Company and shall peremptorily stand or contend in the same he shall, for his offence, pay the sum of two shillings, or else be utterly excluded forever without Bail or Mainprize.

24. Item. It is agreed that yearly there shall be a peal rung upon the Eighth day of October in remembrance of Mr. William Eyton deceased, who gave a Legacy of Four Pounds unto the Company, and if any shall refuse to assist to ring the same peale, warning being given by the Master, he shall pay fourpence, and if the Master and Wardens (for the time being) shall fail to give warning they shall for their neglect pay One Shilling to the said Company (who deceased in the year 1656).

25. Item. It is agreed that yearly there shall be a peal rung upon the Three and Twentieth day of November, in remembrance of Mr. George Witherby, deceased, who gave Legacy of Five Pounds unto the Company, and if any refuse to assist in ringing the same peal warning being given by the Master he shall pay fourpence, and if the Master and Wardens (for the time being) shall neglect to give such warning, they shall for their neglect forfeit and pay One Shilling apiece to the said Company.

26. Item. It is agreed that yearly there shall be a peal rung upon the four and twentieth day of October, in remembrance of Mr. William Nicholls, deceased (being the day of his death), who gave a Legacy of Five Pounds unto the said Company, and if any shall refuse to assist in ringing the same peal warning being given by the Master (for the time being) he shall pay fourpence, and if the Master and Wardens for the time being shall neglect to give such warning, they shall for their neglect forfeit and pay One Shilling apiece to the said Company.

27. and likewise, for Mr. Isaac Elton, deceased, who left Five Pounds on the twenty-second day of November, under the like penalty.

28. and likewise, for Mr. Samuel Wyatt, deceased, who left Five Pounds on the Eighth day of June, under the like penalty.

29. and likewise, for Mr. George Escott, who has given Five Pounds on the twenty fifth day of April yearly, under the like penalty.

30. and likewise, for Mr. John Maddick, who has given Four Pounds on the twenty fifth day of February yearly under the like penalty.

31. and likewise, for Mr. Benjamin Bickley, who has given — pounds on the seventeenth day of November yearly, under the like penalty.

32. and likewise, for Mr. Alderman Richard Robinson, who has given Five pounds on the seventeenth day of November yearly, under the like penalty.

(To be continued)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TEACHING A SPECIALISED BRANCH OF THE EXERCISE

Dear Sir.—Introducing young people to the belfry, teaching and retaining their interest in ringing is as specialised a branch of the Exercise as is the conducting or composing of a peal. To be successful one must needs know not only the rules, but have in addition a discipline and kindly understanding of human nature as applicable to the youth of to-day, a quality—apart from the discipline—which leading ringers and conductors would appear never to have possessed, or long since lost. Accidents must at all costs be avoided yet progress must be rapid and a friendly community spirit fostered within the band.

To attempt even to outline a course followed not entirely without success in a letter or even a short article could only be compared with your dismissal in a short sentence or two of the movement for direct spelling or free activity in schools. It just cannot be done so briefly, and should if it be done at all, carry considerable authority.

With the coming of the bicycle and the petrol engine, and an age when attendance at an evening institute or college and the passing of examinations in every walk of life is necessary, the old order changeth, and whether we like it or not, we must give place to new or suffer our bells to hang silent.

The problem reaches beyond the 'lesser brethren,' if I may borrow that excellent phrase, to the Church itself, which stands all too empty Sunday after Sunday.—Yours, etc.,

E. L. HUMPHRISS.

Woolton, Liverpool.

BELLS ON THE TELEPHONE

Dear Sir.—St. Andrew's, Norwich, tower is so close to the Norwich telephone exchange that I imagine its rather lame Cambridge Quarter chimes should be audible during trunk calls, etc. If this sort of thing is of such interest to New York, 'The Daily Express,' etc., it would evidently be a national asset to get our ten rehung as soon as possible. If 2,000 readers send me £1 each we will soon do the job, giving previous notice to 'The Ringing World,' and anyone who wants to hear Double Norwich in its home city, or London in the tower where 'this insurmountable task was accomplished' (the first peal of London), can simply put a trunk call through, have a talk, reverse the charges provided you don't ring Norwich 20158 or 20159 which are exempt from the scheme) and go to bed satisfied.—Yours faithfully,

GILBERT THURLOW.

3, Colegate, Norwich.

(Some time after Easter—67, The Close, Norwich.)

THOMAS POWER, GENT.

I am anxious to trace some more information about Thomas Power, gent., who made the old clock for Buckden Church, Hunts, in 1681. Bell ringers cannot help being interested in the clocks which they see in the towers where they ring, and perhaps another clock made by him may be discovered. Baillie, in his list of 35,000 clockmakers, does not include this one. I should be most grateful if you will include this reference in your correspondence.—Yours sincerely,

A. J. NIXSEAMAN (Rev.).

Northill Rectory,
Biggleswade.

WILTON, WILTS.—On Feb. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. Haines 1, R. Haines (aged 8) 2, C. Haines 3, A. Trimby 4, A. Haines (cond.) 5, J. Drew 6. First quarter for 1 and 2.

THE STORY OF AN AUSTRALIAN TOWER

Dear Sir.—As publicity officer for the St. Clement's, Yass, Change Ringers' Association. I feel it my duty to inform you that Yass is a town with a population of between 3,000 and 4,000, about 183 miles south-west of Sydney on the main Sydney-Melbourne (Hume) highway. We are a small band of five ringers with little experience, plus four learners coming up.

Our main stumbling block is lack of an experienced ringer in the town to assist us. However, we are very much indebted to the Sydney ringers for their voluntary services, who, in 1948, set about getting the bells ringing after almost 40 years of silence, and then for making many trips to Yass at their own expense, to give us some tuition. As a result of this we are rather proud of the fact that with the assistance at various times of Sydney ringers, four of our members have recorded a peal each with one having rung his second in a Sydney tower. To this is also added as many as 23 quarters to one of these members. Of course these figures are very small when one reads in 'The Ringing World' of ringers recording their 400th peal.

I might add, too, that a sixth member who had rung a peal in a Sydney tower was moved to another town miles away thus breaking up a team of six who could practise together and show progress.

I would like to mention at this stage that whenever English ringers visit this country they will always be welcome at Yass, and should contact myself or our tower captain, Mr. R. H. Burden, at Church Street, Yass.

When our bells were set ringing again in 1948 they were a ring of five only, but due to the efforts of a willing group of ladies, sufficient money was raised to install a new treble, making a ring of six, which was opened in April, 1951. The original five were cast in 1869 by Thomas Blews and Son, and the new treble was cast by John Taylor, Loughborough. The first installation was carried out in 1870. The new treble is 3 cwt. and the tenor 6½ cwt. with a total of 26½ cwt. An inscription on the tenor is 'I sing the Lord's song in a strange land,' and on an occasion when checking for loose nuts in the framework I made a rather interesting discovery, that the word 'strange' had been misspelt 'strnge' omitting the letter A.

Another item of interest is that the original five cost £213, and the new treble, including installation, cost £272 6s. 8d., but the amount of £49 11s. 7d. for duty was refunded and is to be used to place the original five on ball-bearings.—Yours faithfully,

HAROLD L. CURLL.

Yass, N.S.W.

REASONS WANTED

Dear Sir,—I thank Mr. Felstead for his courteous reply. That it is inadequate is no doubt realised by Mr. Felstead himself—hence his offer to give reasons 'later on.'

May I suggest that this be done at the earliest possible moment so that Societies affiliated to the Central Council may have the opportunity of discussing them before the next Central Council meeting.

To the bulk of ringers the references made by Mr. Felstead are inaccessible and, in addition, a generation of ringers has risen since that time who prefer, perhaps, to form their own opinions.

It will be found then, I think, that in the pure light of logical reasoning, the ostracism of so-called irregular lead ends in Doubles and Minor has little or nothing to support it.—Yours faithfully,

H. CHANT.

Ryhill, Wakefield.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World.'

March 21st, 1913

A UNIQUE RECORD

Mr. George N. Price, of Watford, has just completed a unique performance by calling a different peal of Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques from each pair of handbells. Mr. Price is the first to accomplish this feat, and in addition he has conducted Carter's Odd-Bob peal of Triples from each pair. The compositions of Stedman Triples called from 1-2 and 5-6 had not been previously rung on handbells.

Appended is the list of peal and the dates of performance:—

STEDMAN TRIPLES

1-2	Thurstans' 5-part	Sept. 6, 1905
3-4	Thurstans' 1-part	Jan. 16, 1908
5-6	J. J. Parker's 1-part	Jan. 23, 1908
7-8	Carter's Odd-Bob 1-part	Aug. 28, 1906

STEDMAN CATERS

1-2	5002 F. Dench	Mar. 23, 1905
3-4	5555 G. Lindoff	May 26, 1907
5-6	6591 C. H. Hattersley	Sept. 5, 1908
7-8	5009 N. J. Pitstow	June 1, 1907
9-10	5000 C. H. Hattersley	Mar. 20, 1912

STEDMAN CINQUES

1-2	5019 C. H. Hattersley	Jan. 1, 1913
3-4	5014 J. Carter	June 19, 1912
5-6	5002 C. H. Hattersley	May 8, 1912
7-8	5021 J. Carter	Jan. 29, 1913
9-10	5555 J. Carter	Mar. 9, 1912
11-12	5027 J. Carter	Feb. 26, 1913

JUDGING STRIKING COMPETITIONS

Dear Sir.—Sometimes your paper seems to draw our fraternity into a desire for everybody as one; sometimes it seems to put this class and that class of our fraternity as far apart as possible. It may be for the good of us all, and I sincerely hope so.

Here are my views and I do not wish to offend anyone of any section (if I may put it so). I have rung both open leads and 'Cartwheel' and listened to open leads and judged 'Cartwheel.' To the 'Cartwheel,' thanks for the memory. I hereby state a very logical conclusion from 'The Irish Bell News' of the results, or not disputed. Dear Fraternity, what else do your bishops, vicars, parishioners, or yourselves, in fact, want—only results of harmony—for I as a ringer, have always felt that my service to the bells was as great as that of any person to his service or sermon.

To myself, in listening to the open leads, I have only to think of two bats, which gives me my conclusions, and that is 5th of 6, 7th of 8, 9th of 10 or 11th of 12, leading at hand-stroke from their respective tenors.

To all junior ringers, my one sound, solid advice is: Whether you be on 1, 2 or 3 of 6, 8, 10 or 12, hold your bell up on the back stroke and I'm sure your tenors will appreciate it.

Thanks to 'The Irish Bell News' and your paper, and best wishes to all the ringers of tower bells.—Yours fraternally,

JOSEPH BURGESS.

Friezland.

A VARIATION OF ALL SAINTS' DOUBLES

Dear Sir.—A variation of All Saints' Doubles was rung at Cheriton, Kent, on March 4th this year and if it has not already been rung we would like to name it 'Newington.' The difference from All Saints' lies in the call, which is in effect the exact equivalent of a plain lead of Plain Bob Doubles. The ringers were: Miss R. P. Longhurst 1, M. J. Martin 2, J. E. Chittenden 3, C. A. Wratten 4, F. C. W. Knight 5, J. Soles 6, conducted by yours sincerely,

CYRIL A. WRATTEN.

Saltwood, Hythe.

THE BELLS OF WALTON-ON-THAMES

The square is a patchwork of brick and stone, unlike any other tower in Surrey. When the Royal Inventory was taken in 1552 it recorded: 'iiij belles in the steple,' but the oldest bell now in the tower is dated 1606. The dates and founders of the present bells are:—

Treble.—Warner, 1883.
2nd.—Warner, 1883.
3rd.—A. Rudhall, 1726.
4th.—Joseph Carter, 1608.
5th.—R. Eldridge 1606.
6th.—15th century. Recast 1883.
7th.—W. Carter, 1610.
Tenor.—B. Eldridge, 1651.

The 3rd came from Gloucester, and it is quite exceptional to record a Rudhall bell in Surrey, but seeing it was a gift from the High Sheriff of the County, other considerations may have induced him to select the Gloucester foundry.

The 4th is the only Joseph Carter bell now left in Surrey. Undoubtedly Walton, like many other places, sought to increase the number of bells when it was found that spoliation days had gone, and this bell was one of those acquired when there was a boom in bell founding.

The 5th came from Wokingham and was cast by the second member of the Eldridge founders prior to the removal of the business to Chertsey.

Much has been written regarding the 6th, but the writer was recently surprised to read in an up-to-date booklet on Walton that this is a 14th century bell, cracked and no longer used. Needless to say, the writer hastened to give correct information for future editions. Although recast in 1883, the previous bell was 15th century, with 'In Multis Annis Resonet Campani Johannis' (May the bell of St. John resound for many years) as its inscription. It bore the initial cross and the capitals were crowned. The stamps were once the property of Stephen Norton of Kent, and they passed from him to some London founder in the 15th century. The approximate date would be about the middle of the 15th century.

The 7th is another Carter bell, this time William Carter, who took over the Whitechapel foundry in 1609. This must be one of his earliest bells. He adopted the practice of marking

his bells with the founder's initials enclosed in a shield.

The tenor, by B. Eldridge in 1651, is the bell which the townsfolk hear every day, its mellow note indicating the hour. For many years Walton tenor, like many others throughout the country, grew in weight, due to the fact that old bells hardly had exact weights taken or recorded. The weight of this bell went up to 28 cwt., and a few months ago an elderly gentleman insisted to the writer that its correct weight was always 29 cwt.! Although the bells were rehung in recent years no exact weights were taken, but, seeing the tenor measures 49½ inches in diameter, its probable weight would be about 21½ cwt.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD

THE REV. F. E. ROBINSON AND MORPETH

Dear Sir,—I was interested in the front page article of 'The Ringing World' of February 27th, in which the name of the Rev. F. E. Robinson was mentioned. Many years ago there was a newspaper cutting hanging up in our belfry concerning him: my father always called him 'The Ringing Bishop'.

I remember my father's grief when a member of the Durham and Newcastle Association came to our belfry to give advice to a new band and was asked if he ever knew of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, who rang a peal in Morpeth belfry in 1906, and said he had never heard of him.

It was also a pleasure for me to read about Bill Barbier, whom I met at Durham in 1945. I am sorry to say I have never seen so much smoking in a belfry before. I was brought up among non-smokers and I feel it very much when I see ladies smoke. I think our new ringers might have got on much quicker had they left smoking out. However, I was very pleased to hear mention of the Ringing Bishop and would like to get a photograph of him to replace the newspaper cutting. Can any reader help me?—Yours sincerely,

JENNIE ARMSTRONG.

Morpeth, Northumberland.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSN.

Mr. J. G. W. Harwood Retires

Mr. J. G. W. Harwood, who for the past 21 years has been secretary of the East Norfolk Branch, tendered his resignation at the annual meeting of the Branch held at Gorleston-on-Sea on February 24th. The meeting was attended by 34 members. Ringing started at 2.45 p.m. and the service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. L. Corbell). The service was attended by the president (the Rev. A. St. J. Heard) and the general secretary of the Association (the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow). The lessons were read by Mr. Nolan Golden (Association's Ringing Master).

Following tea at the Queen's Cafe, the business meeting was held, presided over by Mr. E. R. Goate (Branch chairman). Kenneth James Dixon, of Lowestoft, was elected a ringing member and the ratification took place of belfry elections of Miss B. M. Harris (Merton, Surrey) and Miss A. Clark (Hampton, Middlesex).

The following officers were elected:—Chairman, Mr. E. R. Goate; secretary, Mr. P. G. W. Newstead; Branch Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Barratt; Branch committee, Messrs. G. Bussey, D. W. Green, P. Kindred, G. Walpole and J. Harwood; representatives on General Standing Committee, Mrs. G. W. Fletcher and Mr. J. G. W. Harwood.

Winterton was proposed for the next meeting on May 2nd.

Mr. G. W. Fletcher proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. J. G. W. Harwood, who has been Branch secretary for 21 years, and has now stated his wish to resign. Mr. Harwood, replying, said he wished to thank all the members of the Association who had so kindly given their support and help to him during his term of office and he hoped still to attend the meetings as usual.

Mr. E. R. Goate, Branch chairman, thanked the Vicar for the service and the use of the bells. Ringing was resumed till 8.45; various methods and rounds were rung to suit all present.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD

Southern District at Aberavon

The wedding which preceded the quarterly meeting at St. Mary's Church, Aberavon, on March 7th had a good send-off when ringers attending the meeting set the bells ringing to various methods until 4.30 p.m., tea time.

About 35 members were present and represented Porthcawl, Aberavon, Maesteg, Baglan, Neath, Cadoxton, Dyffryn, Cefn Coed, Sketty and Porthkerry. The customary service was cancelled for various reasons.

Tea was provided by the Baglan ringers and friends and really it was an excellent tea. Thanks were accorded to those concerned by the District secretary.

The business meeting which followed was opened with prayers said by the Rev. E. G. Burgoyne, who also presided. The secretary presented the statement of accounts, which still shows a satisfactory balance. It was agreed to hold the next meeting at Neath in September. A discussion on the annual outing ended with every seat in the bus being booked.

Members stood in silence in sympathy with Mr. Trevor Roderick on the loss of his mother, and also with Mr. A. J. Pitman on the loss of his beloved wife.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Archdeacon for the use of the bells, and the Rev. E. G. Burgoyne, who presided at the meeting. In reply, the latter stated that ringers were always welcome at St. Mary's, Aberavon.

An enjoyable day's ringing ended after further ringing at the tower at 8.15 p.m., when the bells were lowered in peal. J. A. H.

MR. GEORGE E. SYMONDS' FOUR HUNDRED PEALS

By ringing a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Mary-le-Tower Church, Ipswich, on March 7th, Mr. George E. Symonds completed 400 peals, of which he has conducted 242.

These peals include 14 different Maximus methods, all odd numbers of Stedman Cinques from 5.001 to 5.021; as conductor, called Plain Bob on 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 bells, also and tower- and handbells from Major to Maximus in Plain, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Grandsire Triples, Caters and Cinques. Conducted peals on all numbers up to and including 5.184 in the following Major methods: Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Kent, Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise.

Mr. Symonds' first peal was Kent Treble Bob Royal on February 13th, 1897, at St. Giles', Camberwell, S.E. He also took part in Holt's Original, silent, June 4th 1898, at St. John's, Waterloo Road, London, S.E.

His list is appended:—

Maximus.—Cambridge 28 (conducted 10), Superlative 15 (5), New Cambridge 5 (2), Yorkshire 4 (2), Pudsey 4 (2), Rochester 4 (1), York 2 (1), Double Norwich 3 (1), Kent Treble Bob 8 (5), Oxford Treble Bob 4 (3), Duffield 2 (1), Forward 2 (2), Little Albion 1 (1), Little Bob 1 (1), Plain Bob 2 (1).

Cinques.—Stedman 30 (18), Grandsire 3 (3), Plain Bob 1 (1).

Royal.—Cambridge 9 (3), New Cambridge 1 (1), Rochester 1 (1), Yorkshire 1, Double Norwich 4 (2), Kent Treble Bob 4 (2), Oxford Treble Bob 4 (3), Little Bob 1, Plain Bob 2 (1).

Caters.—Stedman 11 (6), Grandsire 4 (4), Plain Bob 2 (2).

Major.—Superlative 14 (2), Cambridge 13 (8), New Cambridge 2 (1), London 3, Yorkshire 1, Pudsey 1, Lincolnshire 1, Bristol 1, Double Norwich 31 (23), Kent Treble Bob 24 (17), Oxford Treble Bob 15 (11), Spliced Kent and Oxford 1, Plain Bob 26 (23).

Triples.—Grandsire 26 (22), Stedman 21 (9), Plain Bob 1 (1).

Minor.—18 (12).

Doubles.—1 (1).

ON HANDBELLS

Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob 2 (2), Oxford Treble Bob 2 (2), Plain Bob 1 (1).

Cinques.—Grandsire 1 (1).

Royal.—Kent Treble Bob 4 (3), Oxford Treble Bob 1 (1), Plain Bob 1 (1).

Caters.—Grandsire 4 (4), Stedman 2 (2).

Major.—Kent Treble Bob 2 (1), Oxford Treble Bob 1 (1), Plain Bob 11 (6).

Triples.—Grandsire 5 (2).

Totals.—Tower bells 363 (215), handbells 37 (27); 400 (242).

THE LADIES' GUILD

'Purest of All Pleasures'

'Ringing is, perhaps, the purest of all pleasures,' said the Provost of Guildford, the Very Rev. Walter Boulton, when he addressed a gathering of some 40 ringers and friends at St. Mary's Church, Guildford.

The occasion was a meeting of the Southern District of the Ladies' Guild held there on March 7th, and it was indeed pleasant to see such a large number of happy people pursuing their innocent pleasure with all that glad-hearted tolerance and charity which is the hallmark of the Exercise.

As often happens in a mainly feminine gathering, the desire for self-effacement so general among the ladies—coupled with a certain weakness of the vocal chords—made it desirable that the reins of office should be taken over by a gentleman, and the District secretary sensibly entrusted the afternoon's ringing to the tower steeple-keeper, Mr. W. J. Robinson, a Cathedral ring of long standing.

The bells attracted several visitors to the church. Outside, the usual sightseers collected in the hope of seeing a bride; inside, the visitors ranged from three small, untidy female urchins in dirty headscarves and shabby slacks to the very smart and attractive young Canadian girl on a visit to the town. She was very interested to hear about the existence of the Ladies' Guild of Ringers and, had the service not been imminent, would have liked to visit the belfry. But she intended to write it all down in her diary, she said, and asked that her good wishes might be extended to the meeting.

At the business meeting which followed tea (and from which, as usual, the gentlemen were excluded) Miss Colgate, the Guild's general secretary, took the chair. Miss Bailey, the Central District secretary, was also welcomed, and joined in the humorous and spirited discussion regarding the District's finances and the secretary's little game of noughts and crosses.

Mrs. Lathbury, a well-known member of the Guild proposed a vote of thanks to the Provost for taking the service and for the use of the bells, and also to Mr. Bond, who was kind enough to act as organist, and the meeting closed leaving a queue of members waiting to pay subscriptions.

Ringing continued in the evening at St. Nicolas', the ten-bell home tower of the District's vice-president, Mrs. L. Hazelden, who is, of course, a founder member of the Ladies' Guild.

W. A. O.

MEMORIAL PLAQUE TO CREWE TOWERKEEPER

A memorial plaque to Mr. James William Edge, who for nearly a quarter of a century was towerkeeper at Christ Church, Crewe, was dedicated on February 24th by the Rev. Francis W. Gentry and hung in the ringing chamber by Mrs. Edge.

The plaque, executed by Miss Marie Westwell, a member of the choir, records a peal of Grandsire Caters, conducted by Mr. George A. Packer last August in memory of Mr. Edge, who died in July, after he had been working in the bell chamber.

Tribute was paid to the services of Mr. Edge by the Rev. F. W. Gentry, who spoke of his conscientious work.

Besides the widow, other members of the family at the ceremony were:—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Edge (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. Lea Mr. and Mrs. Palin, Mrs. Herbert Edge (sons-in-law and daughters) and Barbara and Barry Lea (grandchildren). Friends present were Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Culley and Allan Culley. Representing the church were Messrs. H. Booth and H. Haselden (wardens), Mr. R. Owen (secretary, Church Council) and Mrs. R. D. Langford, Mr. J. Brough (Nantwich), who took part in the ringing, was also present.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION

Coronation Day Ringing

The North Staffordshire Association visited Wolstanton St. Margaret's on March 7th to hold their monthly meeting. Ringers from the following towers attended:—Alsager, Bucknall, Newcastle, Biddulph, Stone, Leek, Lawton, Hanley, Stoke, Kingsley and Wolverhampton.

Ringing commenced at 2.30 p.m. and was followed by a short service held in the church at 5 p.m. conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Sydney Snell, who gave an interesting address on the history of bells. Ringers should appreciate, when ringing the bells, he said, that their message calling people to worship at the church went out not only to those who usually attended church, but also to those who did not heed the call. Bells had been used during the ages for various reasons and one of the most important of these was the ringing of the curfew for the closing of business premises, the ringing of bells for such joyous occasions as marriages, of victories of our armies and navies and solemn ringing for the dying.

An excellent tea was served in the school rooms, the Vicar presiding, supported by the chairman, Mr. R. S. Anderson, and the captain of the Wolstanton tower, Mr. W. H. Fitchford, the tea being provided by the ringers of Wolstanton and their wives.

Ringing of rounds for the not-so-good and standard and other advanced methods for the more advanced ringers of the Association continued during the evening until 9.30.

A committee meeting was held and the question of ringing simultaneously all the bells in North Staffordshire on the day of the Coronation was considered. It was decided that all towers in the Association should ring their bells from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Should individual towers wish to ring the bells at any other time, this would not affect the simultaneous ringing arrangements. D. R. W.

UNIQUE PERFORMANCE IN 1809

When the Jubilee of King George III. was celebrated on October 25th, 1809, one of the attractions at Rugby was a unique performance on the church bells by a 'Professor of Campanology.' It was cried around the town that in the course of the day tunes would be rung on the church bells and royal salutes given in honour of the King, the whole to be performed by one person.

An eye witness records the proceedings by saying that:—'The professor was a strong-built man, and in the belfry of Rugby Parish Church, after taking a central point of the very solid floor, he described with chalk a circle round it. With the help of an assistant each bell rope was drawn just short of actual sounding, and each was secured on the chalk circular line by strong staples driven into the floor. The soloist sat down in the centre of the circular arrangement of ropes, and with a surprising command of head, shoulders, wrists, hands, back, knees and feet, the professor played on the strong ropes the popular tunes of the day. After playing 'God Save the King,' he gave the royal salute by sweeping the ropes with a continuous rolling of himself round his central pivot on the floor. Needless to say he received plenty of applause for his unique performance.' W. S.

RADLEY, BERKS.—On Mar. 1st, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss M. R. Cross 1, G. Webb (first quarter on working bell) 2, Miss J. Eason 3, D. Gallop 4, Inst. Comdr. R. G. Cross (cond.) 5, Rev. J. V. Pixell 6.

ROUGHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Feb. 23rd 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. L. Nice 1, R. Rose 2, J. Stannard 3, L. Nice 4, W. Stannard (cond.) 5, J. Banks 6. First in the method for 1, 2 and 4.

THORLEY, HERTS.—On Feb. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Warboys (cond.) 1, Miss B. Warboys 2, Miss B. Perry 3, C. Warboys 4, T. Camp 5, J. Foreman 6. A birthday compliment to J. Foreman.

COMPOSITIONS

5,021 GRANDSIRE CATERS
By JAMES TOPP

23456789	1	2	3	4
25493876	—	—	—	S5, S6
32594	—	—	S	—
53294	—	—	—	—
25394	—	—	—	—
42593	—	—	S	—
34295	—	—	S	—
64235978	—	S	—	—
43265879	—	S	—	—
54362	—	—	S	—
25463	—	—	S	—
52463978	—	—	—	—
45263	—	—	—	—
34562	—	—	S	—
43562879	—	—	—	—
24365	—	—	S	—
32465	—	—	—	—
23465978	—	—	—	—
52364	—	—	S	—
35264	—	—	—	—
53264879	—	—	—	—
45362	—	—	S	—
24563	—	—	S	—
42563978	—	—	—	—
54263	—	—	—	—
35462	—	—	S	—
53462879	—	—	—	—
25364	—	—	S	—
32564	—	—	—	—
23564978	—	—	—	—
42365	—	—	S	—
34265	—	—	—	—

Repeat last 24 courses calling 1st course:—
S2, 3, 4, S5, S6, 7, 8.

First rung at Wrington on October 18th, 1952.
Conducted by J. T. Dyke.

5,120 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

By WILLIAM BUTLER

23456	In	W	M	5ths	H
43625	—	S	—	—	—
36425	—	—	—	—	—
23465	—	—	—	—	—
62435	—	—	—	—	—
24635	—	—	—	—	—
46235	—	—	—	—	—
34265	—	—	—	—	—
63245	—	—	—	—	—
32645	—	—	—	—	—
26345	—	—	—	—	—
42365	—	—	—	—	—
64325	—	—	—	—	—
24365	—	S	—	—	—
43265	—	—	—	—	—
32465	—	—	—	—	—
46325	—	—	—	—	—
34625	—	—	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—	—	—
64235	—	—	—	—	—
36245	—	—	—	—	—
62345	—	—	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—	—	—

Four times repeated.

Contains the 120 course ends. Rung at Warfield February 14th, 1953.

OBITUARY

MR. WILLIAM FORD

The death occurred at his home, Sherborne, Victoria Road, Mortimer, Berks, on March 8th, of Mr. William Ford, for upwards of 50 years a regular Sunday service ringer at St. Mary's and St. John's towers, Mortimer. Mr. Ford's peal record was not a large one but he was a keen member of the Oxford and Winchester Diocesan Guilds.

The funeral took place at St. Mary's Church, Mortimer, on March 11th. The service was fully choral, Master Ian Taylor, age 13, the youngest member of the Mortimer band, being the organist. Psalm 150 (the ringers' psalm) was sung, also the hymns 'Let saints on earth in concert sing' and 'Ten thousand times ten thousand.' The Vicar, the Rev. T. P. Rumsey, officiated.

In the evening 1,260 Grandsire Doubles was rung half-muffled at St. John's Church by 1. Taylor (first quarter) 1. A. Ham 2, P. Lampert (first inside) 3, D. Neville 4, C. Ostler (conductor) 5, J. Neville (first quarter) 6.

MR. SIDNEY T. RACKHAM

An Appreciation

I was sorry to read of the death of Mr. Sidney T. Rackham, of Llanelly, Breconshire. It was at this tower, when he was captain, that I was taught to ring with a very capable Minor band who always strived for good striking. At that time Mr. Rackham used a motor-cycle combination to visit meetings and attend other practices in the locality. Whenever it was possible I was taken along to these meetings, which enabled me to gain valuable experience on many different rings of bells.

With his son, Alfred, now of Tamworth, we had many interesting and enjoyable outings. Had Mr. Rackham been fortunate enough to have lived in a city where there was an accomplished Sunday service band he would have mastered the higher methods rapidly.

After he retired I always visited him when in that locality and he was very interested in hearing about my peal-ringing activities and the ringers taking part in them.

It was very nice to read that handbells and tower bells were rung at his funeral and that my fellow-learners, Tom and Bob Stephens, of Ebbw Vale took part in the ringing. It will be difficult to find a successor of his ability in that area and his services will be badly missed.

WILFRED WILLIAMS.

London.

MR. JAMES DENNER

By the death of James Denner, of Walkden, Lancs, at the age of 78 years, a chapter is closed at St. Paul's Church. For many years two families were the mainstay of ringing and other church work at that church. They were the four Potters and three Denners, and along with the late John Welsby, were very regular service ringers and rang peals up to Surprise methods. They rang the first peal of Darlaston Triples and Duffield Major for the Association.

Miss Annie Potter is following her father, so is Ben Welsby, as service ringers at this church.

On Tuesday, March 10th, James Denner was laid to rest in St. Paul's Churchyard. The bearers were ringers and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave on handbells by Percy H. Derbyshire 1-2, Peter Crook, jun., 3-4, Edward B. Webster 5-6, Peter Crook, sen., 7-8.

There was a large gathering of ringers, attending from Bolton, Worsley, Farnworth, and Cheshire, with the vice-president, Arthur Tomlinson, from Blackburn.

Following the interment a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells fully muffled.

MR. GEORGE DAWSON

An Appreciation

By the passing of Mr. George Dawson of Leytonstone, at the age of 79, on February 26th, the Essex Association loses one of its oldest and respected members. The end was not unexpected as he had been in failing health for some months, but none the more for that his loss will be deeply felt by all his ringing friends, who are too numerous to number.

George Dawson was born at Mulbarton, Norfolk, in 1874, and in his youth learned to handle a bell at Ketteringham, then a ring of five, under the tuition of Alfred Goodram, but it was not until he moved to Leytonstone in his early twenties that he became really proficient in the art of change ringing, where he joined the St. John-the-Baptist Society, then under the leadership of William Miller, and which also numbered in its ranks such well-known figures as William Keeble, Edgar Wightman, Samuel Hayes, John Moule and many others. It was in 1906 that George Dawson became secretary of the Society a post which he held and served faithfully until early last year, when ill-health forced him to give up active ringing. One of the highlights of this band was its annual week-end trip to various parts of the country, of which he was the organiser. He was a regular churchgoer, and for many years a sidesman.

He served for 44 years with the London and North-Eastern Railway, and those of us who travelled up to Liverpool Street were familiar with that smile and nod as we went through the barrier, for at work or play George Dawson was always the same.

When one first met George his genial personality and sense of humour, which were ever with him even till the end, created such a deep impression that one knew at once, here was a true friend and companion.

His peals numbered 92, of which 35 were rung on his beloved bells of St. John's. They were as follows:—Bob Minor 1, Treble Bob Minor (seven methods) 2, Surprise Minor (seven methods) 37, Grandsire Triples 6, Stedman Triples 8, Bob Major 5, Double Norwich Court Bob Major 3, Kent Treble Bob 3, Oxford Treble Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise Major 10, Superlative 2, Yorkshire 2, Grandsire Caters 3, Stedman Caters 4, Bob Royal 1, Kent Treble Bob Royal 4. He conducted four peals only, being content to leave that side to others more experienced but one he conducted, which I think he cherished most, was in memory of his great friend, William Miller.

Apart from being a member of the Essex Association, which he served for many years with distinction on the Central Committee, he was also a member of the Society of Cumberland Youths, the London County Association and several others.

The funeral service took place on March 3rd at St. John's Leytonstone, followed by the interment at the City of London Cemetery, Manor Park. The Essex Association was represented by R. Heazel (general secretary), J. Crampion (District Master), F. Gant (District secretary), J. Chalk (Wanstead), E. Furbank (Great Baddow), R. Stannard (Barking), C. Morris (Woodford), H. Rummens, F. Maynard, E. Taylor (Walthamstow) and E. Smith, R. Smith, Mrs. R. F. Deal, C. Willington, J. Grove and P. Avey (Leytonstone). Mr. T. H. Taffender represented the London County Association. Among the many floral tributes was one from his fellow-ringers of St. John's and one from his ringing friends at Walthamstow, Wanstead and Woodford. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the graveside by J. Crampion, T. Taffender, F. Gant and E. Smith, and a quarter peal of Stedman Triples was rung half-muffled on the church bells. His friends of the London County Association rang a peal in his memory on February 28th at West Ham. J. H. C.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 2s. 6d. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

BIRTHS

FREEMAN.—On Saturday, March 14th, 1953, at the Eastholme Nursing Home, Lincoln, to Mary and John, a daughter, Jennifer Mary. 2323

POOLE.—To Dennis and Patricia on March 4th, 1953, a son, Bernard Ralph. 2311

HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED.—A set of handbells for tune playing and change ringing, 12, 16 or 20.—C. E. Bassett, Sunnybrook, Brook Lane, Warsash, Southampton. 2326

CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND SECRETARY

The Secretary of East Norfolk Branch, Norwich Diocesan Association, is now P. G. W. Newstead, 23, Barnard Avenue, Newtown, Great Yarmouth. 2301

PUBLICATIONS

'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.

'ST. MARTIN'S YOUTHS,' by Edgar C. Shepherd. A survey of this ancient Society from 1755 to 1846, with index to John Day's 'Memoirs.' Post free 1s. 6d. from the Author, 2, Witley Avenue, Solihull, Birmingham. 2304

MISCELLANEOUS

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Will all members who are compounding members of this Guild please send name and present address for inclusion in the new register to Miss W. Oliver, 36, North Place, Guildford. 2321

EXTRA COPIES — It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals is submitted.

PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittance must be sent with peal report.

MEETINGS

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting, Brinklow, Saturday, March 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—J. L. Garner-Hayward, Dis. Sec. 2319

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District. — Meeting at Hemingford Grey (6), Saturday, March 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. S. Peacock, Sec. 2273

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Downham Market, Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) 2.30. Tea 5. Service 6. 2276

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting at Marden, Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. 2262

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Meeting at Sandridge (6), Saturday, March 21st. from 3 p.m. 2274

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch (Lincoln District).—Quarterly meeting at Bardney (6), March 21st. 2267

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, Charlwood, March 21st. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. Bus 426 leaves Horley Police Station 3.10. 2235

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Newick (6), March 21st. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. 2265

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Joint meeting with Selby and District Society at Goole on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec. 2279

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Practice, Wednesday, March 25th, 7.15 p.m., St. Stephen's, West Ealing (65 bus Ealing Broadway to Terminus). Practice Monday, April 13th, 7.15 p.m., St. Mary's, Lambeth Bridge. Everyone welcome. 2327

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The Archdeacon of Bath will dedicate the retuned and rehung ring of six with the addition of two new trebles to make the octave (J. Taylor and Co.) at Weston, Bath, on March 28th, 3 p.m. Names for tea essential to Mr. S. S. Woodburn, The Bungalow, Cranwells, Sion Hill, Bath. 2308

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Branch.—Practice meeting, Worle, March 28th. Bells (6) 4.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.—E. C. Wickham. 2294

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—Meeting, March 28th, Turvey (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Special methods: London Surprise Major, Painswick College Bob Major.—Bryan Pattison. 2298

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—Monthly meeting at Duffield (10 (note the change of venue) on March 28th at 3 p.m. Names for tea, by Wednesday, March 25th, to P. H. Whitaker, Highfield Lawn, Highfield Road, Derby. 2297

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Arksey (8), March 28th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea provided as usual 5 p.m. Names, by 25th, to Doreen Smythe, 19, Kirkby Avenue, Bentley Road, Doncaster. 2315

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Quarterly meeting at St. George's, Bristol, Saturday, March 28th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.15 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, March 23rd, to W. F. Scudamore, 6, Sandringham Avenue, Downend, Bristol. 2295

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Combined practice at Farnborough (6) on Saturday March 28th, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.—G. S. Joyce, Dis. Sec. 2289

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Stevenage, March 28th. Tea 5 p.m. Names, by March 25th, to W. Lawrence, 97, Letchmore Road. No tea shops near. Special method: Little Bob. 2287

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, March 28th. Bells available 3.30. Tea 5 p.m., free. Business meeting 6 p.m. Names for tea, by March 25th, to Miss A. Potter, 73, Manchester Road, Walkden, Lancs.—Joseph Thornley, Assist. Branch Sec. 2291

LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual nomination meeting at Armley on Saturday, March 28th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea arranged (2s. per head) for those who notify me by March 25th. Business meeting to follow tea.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12. 2314

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Evening meeting arranged at Croft on March 28th owing to Thurlston bells not being available. Ringing from 5.30 to 8 o'clock.—F. Measures, Hon. Sec. 2309

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Meeting, Hoby, March 28th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea, by the 25th, to J. Burnham, Elm Cottage, Hoby, No name—no tea. 2306

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Meeting at Horton (6) on Saturday, March 28th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions now due.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 2317

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Moulton (8), March 28th. Catered tea 2s. for those sending names, by March 25th, to E. Nobles, Hon. Br. Sec., 48, Millway, Duston. 2266

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Towcester Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Greens-Norton on March 28th. Names for tea, by Tuesday previous, to G. Mansfield, Greens-Norton, Towcester.—W. Yates, Branch Sec. 2263

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Meeting at Harlow Common (Potter Street), Saturday, March 28th. Bells 2.30-4.30. Tea near Harlow Town Church 5.15. Meeting and ringing to follow. Names for tea to Mr. J. Smith, 2, High House, Harlow, Essex, by March 25th. Visitors welcome.—K. Matthews, Hon. Sec. 2286

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Stapleford, March 28th (note advanced date). Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Please make own arrangements for tea. 2313

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Practice meeting, Sedlescombe (6) on Saturday, March 28th. Tower open 2.30. Names for tea, by 25th, to R. W. Pankhurst, 11, Salehurst Road, Eastbourne. 2300

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Sparsholt, March 28th. Bells (5) 2. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 in Woodman Inn. Names by previous Wednesday to R. F. Brewer, Dean, Sparsholt. 2307

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Bedford, Easter Monday. Lunch (5s.) at 1 p.m. at the Dujon Restaurant, High Street, will be followed by the business meeting. Ringing at Biddenham 10.30-12; St. Paul's, Bedford, 10-12.45, 3-5 and 6 p.m. onwards; St. Peter's, Bedford, 10.30-12.30 and 2-4. Names for lunch, in writing, please, by April 2nd, to Michael Stephens, 24, Durler Avenue, Kempston, Bedford. 2307

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Sidbury, annual, Easter Monday. Service 4.15. Tea after. Names, not later than March 31st, to Mr. Denner, 4, Hillside.—J. Arbury, Hon. Sec. 2296

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Gloucester on Easter Monday in St. Mary-de-Crypt School Room, Southgate Street, at 2 p.m. sharp. Divine service at Cathedral 4 p.m. Evensong. Bells available: Barnwood (8) 10-11.30 a.m.; St. Mary-de-Crypt (8) as required from 10 a.m.; Cathedral (8) 11 a.m.-12 noon. Lunch (limited number) 12.45 p.m. 5s. Tea at 2s. per head at Saracen's Head, Eastgate Street. Names for lunch and tea not later than Monday, March 30th.—F. Skidmore, 80, Carlyle Road, Greenbank, Bristol 5. 2310

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Canterbury, Easter Monday. See last week's "Ringing World" re lunch tickets, etc. Towers available all day except where otherwise stated: Ash; Wingham; Canterbury (St. Stephen's, St. Dunstan's, St. Alphege's); Littlebourne; Wickhambreau; Sturry; Chartham; Ospringe; Chilham, after 5 p.m.; Hernhill, after 11 a.m.; Faversham, after 4 p.m.; Cathedral, 10.30 to 11.40 and 4.30 to 6.30. Order lunch tickets now.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne. 2305

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, St. John's, Cardiff, Easter Monday. Bells 1.30. Service 3 p.m. Tea and business to follow. Important business.—F. J. Hannington, 32, Surrey Street, Canton, Cardiff. 2299

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Easter Monday, April 6th, at Norwich. Lunch, Mancroft Youth Centre, 12.45 p.m. Admission only by ticket, which must be ordered, enclosing remittance, 4s. each, before Wednesday, March 25th, to help caterer. Business meeting after lunch. Bells available: Mancroft (12). St. Giles (8) and St. George Colegate (6) 10-11.30 and after business meeting; St. Miles (8) and St. John-de-Sepulchre (8) after business meeting. Standing Committee, 11 a.m., Mancroft Vestry. Service 11.30. preacher the Rev. Henry Lillingston, Rector of Marsham. No unofficial ringing during business meeting. Remittance for lunch, before March 25th, to Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, Gen. Sec., 3, Colegate, Norwich. 2293

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, Ipswich. Bells 12, 8, 6 and 5, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Committee meeting, St. Mary-le-Tower, 11 a.m. Service, St. Lawrence's, 12.15. No lunch. Business meeting 2 p.m., St. Stephen's Hall.—C. W. Pipe, Easta, Grundisburgh. 2316

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North Western District.—A meeting will be held at All Saints', Kingston-on-Thames, on Easter Monday, April 6th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Tea in Church Hall 5 p.m. Notice for tea, by April 2nd, to F. E. Hawthorne, 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.—R. Lathbury, Hon. Dis. Sec. 2312

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 6th. Special service in All Saints' 11 a.m. General business meeting in College Hall at 12 noon prompt. Coffee obtainable in College Hall 1-2 p.m.; bring own lunch sandwiches. Tea (2s. 6d. per head) arranged at 5 p.m. for all who notify me before Wednesday, April 1st. Bells available: All Saints' (10) 10-11 a.m. and from 6 p.m. Claines (10), St. John's (8), Kempsey (6), all 2.30-4.30 p.m.; Cathedral (12) 6-7.15 p.m.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Sedgemoor, Evesham. 2288

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District) **SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY** and **LADIES' GUILD.**—Joint meeting, Rotherham Parish Church, Easter Monday. Details later. 2320

DEVON GUILD.—South-West Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Lifton, April 11th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by April 7th, to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth. 2290

HALIFAX ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting and contest, Mirfield St. Mary's, April 11th. For teas, please notify, by April 4th, A. Robinson, 17, Sackville Street, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury.—A. Farrand, Hon. Sec. 2292

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Annual meeting, Retford, April 11th. Ringing at St. Swithun's (10), East Retford, West Retford (6) and Ordsall (6) from 2.30-8. Service St. Swithun's 4.15. Own tea arrangements: numerous cafes. Business meeting, St. Swithun's, 6 p.m.—J. W. Raithby, Gen. Sec. 2322

WAVENDON, BUCKS.—The restored and augmented ring of six bells will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Oxford on Saturday, April 18th, at 3 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome. Please notify for tea the Rev. Elliot Wigg, Wavendon Rectory, Bletchley. 2318

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Preston, April 25th. Service, Parish Church, 4 p.m. Tea (hot) in School 4.45 p.m. Names to Mr. C. Crossthwaite, 113, Oxford Street, Preston. Meeting in School 5.30 p.m. Further notice April 10th. 2302

QUARTER PEALS

STOCKLAND-BRISTOL, SOMERSET.—On Feb. 14th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each Reverse St. Bartholomew, Reverse Canterbury, April Day, Plain Bob and 300 Grandsire): C. Clarke 1, W. Stevens (first in more than one method) 2, R. Short 3, H. Pople (first in more than two methods) 4, F. Sweet (cond.) 5. Probably first quarter on the bells.

TICKHAM, SOMERSET.—On Feb. 16th, at St. Quiricus and Julietta, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob and 780 Grandsire): W. Taylor 1, E. Summerell 2, M. Horsman 3, L. Derrick (cond.) 4, L. Bye 5, H. Burston 6.

WISSETT, SUFFOLK.—On Feb. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Nunn 1, W. Kerrison 2, J. Thurlow 3, J. Jordan 4, R. Darch (cond.) 5, J. Aldridge 6. Rung for the 100th birthday of Mrs. Scrimgeour, Wissett Ham.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.—On Mar. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Betts (first quarter) 1, H. Oracy 2, C. Hughes 3, Miss S. Booth 4, L. Bullock 5, F. Maynard 6, J. Waugh (cond.) 7, B. Petty 8. Rung for the birth of a son to Rev. J. and Mrs. Fowlands.

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