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EASTER!

THE world has its own uses for Easter. The large numbers who flock to the church services in town and country form a comparatively small proportion of the population. For the many, the incredulous, the indifferent and the ignorant, the day will mean the freedom to rush through the countryside in search of change and the glories of Spring: catching, perhaps, here and there the sound of the bells, but untouched by their call.

That may be a distressing note, but we cannot linger upon it. For Easter is the Festival of Renewal and the bells are there to sound the triumphant note of Joy and unassailable Hope.

We do not celebrate Easter as a mere pious vision. Its truth and reality are based upon a fact of history which all the theories and arguments of opponents to Christianity have not been able to disprove or eradicate during 1,900 years.

Those who would pronounce the Resurrection of Jesus Christ to be incredible are forced to gloss over the evidence that it created a new impulse of spiritual life, fervid zeal and triumphant hope in those disciples who, at the time of their Master's betrayal and death, showed themselves craven-hearted even to the extent of denying association with Him: yet very soon afterwards becoming bold as lions, making light of sufferings and bearing witness to their Lord regardless of threats and maledictions. To assert, as the opponents of the Truth have done, that the rapid spread of Christian belief, its continuance and influence until now, resulted from the superstitious and weak-minded delusion of a small band of Jewish men and women who were given over to credulity and fanaticism can only, from a rational point of view, seem to be the straining out of the gnat and the swallowing of the camel, for it creates difficulties which are incomparably greater than belief in the supernatural explanation of the Resurrection.

For, as one writer has said, 'the disciples in undertaking a world-wide propaganda had nothing whatever to gain, but everything valuable to lose. Everything that human nature finds hardest to bear and most seeks to avoid, shame, persecution, martyrdom, stood out luridly before them as their inevitable prospect.' Who will dare to

say that the whole phenomenon, with all that flowed from it and is inseparably connected with it down the ages, is to be explained by hysterical imagination working upon weak-minded infatuation?

Well, there was the Easter challenge to the world then, and it remains unweakened still.

As the bells rang out again, after their long silence during the last war, in proclamation of victory and the opportunity of life, so they must ring on Easter Day to proclaim the victory of the Christ over sin and death; over all that contributes to the fear of death; over everything in human scientific invention which conjures up prospects of extermination; over all defiance which men blindly throw in the face of their Creator and Redeemer. Is it to be thought for one moment that the world is to become one vast cemetery?

Why! It is the very virtue of Easter that talk in terms of the grave is ruled out. 'Oh, death, where is thy sting? Oh, grave, where is thy victory?' The towers and spires of the Christian Church point upward to the Immeasurable; to the vast realms of Immortality; to the Life of which the glorified sinless Jesus is the centre and fountain. And from those towers the voices of joy and hope and reassurance ring out on Easter Day to waken the world from its stupor; to turn men's thoughts from blasting strife to the splendour of their real destiny.

As the buds reopen and the flowers spring into bloom to gladden the earth breaking forth out of its winter shroud, so the Church in her message has no emphasis for the tomb, except to display its emptiness. 'He that hath ears to hear, let him hear!' Hark to the bells! 'The Lord of all life passes on His way. Death hath no more dominion over Him.' It is the perfect cadence translating all the discords and dirges and doubts into the harmony of the glorious certainty of survival. 'Behold, I make all things new.'

Therefore, brisk are the feet that take the ringers to the tower on Easter morning; bright are the faces giving the Easter greeting; ready are the hands to grasp the ropes; fresh are the resolves of the heart to put new life into the belfries, to pour new joy into the work, to open new avenues of progress, and to raise a new Christian example in human living.

'Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift.'

C. C. C.

TEN BELL PEALS

LEEK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 27, 1954, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES FERNLEY Treble	JOHN WORTH 6
JUNE M. HENSHAW 2	ALAN A. POTTS 7
FRED DUNKERLEY 3	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. 8
C. KENNETH LEWIS 4	PETER LAFLIN 9
ERNEST BENNETT 5	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed by C. K. LEWIS.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., March 31, 1954, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF 5040 YORK SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*G. RONALD EDWARDS .. Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 6
*TERENCE A. THORNER .. 2	*S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 7
ERNEST W. RAWSON 3	*JOHN A. ACRES 8
JOHN R. SMITH 4	HAROLD J. POOLE 9
†MRS. H. J. POOLE 5	*†HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK H. DEXTER. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal of York Surprise Royal. † 100th peal together.

A silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Jesson, parents of the 7th ringer.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PUDSEY SURPRISE ROYAL

Circuit AX.	Tenor 8 cwt. 23 lb. in G.
CECIL W. PIPE Treble	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 6
PATRICIA M. CLARKE .. 2	RODERICK W. PIPE 7
JAMES BENNETT 3	GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. 8
HILDA G. SNOWDEN 4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 9
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY .. 5	GEORGE W. PIPE Tenor

Composed by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

First peal of Pudsey Royal by all the band, on the bells, and for the Suffolk Guild.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

CHOBHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 13, 1954, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.).

EILEEN M. TURNER .. Treble	ROLAND W. MORANT .. 5
G. KENNETH WILLIAMSON .. 2	ROY COLLINS 6
EDWARD J. BRAGG 3	E. JOHN WELLS 7
JAMES F. DODSON 4	JACK R. WORRALL Tenor

Composed by B. ANNABLE.

Conducted by JACK R. WORRALL.

The first peal in the method by all the band except the conductor, and for the Guild.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 49 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 7½ cwt.

*BRIAN WOODROUFFE .. Treble	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. 5
NEIL D. LOMAS 2	C. KENNETH LEWIS 6
ANNE WORTH 3	ALAN A. POTTS 7
†ALEX RICHARDSON 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal in the method.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., March 27, 1954, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF 5120 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. in E flat.

ERNEST J. MUNDAY .. Treble	NORMAN J. SMITH 5
ROBIN G. LEALE 2	BRYAN C. STIRLAND 6
RUSSELL H. R. PARKER .. 3	BRIAN J. LUFF 7
ROGER BALDWIN 4	FREDERICK W. BURNETT .. Tenor

Composed by J. FLEMING.

Conducted by BRIAN J. LUFF.

First peal in the method for all the band except the ringer of the tenor. First touch of Treble Bob Major as conductor. First peal in the method on the bells.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Mon., March 29, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ABBEY OF SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

MICHAEL G. MORTON .. Treble	CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 5
EVELYN M. FLETCHER .. 2	GEORGE E. FEARN 6
*PETER J. MORTON 3	ANTHONY AGER 7
MURIEL REAY 4	HARRY PARKES Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by CLIFFORD A. BARRON.

* First peal of Surprise 'inside.'

ASHBY FOLVILLE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.

On Tues., March 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation No. 2.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

Insp. H. J. POOLE .. Treble	Ex-Con. F. E. WILSON .. 5
Ex-D-Sgt. E. C. TURNER .. 2	Con. E. A. JACQUES .. 6
Con. C. H. F. KNIGHT .. 3	Con. H. R. WOODS .. 7
Ex-Sgt. H. G. JENNEY .. 4	*Con. R. P. ARMSTRONG .. Tenor

Conducted by INSPECTOR H. J. POOLE.

* First peal of Stedman Triples.

The ringers of the front six are members or former members of the Leicester City Force. Constables Woods and Armstrong are members of the Lincolnshire Constabulary stationed at Grantham.

ICKLETON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., March 30, 1954, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON .. Treble	*MICHAEL N. BLAND .. 5
*MARIE K. ROBERTS .. 2	CYRIL A. HURST 6
JOHN G. GIPSON 3	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. 7
†GILLIAN A. SMITH 4	DENIS E. PEPPER Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman Triples.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., March 31, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 lb.

*KEVIN S. HOHL .. Treble	THOMAS E. SONE 5
DORIS E. COLGATE 2	†WM. A. KITCHENSIDE .. 6
†ARTHUR F. LEWRY .. 3	†ERNEST J. LADD 7
†BERNARD V. COLLISON .. 4	ROBERT COLLINS Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by ERNEST J. LADD.

* First peal of Surprise. † 150th peal together. ‡ 50th peal together. The conductor's 25th peal on the bells.

Arranged and rung as a 90th birthday compliment to William Collison, father of the 4th ringer.

**GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Fri., April 2, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,*

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

RITA M. STRATFORD .. Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE 5
CHRISTINE J. STRATFORD .. 2	*JOHN VERNON 6
WINIFRED M. BURTON .. 3	MICHAEL E. BROWN .. 7
MRS. H. J. POOLE 4	JOHN A. ACRES Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

*First peal of Surprise Major.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. H. Measures on their golden wedding anniversary.

ABERAVON, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSEPH LOVETT Treble	TREVOR M. RODERICK .. 5
*BENJAMIN WILLIAMS .. 2	ALBERT J. PITMAN 6
ALFRED HANNINGTON .. 3	*EDMUND J. MORRIS .. 7
ROBERT E. COLES 4	GWYN I. LEWIS Tenor

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

Composed by J. W. LINES.

*First peal of Kent Major.

BERKHAMSTED, HERTFORDSHIRE.

**THE ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND
AND THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

W.BRO. EDWIN BARNETT (Gavelkind Lodge No. 4266) .. Treble	
W.BRO. J. HOWARD FREEBORN (Chorleywood Lodge No. 5162) .. 2	
W.BRO. HARRY W. BADGER (St. Mary's Lodge No. 1763) .. 3	
BRO. PHILIP A. CARTER (St. Clement Danes Lodge No. 1351) .. 4	
BRO. FREDERICK VICKERS (Grenville Lodge No. 1787) .. 5	
BRO. WILLIAM HIBBERT (Victoria Lodge No. 2671) .. 6	
W.BRO. GEORGE W. DEBENHAM (Old Berkhamstedian Lodge, No. 4903) .. 7	

W.BRO. ARTHUR D. BARKER (St. Clement Danes Lodge No. 1351) Tenor
Composed by BRO. BERNARD H. SWINSON (Old Albanian Lodge No. 4999).

Conducted by W.BRO. GEORGE W. DEBENHAM.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

KATHLEEN E. WELLER .. Treble	MAXWELL F. OAKSHETT .. 5
JEANETTE M. WINCHESTER .. 2	STEWART F. W. KIMBER .. 6
BARBARA A. MITCHELL .. 3	JAMES W. KNIGHT 7
MARY FULLER 4	RALPH BIRD Tenor

Composed by J. S. WILDE (C.C.C. 126). Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

A compliment to the ringer of the 3rd on her birthday.

BISHOP'S CLEEVE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb.

*JOHN TRUAMAN Treble	LESLIE ASTON 5
FREDERICK NURDEN .. 2	THOMAS BOREHAM 6
IVOR GOULTER 3	EDWIN T. NEWBURY .. 7
PETER BAKER 4	LESLIE BARRY Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by EDWIN T. NEWBURY.

*First peal of Major. First peal of Major as conductor.

EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5024 BELGRAVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17½ cwt.

ALICK CUTLER Treble	*PHILIP J. COWARD 5
*ROBERT G. LAY 2	*ALFRED J. HOUSE 6
THOMAS J. LOCK 3	*RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. 7
*JOHN D. ROCK 4	*RICHARD E. PRICE Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by RICHARD F. B. SPEED.

*First peal in the method.

FAIRFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 10 lb.

SYDNEY J. MERRY Treble	MARK J. BARKER 5
ALEX RICHARDSON .. 2	FRANCIS R. LOWE 6
*JOAN BERESFORD .. 3	HAROLD TAYLOR 7
*GEORGE E. OLIVER .. 4	DENIS R. CARLISLE Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by DENIS R. CARLISLE.

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

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. G. Richardson, of Fairfield.

MARKET BOSWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM R. PROUDMAN .. Treble	HENRY HOLLIS 5
T. KELHAM DEACON .. 2	JOHN W. RAWSON 6
NORMAN STATHAM .. 3	EDGAR VALLANCE 7
FRANK K. MEASURES .. 4	ALAN HOUGH Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

Rung as a welcome to the Rev. W. E. Pilling, who was inducted to the living of Market Bosworth the previous day.

Ringers of 2nd and tenor have now 'completed the circle.'

A birthday compliment to Mr. Norman Statham.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5152 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN AMBLER Treble	WILLIAM BARTON 5
ALEXANDER E. MARSH .. 2	WILFRID F. MORETON .. 6
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 3	JOHN W. GIBSON 7
MOLLY MARSH 4	GORDON BENFIELD Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. E. A. Marsh, a former ringer at Woodlesford, who was married at Malta on the same day. Also as a birthday compliment to Mr. John Ambler.

WESTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Pitstow's Variation.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

ALFRED T. GREENWOOD .. Treble	ROBIN G. LEALE 5
BRIAN J. LUFF 2	ROGER BALDWIN 6
*S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT .. 3	FREDERICK W. BURNETT .. 7
ERNEST J. MUNDY 4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK W. BURNETT.

*First peal of Stedman. Rung as a silver wedding compliment to the parents of the ringer of the 3rd.



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WESTBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.		Tenor 35 cwt. 14 lb. in C.	
FRANK L. HARRIS Treble	HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS .. 5		
JEAN M. HARRIS 2	A. PATRICK CANNON .. 6		
DANIEL T. MATKIN 3	RONALD N. MARLOW .. 7		
*LOUIS J. LOCKYER 4	JACK MUSSELL Tenor		

Conducted by FRANK L. HARRIS.

* 50th peal.

WEST MALLING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.		Tenor 12 cwt.	
LEWIS NEWMAN Treble	WILLIAM MANSEY 5		
LEONARD MANNERING 2	WILLIAM KITCHENSIDE .. 6		
LUTHER HONESS 3	LOUIS HEAD 7		
GEORGE CANTRILL 4	FRANK THWAITES Tenor		

Conducted by LOUIS HEAD.

Rung for the 50th anniversary of Mr. Lewis Newman's first peal, which was rung at the same church, the same composition, conducted by the late Mr. Thomas Mannering, father of the 2nd ringer.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 5, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ROBERT E. MOULDS .. Treble	† HARRY WILD 5
* M. VIVIEN COPPING .. 2	* KENNETH PALMER 6
GEORFREY INGHAM 3	VERNON BOTTOMLEY 7
* RALPH BEAUMONT 4	SAM LONGBOTTOM Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by VERNON BOTTOMLEY.

* First peal in the method. † 75th peal.

SIX BELL PEALS

FELKIRK, NEAR BARNSELY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Barnsley District Society.)

On Sat., March 27, 1954, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Burton, Rochester, Morning Star, Braintree, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 10 cwt. in A.

JAMES BUXTON Treble	HERMAN RUSBY 4
CYRIL RUSBY 2	NOEL F. MOXON 5
HAROLD CHANT 3	DANIEL SMITH Tenor

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

Rung in memoriam Mr. Herbert Smith, of Ruardean Hill, Gloucester, father of the conductor, who died February 12th, aged 84, and also Mr. Walter Rusby, of Cawthorne, near Barnsley, father of the ringer of the 4th and grandfather of the ringer of the 2nd, who died March 26th, aged 74.

MARCH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., March 27, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WENDREDA,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob and five extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

R. REED Treble	F. S. PARSONS 4
S. F. HAW 2	T. A. BEVIS 5
R. W. SPENCER 3	T. BUSH Tenor

Conducted by T. A. BEVIS.

Rung in honour of the wedding on this day at Yaxley, Suffolk, of Mr. and Mrs. H. Parmenter, the bridegroom being a former ringer at St. Wendreda's; also to Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Clarke, whose wedding took place at St. Wendreda's prior to the peal.

HIGHCLERE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., March 31, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being four extents of Plain Bob and 38 of Grandsire. Tenor 11½ cwt.	
WILLIAM KEWELL .. Treble	* MICHAEL H. MAISEY .. 4
PHILLIP E. DODD 2	GEORFREY K. DODD .. 5
* KENNETH G. PURSE .. 3	REGINALD T. EVANS .. Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY K. DODD.

* First peal.

Rung half-muffled to the memory of Mr. W. A. Turner, a life member of the Guild and a faithful churchman.

CROPTHORNE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clerent's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

	Tenor 10 cwt.
R. GEORGE MORRIS .. Treble	* DAVID BEACHAM 4
SIDNEY T. HOLT 2	CYRIL TANSSELL 5
REGINALD WOODYATT .. 3	THOMAS W. LEWIS .. Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal of Minor.

NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of seven extents each of: St. Simon's, St. Martin's, Reverse St. Bartholomew, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 13½ cwt.

CLARENCE F. BRIGGS .. Treble	F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. 4
SIMON L. BARLEY 2	FREDERICK G. HOOPER .. 5
GEORGE E. FOSTER 3	CHARLES J. COPP Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. FOSTER.

First peal in six Doubles methods by all the band.

ST. BREOCK, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BREOCK,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents (C.C.C. Nos. 49, 44, 36, 38, 35, 37, 28). Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

* REV. W. H. TREWHELLA Treble	A. HUBERT EPLETT 4
* V. MARY MATTHEWS .. 2	ALEXANDER R. JONES .. 5
† MRS. J. M. SIMPKIN .. 3	CYRIL A. WRATTEN Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL A. WRATTEN.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in the method.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 NETHERSEALE SURPRISE MAJOR

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

ALBERT SAUNDERS .. Treble	ALAN R. SYDER 4
PETER L. WOOD 2	EDWIN JENNINGS 5
JOHN WARNER 3	TERRY EARLE Tenor

Conducted by TERRY EARLE.

First peal in the method by all the band.

Believed to be the first peal in the method on the bells.

MORETON CORBETT, SALOP.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., April 5, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge, Oxford Treble Bob and St. Clement's, and two each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

FREDERICK LEECH .. Treble	F. HECTOR BENNETT .. 4
ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. 5
* WILLIAM A. FARMER .. 3	FRANK C. PRICE Tenor

Conducted by FRANK C. PRICE.

* First peal in five methods.

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., April 6, 1954, in 2 Hours and 18 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven 720's differently called, every call being a Single. Tenor 6½ cwt.
FREDERICK E. WATSON .. Treble FRANK T. LONG 4
JOHN VERNON 2 JOSEPH TAYLOR 5
GEORGE A. CHARLTON .. 3 ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

To celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. A. E. Hall (verger and ringer of Peckleton) and Mrs. Hall. Ringers of 1, 5 and 6 are vergers of Croft, Thurlaston and St. Margaret's, Leicester.

HANDBELL PEALS

STOKE-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., March 11, 1954, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT 164, VICTORIA STREET, HARTSHILL,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

*FREDK. E. WILSHAW .. 1-2 | FREDK. W. GROCOTT .. 5-6
†ALAN LAMBERT 3-4 | *CHARLES H. PAGE 7-8
Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by FREDK. W. GROCOTT.
* 100th peal together. † First peal 'in hand' (age 14).

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., March 30, 1954, in 1 Hour and 57 Minutes,
AT 63, PARKGATE ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being sixteen 120's and five Morris' 240's Grandsire, and sixteen 120's Plain Bob.
*JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. 1-2 | BRIAN HARRIS 3-4
*HENRY O. BAKER 5-6
Conducted by HENRY O. BAKER.
* First handbell peal.

HORSHAM ST. FAITH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., March 31, 1954, in 2 Hours and 24 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5000 SPLICED PLAIN & LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Being 3,440 changes of Plain Bob and 1,560 changes of Little Bob; 240 changes of method. 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.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., March 31, 1954, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,
AT 34, LEONARD AVENUE, SHERWOOD,

A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

*J. KENNETH WAGSTAFF .. 1-2 | JACK BAILEY 5-6
CLEMENT GLENN 3-4 | ALFRED MOULD 7-8
Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.
* 100th peal.

STOKE-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., April 1, 1954, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT 164, VICTORIA STREET, HARTSHILL,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

FREDK. E. WILSHAW .. 1-2 | ALAN LAMBERT 5-6
FREDK. W. GROCOTT .. 3-4 | CHARLES H. PAGE 7-8
Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by FREDK. E. WILSHAW.

HOLYWOOD, CO. DOWN.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., April 3, 1954, in 1 Hour and 59 Minutes,
IN THE BELFERY OF THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. (different callings). Tenor size 11 in G.
JEAN STEWART 1-2 | JOHN T. DUNWOODY .. 3-4
WILLIAM HALL 5-6
Conducted by WILLIAM HALL.

First peal in the method as conductor.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Dunwoody.



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CROYDON



ON CONDUCTING

By WILFRID G. WILSON

XIII. — YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

I have probably written enough already to show how useful our Coursing Order technique is in conducting a large number of methods. Let us take one more example. For this I have chosen Yorkshire, of which many more peals, especially in Royal and Maximus, are being rung lately. The average ringer may well think that, although he has managed to call peals in the plainer methods, he will have a full-time job merely to ring, say, Yorkshire Surprise Royal, without making himself responsible for looking after others.

But it is almost always true that the members of a band which attempts to ring a peal in this type of method will be good enough ringers to put themselves right after a slip, if only they can speedily be warned to follow so and so, or course down or up between this bell and that bell. And this piece of vitally important information our conductor will be able to supply almost as easily as in Plain Bob. In some respects I had nearly written more easily than in Plain Bob. For one thing there are far fewer courses and far fewer bobs in Surprise Royal and Maximus—in many courses there is only one bob and that means that for 15–20 minutes the Coursing Order remains the same, giving ample time for the conductor to be fully conversant with it and to work out what will happen at the next bob.

First of all let us examine a plain course of Yorkshire Surprise Royal. Look at the order of the bells at the back end of each row of the first lead and you will see that the tenor is at the back at first and that the other bells get to the back in this order: 9, 7, 5, 3, 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8. We have learnt by now to omit the treble and the back four bells, which form our constant 'framework' and we have our old friend the Coursing Order 53246. And if you look at all the other leads of the plain course you will see that you still have this same Coursing Order all the way through.

If you look at the order in which the bells come down to lead you will see that, as in Cambridge but to a lesser degree, there are slight variations in this Coursing Order. It is not difficult to learn these—in fact, by the end of the first two or three courses of a peal you will be able to allow for these alterations quite easily if you want to. But you will find that the order of the bells up at the back will often be sufficient to correct trips in the ringing.

Note also from the plain course that the calling positions come in the order M., W. and H. at the 4th, 5th and 9th lead ends, but if you call by the Coursing Orders and the position of the bob-making bells this will make no difference to you.

Here is a very simple composition of 5,040 changes to which many peals of Surprise Royal (not only Yorkshire) have been rung:—

Course Ends				Coursing Orders from 53246		
23456	M.	W.	H.	M.	W.	H.
43652	—	—	—	53462		
26354	—	—	—	53624		56234
32654	—	—	—			52364
63254	—	—	—			53624
<hr/>						
45236	—	—	—	53246	32546	35426
24536	—	—	—			34256
52436	—	—	—			32546
<hr/>						
43526	—	—	—		25346	23456
54326	—	—	—			24536
<hr/>						
32546	—	—	—		45236	42356
53246	—	—	—			43526
25346	—	—	—			45236
<hr/>						
34256	—	—	—		52436	54326
23456	—	—	—			53246

Just as in our earlier examples, we have shown on the left the course ends produced by our calling. If you were to learn them all by heart, which is quite possible though I know that I personally should get them all mixed up, they would tell you a few useful things. For instance, you would know fourteen of the actual rows to be rung out of the 5,040 of the peal! What a sell if the course end should come along unexpectedly or you should be thinking of something else and you missed the satisfaction of checking that you actually did ring one of these 14 precious rows. You would also know which were the bells in the 5–6 positions—but only throughout the whole of the course if it were a one-bob course. In addition you would know which of the bells were concerned in the bobs at the Home positions.

This information, while useful at certain parts of the peal, would be no help at all at other parts—probably just when the trips would occur. And if you got into a real muddle it is ten to one all your figures would go clean out of your head and you would have to start doing five-figure transpositions in your head, possibly from the start of the peal.

On the right of our calling are set out the Coursing Orders as they change at each bob. And you will see that they all change in accordance with our code A B C into B C A. At the M. on the last three figures of our Coursing Order; at the W. on the first three figures and at the H. on the middle three. And we know before we reach the calling position that of the three bells affected, B will run out, C run in and A make fourths place.

All the time you are ringing you can glance at the bells at the back and see them come up behind in the Coursing Order given by the figures. When the treble comes to lead you can see easily whether one or other (or all three) of the bells to be affected by the next bob have yet reached the correct positions for the call to be made. Whereas unless you have rung a great deal of the particular method you will find it very difficult to see, from one of the front bells, when the tenor is getting into a calling position.

(To be continued)

QUARTER PEALS

ALVERSTOKE, HANTS.—On April 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. A. Banks 1, Miss S. K. M. Knight 2, G. Verrill 3, F. G. Barron 4, H. A. Nobes (cond.) 5, R. C. Beale 6, Miss C. A. West 7, J. Hedges 8. Rung for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Knight, also for the sixth birthdays of Susan Margaret Nobes and Alan Beale.

ASFORDBY, LEICS.—On March 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. Littlewood 1, J. Day (first quarter 'inside') 2, Mrs. D. Day 3, A. Hinman 4, R. H. Looker (cond.) 5, H. Bell 6. Rung for the wedding of Miss Jean Margaret Thompson, daughter of Mr. Albert Thompson, a local ringer.—Also on April 3rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. D. Day 1, E. Littlewood 2, F. J. Williams 3, H. Clayton 4, R. Looker 5, J. H. Cook (cond.) 6. Rung for the wedding of Miss Marjorie Cook and Mr. John Bottomley.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.—On March 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: L. Mills 1, A. C. V. Gasson 2, E. H. Knapp 3, J. H. G. Gardner 4, D. J. Laker 5, I. Butcher 6, A. E. Laker (cond.) 7, K. Trinick 8. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. R. Squire and Miss A. Kershaw.

BATH, SOMERSET.—At the Church of St. Michael with St. Paul on March 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. J. Hawkins (cond.) 1, Miss K. J. Toozie (first 'inside') 2, J. G. Hobbs 3, L. W. Moses 4, E. Naylor 5, H. J. Merrett 6.

BEDWELLY, MON.—On March 21st, 1,380 Grandsire Doubles: Miss H. Evans 1, Mrs. A. R. Price 2, G. Flower 3, G. Williams 4, A. R. Price (cond.) 5, Miss J. Powell 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. G. Toombs, father of a local ringer.—Also on March 25th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: G. Flower 1, Miss J. Powell 2, A. Evans 3, G. Williams 4, B. Werry (cond.) 5, A. R. Price 6.

BOSBURY, HEREFORDS.—On March 22nd, 1,260 Mixed Doubles (240 April Day, 240 Plain Bob, 240 Reverse Canterbury, 540 Grandsire): F. J. Foster 1, H. Hill 2, C. W. Nutt (cond.) 3, H. Goodchap 4, J. Ward 5, J. Lane (first quarter) 6. Rung as a farewell message to the Rev. E. J. Charrington, hon. member of the Guild, who is leaving to take up another post in Buckinghamshire.

BRADFORD-ON-TONE, SOMERSET.—On April 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Jean Stevens (first quarter) 1, Pamela M. Stevens (first 'inside') 2, C. W. Tarr 3, D. M. Bellamy 4, C. J. Stevens (cond.) 5, C. Baker 6.

BRENCHLEY, KENT.—On March 29th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss J. Edwards 1, Miss B. Tester (first quarter 'inside') 2, F. Bromley 3, R. E. Lambert 4, R. T. Lambert 5, C. A. Tester (first as cond.) 6.

BRIDGEND, GLAM.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (4.6.8 covering): G. H. Underhill (first quarter) 1, T. E. Hiddins 2, W. T. Petty (cond.) 3, D. L. Hughes 4, D. W. Evans 5, T. Thomas (first quarter) 6, C. A. Gerrish 7, H. Preece 8. Rung as a golden wedding compliment to Mr. D. R. James, for 45 years a ringer at this church, and to Mrs. James.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On April 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. Sims 1, G. Rouse 2, E. Deacon 3, A. T. M. Perry 4, K. Everett 5, H. Stebbings (cond.) 6.

CADOXTON, NR. NEATH, GLAM.—On March 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. G. Lewis 1, H. Boyce 2, J. E. Bloxham 3, G. I. Lewis (cond.) 4, E. Morris 5, B. Williams 6.—Also on April 4th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Minor: D. G. Lewis 1, J. E. Bloxham 2, H. Boyce 3, E. Morris 4, G. I. Lewis (cond.) 5, B. Williams 6.

CAPE TOWN, S.A.—On March 28th, at St. Mary's, Woodstock, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. V. Sheppard (first quarter) 1, O. Lamb (first on working bell) 2, J. Riley 3, C. Gardiner 4, R. H. Stickley (cond.) 5, J. Ernstzen 6. Rung for Refreshment Sunday and thanks to Almighty God for the successful recovery from a serious operation of the tower captain, J. G. Wood.

QUARTER PEALS

CAWTHORNE, BARNLEY, YORKS.—On Dec. 6th, 720 College Pleasure, 600 Violet: W. Broadhead 1, I. Crossland 2, F. Cowling 3, R. Brogan 4, H. Rusby 5, N. Moxon (cond.) 6. A farewell to the Rev. H. E. S. Meanley on leaving the parish.—Also on March 6th, 720 College Pleasure, 600 Oxford: B. Broadhead 1, W. Broadhead 2, C. Rusby 3, R. Brogan 4, H. Rusby 5, N. Moxon (cond.) 6. At the induction of the Rev. F. Barrie Flint.

CLERKENWELL, E.C.—On April 4th, at the Church of St. James, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss N. Hales 1, Miss M. Prockson 2, Miss G. Friswell 3, J. Hales 4, D. Neal 5, G. Parsons (cond.) 6, W. Prockson 7, R. Begrie 8. Rung for Passion Sunday.

COMPTON BISHOP, SOMERSET.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Brinson 1, B. Peters 2, H. Hooper 3, A. Hooper 4, J. Harding (first quarter 'inside') 5, F. Paramore (cond.) 6. Rung for morning service and also as a golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. B. Hooper, parents of the ringers of 3 and 4.

CROYDON, SURREY.—On April 4th, at St. John the Baptist's, 1,342 Grandsire Cinques: Mrs. O. Collins 1, S. H. Dearden 2, Mrs. H. E. Oatway 3, E. W. Razzell 4, Miss P. M. Steere 5, N. H. Brown (first 'inside') 6, F. E. Mitchell 7, H. G. Pratt 8, G. H. Humphries 9, R. Davies 10, W. F. Oatway (first of Cinques as cond.) 11, F. E. Collins 12. Rung in memory of Daniel D. Cooper, leader at this tower for over twenty years.

EAST COKER, SOMERSET.—On April 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. E. Turner 1, D. V. Gare 2, T. J. Setter 3, G. Gaylard 4, R. J. Fox 5, C. Savage 6, H. J. Gaylard (cond.) 7, J. S. Hacking (first quarter) 8.

FRESHWATER, I. of W.—On April 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Saunders 1, A.

Green 2, Henry Thomas 3, E. F. Ridett 4, F. Green (cond.) 5, P. Stephens 6. Rung for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Riddett.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On April 4th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss J. Creak 1, F. D. Bishop 2, Mrs. O. L. Rogers 3, Mrs. K. F. Parr 4, S. Croft 5, T. E. Davies 6, H. W. Rogers (cond.) 7, A. Tomblin 8.

READING, BERKS.—At St. Mary's on April 4th, 1,280 Bristol Surprise Major: Mrs. A. Diserens 1, A. Diserens 2, Miss A. Diserens 3, R. D. Tomlin 4, R. G. Turner 5, J. N. Diserens 6, R. F. Diserens 7, N. J. Diserens (cond.) 8. First in method by all except 2nd.

SHROTON, DORSET.—On March 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. R. Taylor 1, Mrs. D. M. Wright 2, W. C. Shute (cond.) 3, W. A. Damen 4, G. W. Dennis 5, Fred C. Crew 6. First quarter 1 and 2.

SCARBOROUGH, YORKS.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Wellock (first quarter) 1, W. B. Kirby 2, J. A. Robertshaw 3, J. A. Parker 4, H. Spencer 5, G. W. Frayne 6, B. Sutton (cond.) 7, F. Murray (first quarter) 8. A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. George Halksworth on their diamond wedding.

SOUTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On April 4th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mary Wood (first quarter) 1, F. J. Wood 2, F. R. Goddard (cond.) 3, A. Bryant 4, H. G. Goddard 5, D. J. Crouchman 6. Rung for Confirmation service.

STAMFORD HILL, N.—On March 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss M. Tomlin 1, I. M. Parry (cond.) 2, Miss P. Lentz (first 'inside') 3, W. Forrester 4, E. J. Rowe 5, L. Green 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. H. Westmacott.

ST. BRIDES MAJOR, BRIDGEND, GLAM.—On March 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Barbara Hiddins 1, T. E. Hiddins 2, W. T. Petty (first as cond.) 3, D. W. Evans 4, C. A. Gerrish 5, H. Preece 6. First quarter for 1, 2, 5 and 6. A 15th birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCS.—On April 4th, at St. Thomas' Church, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Mrs. R. Smith 1, F. B. Cookson (first 'inside' in the method) 2, G. C. Cookson 3, F. V. Nicholls 4, R. Cooper 5, D. N. Layton (cond.) 6, D. H. Watson 7, R. Smith 8. Rung for evensong.

THATCHAM, BERKS.—On April 4th, 1,344 Bob Major: Miss G. Brown 1, Mrs. D. Cooper 2, G. K. Dodd 3, Miss P. Gaunt 4, R. W. Rex 5, E. Curtis 6, R. Crook 7, H. Reed (cond.) 8. First of Major for 1 and 4. Rung for evening service.

WALMER, KENT.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Hawkins 1, Miss F. Woodcock 2, Miss J. R. Wells 3, J. F. Penfold 4, F. A. Rye 5, F. B. Lufkin 6, F. W. Lawrence (cond.) 7, E. Dixon 8. Rung for evensong.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On March 23rd, 1,285 Stedman Caters: D. Taylor 1, R. Bell 2, J. Mayne (cond.) 3, D. K. Adkins 4, A. Dix 5, A. Wenban 6, W. Wenban 7, J. Rootes 8, S. Hoare 9, R. King 10. First for 1, 6 and 8.—On March 30th, 1,280 Berkshire Surprise Major: A. Wenban 1, D. Taylor 2, W. Wenban 3, D. K. Adkins 4, R. Rowley 5, S. Hoare 6, R. Bell 7, J. Mayne (cond.) 8. First in method for all.

WRITTELE, ESSEX.—On March 27th, 1,568 Yorkshire Surprise Major: E. Jennings 1, D. A. S. Symonds 2, J. Warner 3, H. W. Egglestone 4, T. Earle (cond.) 5, E. C. Johnson 6, E. W. Furbank 7, J. E. G. Roast 8.

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SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

This is a last reminder to postal subscribers
whose subscriptions were due on April 2nd.
Please remit without delay to Mr. J. E. Jeater,
Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, and help in our
drive for postal subscribers.

Regret was expressed at the annual meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild on Saturday at the decision of Mr. George L. Grover, the hon. secretary of the Guild, to resign from the Central Council. His decision was prompted by five nominations being received for four vacancies. The new representative is Mr. Jack R. Worrall. Mr. Grover will be missed on the Peel Analysis Committee; he has served on this body for many years.

The Rev. J. M. Turner announces that his book, 'The Art and Science of Handbell Ringing,' is now out of print.

Southwell Guild members are requested to note amended arrangements for tea, etc., at the annual general meeting on April 24th. (See Notices column.)

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. H. Measures, of Gilmorton, Leicestershire, on their golden wedding. Although not ringers, they are keenly interested in the ringing activity of their son and grandchildren, who are members of the local band.

On two successive Saturdays quarter peals have been rung at Asfordby, Leicestershire, in honour of the weddings of daughters of local ringers. The first was for Miss Jean Margaret Thompson, daughter of Mr. Albert Thompson, and the second was for Miss Marjorie Cook, youngest daughter of Mr. J. H. Cook.

To delegates and visitors attending the Central Council, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Mr. K. Arthur, of 29, Cherryburn Gardens, Newcastle-on-Tyne 4, writes that he has four vacant places for the tour on Whit Monday visiting and ringing at Guisborough (6), Whitby (10) and Saltburn (8). The tour starts at 9 a.m. and returns to Newcastle between 9 and 10 p.m. Cost, including lunch and tea, £1. Immediate contact is requested.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

Oddfellows attending the A.M.C. at Southport this year will be interested to hear that Bro. Sam Jones jun., of 51, Watling Crescent, Hanbridge, Chester, is anxious for an Oddfellows' peal to be rung one evening during the A.M.C. between June 19th and 25th. He is Provincial Grand Master of the Deeside District. Southport has two rings of eight—Christ Church (tenor 10 cwt.) and Emmanuel (tenor 12 cwt.). Visitors to the Conference feel certain that they can count on Mr. Norman Heaps and other Southport ringers giving them facilities for ringing.

The bells of Bishop's Lydeard, Somerset, will be broadcast in the West Region on Easter Sunday at 9.30 a.m.

A correspondent informs us that the last peal of Kent Treble Bob Major rung at Goole was the first peal on the bells—May 3rd, 1890. The peal on February 20th at Quinton was the first in the tower for 30 years.

At the peal at Grundisburgh on April 3rd Mr. Cecil W. Pipe 'circled' his first tower in 34 years of ringing! Lewis Wiffen recalls that he rang his last peal there 53 years ago. Lew, incidentally, made no mistakes!

The band that rang the peal of London Surprise Major at Fairfield, Derbyshire, on April 3rd, wish to convey their appreciation for the hospitality and welcome extended to them on their visit by Mr. and Mrs. A. Richardson.

Commenting on the peals that appeared in our issue of April 2nd, a correspondent writes that the peal at St. Margaret's, Leicester, on March 13th, was the 100th since 1884, but many peals were rung before then. Shipton Moyne has only had one peal rung there previously, in 1908. That, too, was Grandsire Doubles. It is 22 years since the last peal was rung at East Sutton. The peal on March 10th was the first to be rung there in seven methods.

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BELL ROPES

MUFFLES

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RINGING IN BEDFORDSHIRE

By the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead

RINGING in Bedfordshire has never been so spectacular either in the past 70 years or before that (according to Mr. Ernest Morris' book, 'The History and Art of Change Ringing').

But, if peal ringing is anything to go by, there has always been a steady interest in the art. To-day, 75 per cent. of the towers are of five or six bells. In 1881 this was more like 85 per cent. for six out of the present 14 8-bell towers were then sixes. Luton has also been augmented from eight to ten in this period.

Not a single tower has yet reached the 100 peal mark. The nearest to this total is St. Peter's, Bedford, with 79. This church was one of the above six-bell towers which has only recently become an eight, so that 75 of the peals were on the old six. Usually, one finds that more peals are rung in eight-bell towers than in six, but this is not the case in Bedfordshire where little difference is apparent. Thus although six of the now 8-bell towers have recorded over 50 peals, four of them had only six bells when most of those peals were rung. These six are Bedford (St. Peter's, above), Bromham (59), Dunstable (50), Kempston (55), Maulden (70) and Turvey (53). Three churches with six bells have also passed the 50 mark. They are Biddenham (70), Harrold (54) and Willington (52).

TEN-BELL TOWERS

Peals on the three 10-bell towers have been well spread out over the period. Bedford (St. Paul's) has 65 peals from 1885 onwards, Leighton Buzzard 27 from 1899 to 1949. Luton had

45 peals on the eight between 1901 and 1932. There was then a gap until 1951 since which four peals have been rung on the ten. The next peal rung there will be the 50th. All the 10-and 8-bell towers have had peals rung on them since the war with the exception of Toddington. This has had the least number rung at the church of any of its group (five), the last being in 1928. Actually, the majority of towers where a peal has been rung have had at least one other peal rung since the war, so it would seem that ringing in Bedfordshire is flourishing at the present time. Clifton provides a minor puzzle which, no doubt, the local ringers can answer. Between 1902 and 1908 15 peals were rung on the eight bells. There was then silence until 1931 since which date ten peals have been rung on six bells (three since the war). Are the trebles unringable or is it just a coincidence?

TO BE CONQUERED

Out of the 78 churches with rings of bells given in Dove's book, only two with six bells and eleven with five bells remain to be 'conquered.' The former are Caddington and Wymington. Those with long silences include St. Mary's, Bedford (25 peals were rung there between 1885 and 1902 and none since), Eversholt (27 years), Houghton Regis (29 years), Northill, Potton and Roxton (21 years), Wootton (32 years) and Renhold (34 years). The only 5-bell tower to have reached double figures with its peals is Oakley, with 13. None of the others have more than five peals to record.

The only towers nearing the 50 mark apart from Luton are Sharnbrook (45) and Woburn (43). There are three in the thirties—Cardington (35), Husborne Crawley (32) and Old Warden (38).

A HAPPY MEETING AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS

The Tonbridge District held its most successful meeting for many years at Tunbridge Wells on April 3rd. Ringing commenced punctually at 3 p.m., and soon the belfry, which had at first seemed quite roomy, became filled to overflowing. By the time the service commenced no less than 68 members and friends had gathered together, this being more than double the number attending last year's annual meeting of the District.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. R. Ward), who gave a most interesting address to which even the youngest members listened attentively.

The tea which followed was provided by the local band, and perhaps it was the reputation this tower has for producing excellent refreshments that drew such a large crowd. It is certain that this reputation in no way suffered on Saturday week, and, despite the valiant efforts of the ringers, it was found impossible to clear the tables!

At the business meeting 3 honorary, 7 adult, 3 juvenile and 2 non-resident members were elected. It was encouraging to see a good proportion of young members present and they all had opportunity during the afternoon and evening to try any method they had looked up. Ringing ranged from rounds and call changes to Bristol Surprise, and members attended from Breckley, Edenbridge, Hadlow, Hawkhurst, Horsmonden, Leigh, Marden, Penshurst, Sevenoaks, Shipbourne, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells, with visitors from Biddenden, Burwash, Eridge, Lydd, Rotherfield, Wadhurst and Worsley.

Altogether it was any secretary's ideal meeting—all the arrangements were made by Mr. B. Collison, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was proposed and carried with acclamation, a good attendance, an excellent tea and a happy business meeting, plus the fact that on the whole the standard of striking was above the average.

RINGERS' SUPPER AT CHEDDAR

It was very encouraging to see such a good gathering at the ringers' supper on Tuesday, March 30th, held, for the first time in the ringers' memory, in the Church House, Cheddar. Thirty-six people sat down to an excellent spread. Those present included the Vicar, churchwardens and the tower secretary, G. Prescott (Ringing Master of the Axbridge Branch) and 27 active members of the tower, aged between 12 and 50, except Mr. E. Fisher, who is 80 and has been a member of the tower since 1911.

This band has been built from a mere handful of ringers and at Christmas there was no ringing owing to the lack of members. Mr. Prescott commented on the achievement and thought it was a good example to a number of towers throughout the country. There were other remarks of encouragement from the Vicar, churchwardens and the tower secretary, and the captain said that he hoped to keep the band together and would welcome newcomers at any time.

The evening's events included ringing in the tower, handbells and impersonations by Mr. Hembury.

DRIVE FOR POSTAL SUBSCRIBERS

Is Your County Pulling Its Weight?

Solvency of 'The Ringing World' will only be achieved by more postal subscribers or an increase in the selling price of the journal.

A number of Guilds and Associations have already taken the first step by appointing an officer to introduce our journal to potential readers.

To assist them in their task the following summary of postal subscribers according to respective counties has been compiled.

From time to time we hope to publish figures showing the response of different areas to the drive.

THE BRITISH ISLES

Bedfordshire	30	Nottinghamshire	21
Berkshire	32	Oxfordshire	39
Birmingham	41	Rutland	1
Bristol	33	Shropshire	11
Buckinghamshire	36	Somerset	70
Cambridgeshire	18	Staffordshire	35
Cheshire	44	Suffolk	36
Cornwall	18	Surrey	76
Cumberland	4	Sussex	40
Derbyshire	31	Warwickshire	35
Devonshire	36	Westmorland	2
Dorset	30	Wiltshire	27
Durham	13	Worcestershire	28
Essex	55	Yorkshire	58
Gloucestershire	27	Wales	67
Hampshire	53	(Brecon	4
Isle of Wight	3	Caerns	3
London	74	Cards	1
Herefordshire	17	Carms	5
Hertfordshire	46	Denbgh	1
Huntingdonshire	9	Flint	1
Kent	77	Glam	25
Lancashire	96	Month	26
Leicestershire	39	Montgm	1)
Lincolnshire	57	Scotland	10
Middlesex	37	Ireland	6
Norfolk	36	(Northern	2
Northamptonshire	25	I.F.S.	4)
Northumberland	16		

OUTSIDE GREAT BRITAIN

Australia	11	New Zealand	4
Canada	5	South Africa	3
Ceylon	1	Tasmania	2
Germany (B.A.O.R.)	1	U.S.A.	6
India	1		

MR. GEORGE KENWARD'S 300 PEALS

Mr. George Kenward, the well-known Kent ringer, rang his 300th peal at Cliffe on March 20th. His list is as follows:—

Doubles.—Grandsire 5 (cond. 1), two methods 3, three methods 2, four methods 3.

Minor.—Plain Bob 9, two methods 2, three methods 13, four methods 15, five methods 5, seven methods 12, Oxford Single Bob 1, St. Clement's 1, Double Oxford Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 1, Oxford Treble Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise 1.

Triples.—Grandsire 48, Stedman 23, Oxford Bob 1, Plain Bob 1.

Major.—Plain Bob 32, Canterbury Pleasure 2, Plain and Canterbury 1, Double Norwich 29, Kent Treble Bob 42, Oxford Treble Bob 4, Double Oxford Bob 1, Little Oxford Bob 1, Little Bob 1, Hereward Bob 1, Victoria Little Court Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise 7, Superlative Surprise 2, Yorkshire Surprise 5.

Caters.—Grandsire 7, Stedman 7.
Royal.—Plain Bob 3, Kent Treble Bob 5.
Maximus.—Plain Bob 1.

OBITUARY

MR. W. FRADLEY

Bucknall, Staffs, band have lost a member of long standing by the passing of Mr. 'Will' Fradley. He started ringing at the age of 21 and had nearly completed his 50th year as a ringer at Bucknall. A member of the North Staffordshire Association, he was in every sense a 'service' ringer—a very regular and reliable attender, no matter what the weather.

On Sunday, February 28th, only four days before his death, he rang for Matins and Evensong, travelling a mile each way from his home in a snowstorm. He was not a prolific peal ringer but was always ready to stand in for a special occasion and especially if a youngster was making an attempt at a first peal. He rang his own first peal on January 31st, 1920. He had also been a chorister for a considerable time in his younger days.

On March 21st, at his memorial service a quarter peal of 1,440 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung by a Sunday service band consisting of J. Bateson 1, F. Walklett 2, H. Bateson 3, C. Bowen 4, G. Mountford (conductor) 5, R. O. Preston 6. First quarter by 1 and 3 and first as conductor.

MR. ARTHUR ROWLEY

Just as we were going to press last week we heard of the tragic death of Mr. Arthur Rowley, of Stone, Staffordshire, aged 61 years. He was struck by a passing train while following his employment as a ganger. He had worked on the railway for 41 years.

For 44 years Arthur had been a member of the St. Michael's, Stone, tower and was a former leader and clock winder. In his younger days he was a member of the church choir.

Like the rest of the Stone ringers, his peals were few, but he conducted the first peal by a Stone local band—Grandsire Triples—and took part in the first peal of Stedman to be rung on the bells.

The funeral took place in the Parish Church, the bells being rung half-muffled before and after the service by his fellow ringers. Mr. C. Page, of Stoke, who represented the North Staffordshire Association at the funeral, also rang. In the evening a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following:—Mrs. J. Rowley, I. Kane, C. Templeton, W. Buckley, L. Bowden, R. Smith, E. Young (conductor) and B. Purslow.

Mr. Rowley leaves his wife and daughter, to whom deepest sympathy is extended.

SPLICED PLAIN BOB, KENT & OXFORD
TREBLE BOB MAJOR

5,152 in Ten Parts

By A. J. PITMAN

	23456	W	M	H	Methods
	54326	2		2	P K K O x Ox
	56423		2	—	Ox K K P
A	34256	2	—	—	P K (6 P)
	56342	—	2	—	(6 P) K P
	43652	2		2	P K K O x Ox
B	42356		2	—	Ox K K P
	32546	2	—	—	P K (6 P)
4A	65432				
B	42635				
3A	23456				

At St. John's, Leytonstone, E.11, on April 4th, a plaque was dedicated to the memory of the late Mr. George Dawson, who for 54 years was ringer, secretary and worker at this church. The plaque was erected by his fellow ringers and members of his family.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World'
April 17th, 1914

TREBLE BOB ROYAL RECORD
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCs
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
On Monday, April 13th, 1914, in 9 hours and 24 minutes

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL
14,000 CHANGES
Tenor 27 cwt.

Samuel Wood	Treble
Joseph Mellor	2
Thomas Jakeman	3
Charles Jakeman	4
Joseph Ridyard	5
Benjamin Gill	6
Samuel Wood	7
Albert Adams	8
Harry Chapman	9
Arthur E. Peglar	Tenor

Composed and conducted by Samuel Wood.
This is the longest length of Royal ever rung.
[The previous record, 12,000, had stood since 1784.]

FOUR SURPRISE MAJOR PEALS IN A DAY
EGHAM, SURREY

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION
On Monday, April 13th, 1914, in 2 hours and 57 minutes

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
5,024 Changes
Tenor 17 cwt.

William J. Nudds	Treble
George R. Pye	2
Alfred W. Grimes	3
Isaac G. Shade	4
Reuben Sanders	5
John H. Cheesman	6
Ernest Pye	7
William Pye	Tenor

Composed by A. Knights. Conducted by W. Pye.

[The same band rang London at Chertsey, Cambridge at Staines, and Superlative at Old Windsor, all conducted by William Pye. William J. Nudds and Reuben Sanders, now both in the 'octogenarian class,' still survive.]

WEDDING BELLS AT ASHTEAD

St. Giles', Ashtead (Surrey), was filled to capacity on April 3rd for the wedding of Miss Beryl Worsfold and Mr. Michael Angas.

The bride, who learned to ring at St. Giles', has been a member of the Ashtead St. Giles' Society of Change Ringers. It is only during the past three or four years that the bells have been rung for all choral services and the bride has contributed no small part to this achievement as she has been a regular ringer both morning and evening. In addition to her ringing activities she has served on the Parochial Church Council, has been a leader of the youth groups and a member of the St. George's Singers. One of the many wedding gifts was a dinner service from the Ashtead ringers and from three or four ringing friends. The bridegroom was a member of the choir of St. George's, Ashtead, and a keen worker among the youth.

The service was fully choral, the choir consisting of the St. George's Singers. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. P. R. Tidmarsh, formerly a curate at Ashtead, assisted by the Rector (the Rev. C. J. Halsey). Immediately following the marriage the bride and bridegroom received Holy Communion, the celebrant being the Rector. The church was beautifully decorated. Fellow ringers rang the bride and bridegroom out of the church.

In the evening four of the local ringers took part in an attempted peal of Grandsire Triples. Although the bells ran round, after 2 hours and 52 minutes the conductor, Mr. A. Harman (Master of the Guildford Guild), decided that a true peal had not been rung and the peal cannot be recorded. This was a source of great disappointment to all and particularly to three of the 'locals' who so nearly scored their first peal.

Mr. and Mrs. Angas will live at Cranleigh, Surrey.
J. T. S.

TOURING THE EAST ANGLIAN HEIGHTS

The first Saturday in April and spring weather provided a good start for the outing season. Seventeen ringers set out by car from the Bedfordshire and North Herts towers of Maulden, Cardington, Blunham, Biggleswade, Clifton, Henlow, Totternhoe, Stotfold, Hitchin and Norton to visit eight towers in the deep countryside of the East Anglian Heights on the Cambridgeshire, Essex and East Herts borders.

Ickleton (8, 18½ cwt.) has very tuneful and ringable bells rung from under the central tower at the chancel entrance. A small clock bell is suspended from a projection near the top of the spire. Annable's, London and Spliced Surprise sang across a wide ploughland valley from the little tower of Chrishall (6, 9 cwt.), where we received a warm welcome from the Rev. Mr. Bagley and Mr. G. Pratt, who joined in the ringing.

Next came the pleasing eight at Barkway (16 cwt.), whose bells were from John Bryant's Hertford foundry. On the tower roof a cracked mediæval bell is used as an hour bell. Before high tea at Buntingford the recently rehung six at Great Horstead (14 cwt.) was visited. The only bells at Buntingford are on a gramophone record! The old church, known as Layston, is in ruins and the five bells are unsafe to ring.

The five cars got 'wet feet' fording the River Rib before reaching the tower of Braughing (8, 19 cwt.), which is crowned by a tall 'spike' of the type so frequently met in East Herts. It is a pity this fine-toned old ring is so badly odd-struck. The bells were favourites in the early days of change ringing. Quite a good course of Yorkshire was brought round when we became accustomed to their ways. The next tower, Standon (6, 17 cwt.) also has a good spike to its almost detached tower, and very good bells they are, with measured tread, recently rehung.

Dusk deepened to night as we threaded the deep, winding lanes to Little Munden, in whose lonely tower, crowned again by a little spike, was a good-going ring of six (13 cwt.). Mr. A. Phillips welcomed us to the ringing chamber, whose walls are covered to the ceiling with boards and peal cards recording the vintage years of this almost historical six under the late Mr. W. ('Bill') Lawrence, including his performances ringing both treble and second bells at once to peals, and conducting!

The last tower was Walkern (another ford!) and the lightest six in Herts (6½ cwt.). The bells are a very handy and quaintly pretty ring hung in an H-frame. We lingered here to tap off a number of methods including Spliced London and Little Bob, almost drowned by the efforts of one of our Maulden friends who combines an interest in the music of bells with the music of the organ!
D. P. J.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ANONYMOUS LETTERS

Dear Sir,—Mr. H. P. Cliff, of Newcastle-on-Tyne states, 'Our paper must now have the unenviable distinction of being the only magazine . . . which imposes such a ban,' etc. I say it is a distinction to be proud of, to be envied—and copied—by all papers and periodicals.

Mr. Cliff rather defeats his own arguments. The fact that no one but himself and Mr. Munday has protested is clear proof of almost unanimous approval. If he reads correctly the correspondence in 'The Ringing World' he will see that correspondents are not afraid to say exactly what they mean, although it sometimes hurts, and in doing so are quite prepared to take a little more than they give; leastways, that is my experience.

The ban on anonymous letters is a guarantee of freedom of speech, and because we are allowed a great deal of liberty does not mean we should take licence.

There are, probably, only two occasions to justify anonymity; one, perhaps, in unmasking crime, or reporting to the appropriate body, the N.S.P.C.C., of cruelty to children—which they ask for—and to hide one's generosity.—Yours sincerely,

W. FRANK STENSON.

Crewe.

MUSIC OF THE TENORS

Dear Sir,—As a novice, it appears to me that music produced by changes on ten bells is inherently dependent on the structure of the method being rung and, to a lesser extent, on the composition of the touch or peal. Stedman Caters, for instance, has a glory of its own and whether the bells are in the handstroke, home or Tittums position the rolling up of the back bells rarely fails to send a tingle down one's spine. Surely it is this rolling up of the tenors that provides music which is most pleasing to the ear.

Why, then, are methods such as Erin Caters and Duffield Royal, which bring these musical roll-ups twice as frequently as Stedman, looked upon as a source of amusement and are only rarely rung?

I have been told, on good authority, that these are 'conductors' methods. True the calls must of necessity be more frequent than in other nine- or ten-bell methods, but surely the Exercise can boast one or two conductors capable of conducting them.

I am also told that these methods are relatively simple to ring; we do not have to remember or calculate or look for our course bell to determine whether we go into the three-bell work quick or slow. This, I am assured, is most uninteresting and quite boring. I think I must be somewhat abnormal in that I enjoy this form of boredom.—Yours faithfully,

G. A. HALLS.

Derby.

MONTHLY CORPORATE COMMUNIONS

Dear Sir,—On Sunday, April 4th, the ringers of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Dallington, Northampton, celebrated the anniversary of their monthly Corporate Communion.

The curate (the Rev. J. M. Oules), also a ringer, was the celebrant, and Messrs. C. Windram, J. Hadley and R. Old served at the sanctuary. The duty sidesman was E. Nobles.

To mark the occasion a 360 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by the following—Messrs. J. G. Hadley 1, R. Old 2, J. M. Nash 3, J. G. Chapman 4, C. Windram 5, E. Nobles (conductor) 6.

This is the longest length and first time Treble Bob has been recorded by any local band at Dallington.

E. NOBLES.

Dallington.

SOUTH BENFLEET 'PEALS'

Dear Sir,—I was very interested in the article in your issue of April 2nd, 'Peal Ringing, 1881-1954,' by the Rev. K. W. H. Felstead. In the belfry of South Benfleet Church there was a board, which, unfortunately, cannot now be traced. According to Beaton's 'History of Rochford Hundred' (about 1870) the inscription on it read:—

'These compleat peals were rung in the year 1794 by us, Wm. Banbrooke, Jno. Brooks, Jno. Cooper, Wm. Potter and Jasr. Lane or Jno. Picking, as follows:—

'Old Doubles Kents 12; New Doubles 12; Old Grandstr 15; New Grandstr 25; Fortunc 12; Gogmagog 15; Dream 12; St. Dunstan's 12; Antelope 15; Hudibrass 12; Four Cambridge Delights 14, 15, 24 and 25; London Doubles 132; Cambridge Journey 15; Chase 15; Two Westminster 12 and 15.

Prior to 1949 there were five bells in the tower. The numbers would appear to indicate the hunt and half-hunt bells and the 'peals' to be extents of 120, but were quite an achievement for a village band at that time.—Yours, etc.,

C. L. MATSON.

South Benfleet, Essex.

FIRST PEAL OF SURPRISE AT ALDERMASTON

Dear Sir,—As one of the band who rang in the peal of Cambridge Major at Aldermaston recently, I take full responsibility for the error in claiming it as the first of Surprise on the bells.

It was at my suggestion that the footnote appeared, not Mr. Pink's.

I have known the tower for many years and have rung quite a few peals there but had never heard of a previous peal of Surprise on the bells. The year 1902 is a little before my time.

My apologies to all concerned.—Yours, etc.,

R. W. REX.

Thatcham, Berks.

A VETERAN'S ACHIEVEMENT

Dear Sir,—May I, through your columns, congratulate Mr. J. B. Budd, of Mold, on completing his 100 peals.

He began regular peal ringing at an age when most ringers are thinking of giving it up, and the result is that in his retirement he has grown younger. In one peal I recall, the sum of the ages of the rest of the band was but a few years in excess of his age, yet he still felt quite at home!

His willingness to co-operate, punctuality and enthusiasm are examples to his brother ringers.—Yours sincerely,

BRIAN HARRIS.

Chester.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—Gratefully given £1, Anon. 5s., W. H. 3s., R. O. P. 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Nottingham 2s., Aberavon 2s., Bishop's Cleeve 2s., Berkhamsted 12s., West Malling 4s., North Muskham 3s., 'Lost peal at Ashted' 5s.

Quarter peals.—Great Barton 3s., St. Bride's Major 3s., Watford 4s., Cape Town 5s., Shroton 3s., Great Marlow 2s., Reading 4s., Cadoxton 2s., Isleworth 2s., Thatcham 2s. 6d., Cawthorne 2s. 6d., Freshwater 2s. 6d., Clerkenwell 2s., Croydon 6s., Burnham-on-Crouch 3s., Stourbridge 2s., Compton Bishop 2s., East Coker 2s., Bridgend 4s.

CONDUCTING AND COMPOSING

Dear Sir,—With reference to discussion of these two matters in your issue No. 2,244 of 2nd April, 1954:—

CONDUCTING. There must be many who feel that congratulations and thanks are due to Mr. Wilfrid G. Wilson for his practical and helpful articles now appearing in these pages. It is interesting to find therein some further endorsement of the precept we have often urged as to the study of the principles of method-structure—as a helpful preliminary to both ringing and conducting.

In the second paragraph of his article XII., Mr. Wilson recommends the spending of some time in studying the structure of the method and of learning (inter alia) the position sequence of one's bell at successive lead-ends. He refers to the fact that in Cambridge Major the reversal of this sequence gives the order in which, in the plain course, bells come to do their work in front, with the treble. Perhaps Mr. Wilson will not mind if we add that this 'rule' applies even more widely—in fact, it will give the order of the bells coming into any set of corresponding positions in the successive leads of the plain course; that is to say, not only in any such positions at the lead-ends, but in corresponding positions anywhere within the successive leads.

Furthermore, it applies in methods without a hunt-control, as in Stedman, for instance; though here the student must be careful to group his rows correctly in 'divisions.' (These are the 'leads' of a hunt-controlled method, and in Stedman they comprise groups of 12 rows starting from and including Rounds). Of course, there will be found different sequences for different methods, though these sequences fall into similar groups. The theory is developed in the 'Memorandum of the Technology of Method Structure' (on loan from C.C. Library) in Arts: 80 to 83b inclusive; under the subject of 'Cyclics,' where the first type of sequence that Mr. Wilson quotes is described as the 'Position Cyclic,' and its reverse type of sequence as the 'Bell Cyclic.' These interesting and very useful features will be found inherent in all methods of conventional design. Ringing a method without recognition of its cyclics may be compared with travelling a route without reference to its signposts.

COMPOSING. In a letter from Mr. Carlisle on this subject (page 219), he asks for information as to methods or systems of composing. While it is true that many of the well-known composers build up their own systems, there is little published on the subject, which is, of course, quite distinct from that of method design. I believe that Mr. Maurice Hodgson has carried out some research into the relationship of 'natural' course-ends, and of the occurrence, in groups, of false rows. (Vide Corrigan—Part D, page 33.)

Snowdon, in his 'Treatise on Treble Bob,' Part I. (unfortunately now out of print, but no doubt on loan from the C.C. Library), explains a system of composing in methods on the T-B principle, with the tenors together, devised by James Lockwood.

As to Stedman's method, in the earlier edition of 'Stedman,' by C. D. P. Davies (also published in the Snowdon series), there is an Appendix of 29 short chapters dealing with composition in (Stedman) Triples.

Perhaps Mr. Carlisle is aware of these sources, in which case their mention may yet be of help to others interested.—Yours very truly,

A. YORK-BRAMBLE.

Southsea.

THE COCKEYS OF THE WEST COUNTRY

Bellfounders, Clockmakers, Engineers, Churchwardens

By J. EDWARD LEWIS COCKEY,
A.M.I. Mech. E.

THE origin of the name seems obscure, but it was probably one of the numerous early forms of the word Cook. Cooks were important functionaries in large baronial and monastic establishments, and the name is an occupational one, surnames coming in later. The Norman lords did not trust Englishmen to prepare their food, and the office was held by their own people. The name seems to appear first in the Bristol area but later spread all over the West Country.

Stephen le Cokke was Provost of Bristol in 1261, and James Cockye was Baliff in 1487—note how the name gradually develops.

Wickham, a writer, and well known in the topographical world, says, speaking of the Exchequer Lay Subsidy Roll, i.e., lists of persons liable to tax in the Manor of Holcombe, about six miles from Frome, Somerset:—'Another payee is John Cockys,' who in 1524 was assessed upon his personal goods, the sum of ijs (9s.), as a subsidy upon a rateable value of 51s.

In 'Wiltshire Notes and Queries' it is stated that 'Ellis Cockeye married Margery Sharpe 26th July, 1589 (? at Salisbury) and on 30th Nov., 1589, William Cockey married Annabell Maynard.'

In 1629 37s. was paid to Richard Cockey 'Pewterer of Warminster' (Wilts) for casting eight brasses for the bells—86 lbs. of brass being used. It was probably the same person who supplied some altar candlesticks to the Parish Church at Shepton Mallet. It is also stated (no date) that the barrel of the chiming apparatus, with wooden teeth, at Westbury (Wilts) was made by Lewis and William Cockey, 'Pewterers of Warminster.'

'Wiltshire Notes' again states that Leonard Cockey, apothecary, of Salisbury, married Anne Ricketts, of Chute, Feb. 1st, 1630.

In 1667 William Cockey is given as a tenant of the Dean and Chapter, in Dolphin Chequer, Salisbury.

A Lewis Cockey was casting bells in Bristol about 1680, and a Mordecai Cockey, near Totnes, about the same date. (One of the latter's bells was seen by the writer at the Croydon foundry some years ago.) This person was probably an itinerant founder—unlike the others—and is referred to in Eden Philpotts' novel 'The American Prisoner.'

Prebendary Daniel, the local historian, states that Lewis Cockey came from Warminster to Frome about 1680 and set up a bell foundry. Bell Lane, named after this, was recently in existence, and the actual site of the foundry has been pointed out to the writer. An old rate book states that Lewis Cockey, with a residence in Frome, paid a 3d. rate in 1682. In one document he is referred to as 'Mr. Lewis,' implying a person of some importance. The registers at St. John-the-Baptist Church refer to his burial in 1703 but, strangely enough, there is no trace of his grave, nor does his name appear on the family tombs.

'Wiltshire Notes' refers to a declaration in wills at Salisbury, by William Cockey in 1705.

In Sweetman's 'History of Wincanton' it is stated that William Cockey repaired the town clock. He was a skilled workman and probably migrated to Frome later. He was a churchwarden at Wincanton in 1692, 1693 and 1703. In 1711 he repaired the clock for 29s. In 1719 he recast the bell for 7s. (sic), and in 1721 he repaired the clock again for 7s. 6d.

He is the first clockmaker whose name appeared on the clock ? 1692—1721.

'Wiltshire Notes' refers to 'Mr. Cockey's bill of £93 14s. 2½d. (note the odd ½d.) for bells at Bradford-on-Avon in 1734.

AS CLOCKMAKERS

An Edward Cockey was making clocks in Warminster about the end of the 17th century and must have been a great craftsman. A number of his clocks are still in existence and are truly remarkable works of art. One of these, a magnificent astronomical and equation clock, standing over nine feet high, was the largest specimen at a recent British clockmakers' exhibition at South Kensington; and another, a similar clock, was recently disposed of at Sotheby's for a sum approaching £200. A third is in the possession of the Marquis of Bath, at Longleat, and can be seen by visitors to this historic mansion. A smaller specimen is in a private house in Frome, and is said to be keeping perfect time.

The registers at St. John-the-Baptist, Frome, show the burials of father and son in complete succession from those living towards the end of the 17th century, and the tombs from a Richard Cockey (date not given) but who must have been living in the late 1600's, almost to the present time. These tombs, which lie near the head of the famous Via Crucis, are in a good state of preservation, and the inscriptions have recently been restored by Miss Dora Cockey, Admiral Bromwich and the writer.

About 1679 a William Cockey migrated to America and his descendants are numerous in the States, and it is noteworthy that they seem to retain the old family Christian names, such as William, Edward and Richard. A number of them came over with the American Forces during the late war, showing great interest in their forbears. One, Commander Richard Cockey, has had distinguished service in the U.S. Navy in the Far East and elsewhere.

AS BELLFOUNDERS

Church bells cast by the Cockeys from the mid-17th to the mid-19th century are scattered in profusion over the West Country and are generally of good quality. It is noteworthy that, as far as can be ascertained, they never descended to the level of ribald or derogatory rhymes on their bells, as the Bilbies and the others did, nor did they reply to Bilbies' jibes. Their standard inscriptions were, such as at Frome, 'William Cockey, Bellfounder, 1724,' and little else. The one exception is a rumoured inscription 'God made Cockey and Cockey made me,' which is supposed to have been on one of St. John's bells. This can hardly have been the case as it is certainly not there now, and the latest bell there is by Bilbie, about 1790. This inscription has never been traced, though the writer spent much time, years ago, looking for it. There is just a possibility that it was on one of the Warminster bells, since recast, but this is very doubtful.

The family took a prominent part in the Church and public life of Frome and district in the 18th and 19th centuries, and in connection with the serious election riots at Frome in 1832 the names of Edward and William Cockey appear among the burgesses in a framed record, which is still on view in the George Hotel there. Incidentally, the William Cockey recently referred to in connection with Shaftesbury bells, as probably an itinerant founder, could hardly have been so. He was churchwarden at St. John's in 1743 and was followed by Lewis Cockey 1766-1784, Edward Cockey 1815-1816, and Henry Cockey 1859-1861.

An interesting story is told of the situation there, when Father Early Bennett was presented to the living by Lord Bath, about 1851. He

was one of the first Ritualists, and a most aggressive one; the church at that time, as with most others, was very Evangelical. It is said that at his first service about 2,000 people filled the church, with its then galleries. Father Bennett made no bones about it, but preached a violent Anglo-Catholic sermon, apparently attacking the Evangelicals, and stating that he proposed immediately to introduce vestments, incense, confession, and so on. This caused a great sensation and much resentment, and practically the whole congregation left, some, it is stated, walking out during the sermon. The Cockeys, Byard Sheppards and other influential members immediately joined the then new Church of Holy Trinity and carried on the Evangelical tradition, becoming churchwardens there, and many of them lie buried in the churchyard. One result of this was that Byard Sheppard brought a famous legal action against Father Bennett, and, after a long drawn-out struggle, lost it and almost ruined himself in the process. This action is still, one understands, one of the causes célèbres which are referred to in the study of ecclesiastical law. Incidentally, one of Byard Sheppard's daughters was a god-mother of the writer.

FATHER OF 16 CHILDREN

The last of the bellfounders, Edward Cockey, son of Christopher, was born in 1781 and died in 1860. He married Elizabeth Hagley in 1808 and was the father of 16 children. The Hagleys were a well-known family, and on their side was Joseph Bromwich, a close friend of Nelson, and who is referred to several times in Carola Oman's 'Nelson.' Nelson states that on one occasion the Admiralty were 'very civil' to him, allowing him to choose all his own officers, and 'the faithful Bromwich' was to be one of his lieutenants. He was commissioned on Nelson's recommendation, and, later, Nelson secured his appointment as Warden of Portsmouth Dockyard. A number of Nelson's letters and one of his telescopes are now in the possession of two of Edward Cockey's descendants—Rear Admiral G. H. Bromwich, D.S.O., O.B.E., and Rear Admiral W. Scott Hill, C.B.E.—the former having changed his name for sentimental reasons from Cockey to Bromwich.

Edward Cockey was a remarkable man. The last of his bells that one can trace was at North Cheriton, dated 1840. His portrait, and that of his two sons, Henry and Francis Christopher, were, until recently at any rate, in the Board Room of Edward Cockey and Sons, Ltd., of Frome. This portrait shows a remarkably handsome man, one would imagine with a fierce personality. He was obviously shrewd and capable, and apparently, when he decided that bellfounding was not a paying proposition and that the gas industry was coming along, he changed over to gas and general engineering, a business that is still carried on by the above firm, though none of the family are now connected with it. He founded the Frome Gas Company and was for a long time managing director and practically the owner of this undertaking. He held almost the whole of the trade of the West Country in the production of gas plant and carried out many contracts in Russia and elsewhere for gas holders and the like.

He had a great reputation for reliability and efficiency and at one time the works were employing about 800 men, a pretty considerable number for those days. A number of stories are told of his methods, which were autocratic, to say the least, by present day standards. It was said that on his daily inspection of the works if he met with any item which displeased him, the person responsible, whether one of his sons, a foreman or workman, was wont to receive a heavy blow across the shoulders from a stick which he always carried. On other occasions he would look over a machine which had been completed to everyone's satisfaction. Some small item would displease him, and the

THE COCKEYS—Continued

offending item would get a hearty whack with the stick and be condemned to the scrap heap, and to be replaced. Withal, he was a religious, and probably a kind-hearted man and must have been typical of some of the early Victorians.

Of his sons, Francis Christopher was an explosive but kindly personality, whose chief weakness was ex-Service men, and he could never turn one away. This became known and he was the constant recipient of hard luck stories, and his remedy was to 'find him a job in the works.' These kindly jobs are said to have been a source of embarrassment at times. In the writer's early days, as an apprentice at these works, there were still one or two old Crimean and Mutiny veterans about, who used to regale us with lurid tales of their doings in these wars.

THE REV. H. A. COCKEY

His eldest son, Edward, entered the Church and became Warden of Wadham College, Oxford. It is said that it was in his study that the first meetings of the Tractarian movements were held. He later became Rector of Fryerning, in Essex, where he died and was buried, in 1880. His son was the Rev. H. A. Cockey, also a Wadham man, who gained a great reputation as a ringer, especially at the heavy end, and took part in a number of notable peals. He was chaplain to Greenwich Hospital at one time, and was instrumental in refounding the Trinity Youths, who did much ringing in the Greenwich area. He later became Vicar of Oldland, Bristol, and died there in 1916. He married a daughter of Canon Ellacombe, and one of his sons, Air Commodore L. A. Cockey, C.B., has recently retired from the R.A.F. The last William, another of Edward Cockey's sons engaged in the engineering industry in Glasgow, died there in 1877 and is buried in Sight Hill Cemetery. Two of his grandsons are the above-mentioned Rear Admiral W. Scott Hill, and W. Thompson Hill, now archaeological correspondent of 'The Times.'

Whether or not any of the old founders were practical ringers is not known, and the only two descendants to take up the art are the Rev. H. A. Cockey, mentioned above, and the writer. The fine ring at Frome contains bells by William Cockey—the two trebles, dated 1724, and the 6th, dated 1746. The 4th, dated 1624, and the tenor, 1662, are by a John Lott, of Warminster, who may possibly have been a colleague or predecessor of the Warminster Cockeys.

Shortly before the war the writer had the pleasure of ringing the 2nd bell at Frome to a fine peal of Double Norwich, conducted by Mr. Nolan Golden. It is pleasing to note that the local band, with their secretary, Miss Overend, are taking such an interest in this fine old ring, and one hopes that it may continue.

'THE LEDGER IS CLOSED'

There are now few male descendants left in this country to carry on the old name, and at Frome, Miss Dora Cockey, a granddaughter of Edward, is the last remaining link with the family. It seems, therefore, that in time to come, except for the engineering firm, the name, after a sojourn of near 300 years, will become extinct.

It may be, as with individuals, so with families, their mission accomplished, the ledger is closed and they are called to rest. For the family, as a whole, it may fairly be said, that 'They feared God and honoured the King' during these 300 years. They gave melody to the air, art and beauty to the showing of Time. They served with distinction the Church, the Forces, medicine and, above all, engineering, and now, as a family, they rest from their labours. The names of those who rest there,

THE BELLS OF EGHAM, SURREY

HISTORIANS do not agree regarding the exact spot at Runnymede where King John signed the Magna Charta, and while some hold that the signing took place by the Thames in the parish of Egham, others claim that the document was signed at Magna Charta Island in a neighbouring parish. Which is correct still remains a matter of opinion, but the facts tell us that Egham has been associated with the historic event of 1215 for centuries, and commemoration services are held yearly at the Parish Church of St. John-the-Baptist, Egham.

When John de Rutherwyck, the famous Chertsey abbot, ruled at Chertsey Abbey from 1307 to 1346, he included the building of churches in his programme, one of which was Egham, but nothing remains of this building seeing the present church was rebuilt in 1817. The first recording of bells comes from the Royal Inventory of 1552, when Egham possessed four bells, and this was probably the number until 1819 when T. Mears cast a ring of six for the present tower. One of these bells recorded that 'the peal was purchased by subscriptions and ordered to be made by the Churchwardens,' while another bell revealed that 'this church was rebuilt and the first stone laid April 9th, 1817, by Ld. Vist Bulkeley.'

In 1912 all the bells were recast at Croydon and with the addition of a new treble and tenor they form a fine Simpson tuned octave, which can be clearly heard in the ringing chamber. The tenor weighs 16 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. and many people hardly credit that such a small tower could hold a ring of bells with a tenor nearly 17 cwt. The way to the ringing chamber is via the gallery steps and a left turn into a narrow corridor which brings one into the apartment without further steps.

After the opening of the bells on March 30th, 1912, the church authorities expressed two wishes: (1) that a peal of Triples be rung on the new bells; (2) that the new band be taught change ringing. The first was carried out on April 19th, 1912, when a peal of Stedman was conducted by the writer, and the second, a much bigger proposition, was undertaken right away.

Being in a corner of Surrey with three counties, Middlesex, Berks and Bucks, nearby, it proved a bit of a problem to the Surrey Association and the Winchester Diocesan Guild, but road transport has helped considerably in more recent years. At the present time there is a keen band who welcome visitors at service ringing and on practice nights.

In these days when we are faced with synthetic recordings it may be interesting to recall an event in which Egham played a part during the early part of 1937. The account is from 'The Church of England Newspaper,' and it says that 'a large party of bellringers and friends from St. Paul's Church, Egham, visited North Acton to witness a demonstration of a new kind of carillon, which is entirely without bells. This new invention, which is electronic

and some others, are recorded on the two simple slabs that lie at the head of the Via Crucis at the lovely Church of St. John-the-Baptist—a way that more than one of them has passed with his own cross to bear, in company with the saintly Bishop Ken, the Singers of Frome (great Victorian craftsmen) and many others, close to the sound of the bells they made—and it seems not inappropriate to quote for them the words on Jasper Snowden's tomb:

'Year by year the Bells so softly
O'er the graves their music pour
Where the dust of Saints is gathered
Till the Master comes once more.'

in character, had never before been publicly demonstrated. It produces (not reproduces) bell music by new scientific means, and such famous carillons as those at Bruges and Malines and the peals at Canterbury and Winchester Cathedrals can be given with the utmost fidelity. The apparatus is controlled from a small keyboard or desk, which can be placed in any convenient position such as porch, vestry or organ loft, and a single operator can achieve the most elaborate change ringing without previous knowledge of campanology. Any depth or weight of tone can be provided, and even automatic change ringing can be fitted. This new (fully patented) apparatus employs no gramophone records or oscillating valves. It is purely electrical and requires but a few cubic feet of space. It imposes no strain whatever on the fabric and its cost is only a fraction of the expense entailed by a set of bells.'

It should be mentioned that St. Paul's Church, Egham, is a neighbouring parish and does not possess a ring of bells, so where they obtained the large party of bellringers from is not quite understood, but after inquiries from several ringers in the neighbourhood at the time, nobody was able to give additional information on the subject.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

A Musical Peal of Stedman Caters 5,091 Changes

Containing 'Queens,' 'Whittingtons' and
'Tittums'

231456789

A 412365978		B 513264879	
214563	5 16	314265	5 16
213465	16	413562	5 16
312564	5 16	412365	16
314265	16	412563	S5 16
314562	S5 16	413265	16
312465	16	314562	5 16
213564	5 16	312465	16
214365	16	312564	S5 16
412563	5 16	213465	5 16
413265	16	213564	S5 16
415362	16	214365	16
512364	5		
162453	S456 16		
263451	5		
362154	5 16		
364251	16		
361452	16		
163254	5 16		
164352	5 16		
461253	5 16		
463152	16		
462351	16		
264153	5 16		
264351	S5 16		
261453	16		
163452	5		
362451	5		
263154	5 16		
364152	5		
463251	5 16		
361254	5		
164253	5		
461352	5 16		
462153	16		

Rounds next change.

A 1 S34 6 S8910 12 16 17 18 19
B S4 8910 S12 16 18

Two quarter peals of Stedman Triples for the young conductor

- A.—Call the 6th In 'Slow' three times, the first time with a 'Single,' then Out 'Slow' three times, the first time with a 'Single.'
- B.—Call the 7th likewise.
Both twice repeated.

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

WOULD the lady or gentleman who left a blue scarf in the belfry at Sevenoaks after the Cumberland meeting on March 27th please contact the undersigned, as the forwarding address has been lost.—P. N. Bond, Gaywood, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent. 4247

PIPE'S PILGRIMS.—Tour of Cornish towers and resorts August 1st to 7th. All those requiring reservations please notify C. W. Pipe, Grun-disbury, Woodbridge, Suffolk. 4239

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.—On and after Thursday, April 22nd, practice night will be every Thursday instead of Tuesday.—G. J. Leversuch. 4236

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION. — Western Division.—Surprise practice for April cancelled. Tower unavailable.—W. Leslie Weller. 4260

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

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.

MEETINGS

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Leiston.—Rededication of Leiston bells, Saturday, April 17th. Service 3 p.m. Buffet tea in Church Hall and short business meeting to elect secretary for Sax-mundham District.—A. R. Bridger, Theberton, Leiston. 4162

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Bedford, Easter Monday. Business meeting in St. Peter's Church Hall 11.30. Lunch 1 p.m. at Granada Restaurant (names to me by April 12th). Ringing arrangements: St. Paul's 10.11.15 and 2 p.m. onwards; St. Peter's 2.4.30; Goldington 2.4. — J. M. Stephens, 24, Durler Avenue, Kempston. 4175

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at Cambridge on Easter Monday. Bells available: Great St. Mary's (12) 2.4 p.m. and after tea; Roman Catholic Church (8) 12 noon-1 p.m. and after tea; St. Andrew's (8) 10.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m. and 1.45-4.30 p.m.; St. Benet's (6) 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6.30-8 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Chesterton (6) 1.30-3.45 p.m. Service at St. Andrew's 4.30 p.m. followed by tea and business meeting at Round Church Hall. Please send names for tea to H. L. Martin, 60, Birdwood Road, Cambridge.—W. J. Ridgman, Hon. Gen. Sec. 4188

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Bromley, Easter Monday.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Sec. 4110

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Meeting at Parish Church, Burton, Easter Monday, April 19th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. 4223

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—Meeting, St. John's, Egham (8), Easter Monday, 2.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—W. Parrott, Dis. Sec., 30, Hamilton Avenue, N. Cheam. 4197

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Worcester, Easter Monday, April 19th. Service, All Saints', 11 a.m. General business meeting in College Hall, 12 noon PROMPT. Coffee obtainable, College Hall, 1.15 (bring own lunch sandwiches). Tea (3s. per head) at Deansway Cafe, 5 p.m. Bells available: All Saints' (10), from 10 a.m.; Claines (10); St. John's (8); Kempsey (6), all 2-4.30 p.m.; Cathedral (12), 6-7.30 p.m. — J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, Tickhill, Easter Monday, April 19th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Buses half-hourly from Doncaster and few from Rotherham.—J. J. L. Gilbert. 4225

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Axbridge Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Cheddar, Saturday, April 24th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. — E. C. Wickham, Hon. Local Sec., Cheddar. 4228

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Chew Deanery.—Meeting, St. Andrew's, Clevedon, April 24th. Bells 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 o'clock, Salthouse Hotel.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 4258

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery.—Quarterly meeting, Puckington, Saturday, April 24th. Usual arrangements. Notify for tea.—J. T. Locke, Hon. Sec., School Street, Langport. 4244

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Quarterly meeting, Totternhoe, Saturday, April 24th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by April 21st, please.—Dennis Knox, 17, Woodlands Avenue, Houghton Regis, Dunstable, Beds. 4255

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Crewe Branch.—Audlem, April 24th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea must be received by April 21st.—W. Kerr, 26, Davenham Crescent, Crewe, Cheshire. 4273

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Meeting at Burbage, Buxton, April 24th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea, please advise, before Tuesday, April 20th, Mr. J. Bagshaw, 17, Macclesfield Old Road, Burbage, Buxton, Derbyshire.—C. K. Lewis. 4274

COTLEIGH, NEAR HONITON, DEVON.—Dedication, Saturday, April 24th. Service 3 p.m. Number for tea by April 21st. Transport from Honiton Station can be arranged.—W. A. Sparks, Burnside, Cotleigh. 4257

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Coventry on Saturday, April 24th. Bells of St. Michael's, Stoke (8), and All Saints', Allesley (8), available 3-4 and after the meeting. Service Holy Trinity Church, Broadgate, 4.30. Tea 5 in Council House, followed by business meeting. Names must be sent, by Wednesday, 21st (definitely no names no tea), to Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Hon. Gen. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton. Phone Nuneaton 3296. 4249

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Annual general meeting, Saturday, April 24th. Committee meeting, Diocesan House, 3.30 p.m. Service, Cathedral, 4.30 p.m. Tea, Diocesan House, 5 p.m. Annual meeting, Diocesan House, 5.45 p.m. Ringing arrangements: St. Andrew's (10) 10.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.; St. Peter's (8) 3 p.m.-4.15 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Cathedral (10) 3 p.m.-4.25 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.-8 p.m. Names for tea, by April 21st, to Mr. H. Taylor, 27, New Chester Road, Derby.—A. B. Cooper. 4213

DEVON GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—Brixham, Saturday, April 24th. Usual arrangements.—A. L. Bennett, Cornerways, Buckfastleigh. 4242

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—West Hartlepool, St. Aidan, Saturday, April 24th, 2.30. Names for tea, by Thursday, April 22nd, to Mr. H. W. Nunn, 67, Studley Road, West Hartlepool. 4246

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Cambridge District.—Evening practice meeting at Balsham, Saturday, April 24th, 6.30 p.m. Next full meeting, Whittlesford, May 8th.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 4241

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Hunts District.—Meeting at Great Staughton (6) Saturday, April 24th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 4254

ELY ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Watlington, Saturday, April 24th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 4267

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.W. District.—Meeting at Elmdon (6), near Saffron Walden, on Saturday, April 24th, at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea. Names, please, to G. Blake, Dis. Sec., Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow, Essex. 4201

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Annual general meeting at Bristol, Saturday, April 24th. Meeting at Redcliffe Parish Hall, Guinea Street, at 2 p.m. sharp. Divine service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 2s. per head. Please notify for tea, by Wednesday, April 21st, certain. Bells available: St. Ambrose, Bristol E. (8) 11 to 12 noon; St. Thomas' (City) (8) 11 to 12 noon; St. Mark's (Lord Mayor's Chapel) (6) 12.15 to 1 p.m.; St. Mary Redcliffe (12) and St. Stephen's (10) after tea.—F. Skidmore, 80, Carlyle Road, Greenbank Bristol 5. 4203

GUILDFORD GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—Meeting at Merrow, April 24th. Bells 3-9. Tea and meeting 5 in Church Room. Service 7. Numbers for tea, by April 20th, to Miss Warren, Hallhurst, Swayne's Lane, Merrow. 4216

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Meeting at Ash (6) on Saturday, April 24th, from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.15. Tea at 4.45. Names for tea, please, by the previous Wednesday, to G. S. Joyce, Dis. Sec., 130, Ship Lane, Farnborough, Hants. 4238

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Salehurst (8), Saturday, April 24th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Numbers for tea, by April 21st, to G. Billenness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Hawkhurst, Kent. 4230

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Hemel Hempstead on Saturday, April 24th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Reports and booklets available. Ringing at Redbourn (6) 10.30-3.30; King's Langley (8) 10.30-12; Apsley End (6) 12 noon-1 p.m. and 2-4 p.m. also 7-8 p.m.; Great Berkhamsted (8) 1.30-3.30 p.m.; Hemel Hempstead (8) 1.30-4.30 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. Lunch (2s. 6d.) at The Salmon, Apsley 1 p.m. Names, early, to R. Shutter, Church House, Apsley. Tea (2s. 6d.) at St. Mary's Hall, Hemel. Names, by 21st, to D. Cartwright, Miswell Orchard, Miswell Lane, Tring.—H. V. Frost, Hon. Gen. Sec. 4240

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewis-ham District.—Meeting at Woolwich on Saturday, April 24th, 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Names for tea (2s.), not later than Tuesday, 20th, to A. Hill, 24, Stanmore Road, Bevedere, Kent. 4206

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting at Leicester on Saturday, April 24th. Bells: Cathedral 3-4; St. Margaret's and St. John's 2-3.45; St. Mary-de-Castro 2-4. Service, Cathedral 4.15. Tea 5 in Little Theatre, Dover Street, followed by meeting. Social evening at Victoria Hotel 7.30-10.30. Early application for tea essential. Names to me by Wednesday, 21st. General committee meeting in Cathedral ringing room 7.30, Thursday, 22nd.—W. A. Wood, Gen. Sec., Fosseyway Croft, near Leicester. 4218

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Annual meeting, Wigan, Saturday, April 24th. Bells available: All Saints', Wigan Parish, 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. and after meeting to 8 p.m.; St. James', Poolstock, 1.30 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. and after meeting to 8 p.m. Service All Saints' 4 p.m.; preacher the Rev. F. L. M. Bennett, M.A.

Tea 5 p.m. (4s. per head) in the National Blue Coat School, Hall Gate, at the rear of Parish Church. Names for tea, together with money, to Mr. W. O. Farrimond, The Willows, 64, Preston Road, Coppull, near Chorley. Meeting 6 p.m. approx. in Blue Coat School. 4275

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Annual general meeting, April 24th, Leeds Parish Church. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 in Church Hall. Names to me, please, by Wednesday, April 21st. Business meeting in tower at 7 p.m.—Irvin Slack, Hon. Sec., 47, Sunroyd Hill, Horbury, Wakefield. 4227

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting, Lincoln, April 24th. Cathedral evening 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Eastgate Court, for those who notify, by Tuesday previous, Mr. J. A. Freeman, 95, Sincil Bank, Lincoln. Business meeting will follow in Chapter House. Usual ringing arrangements. 4226

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Clerkenwell on Saturday, April 24th. Bells available: Holloway 2.4 p.m.; Clerkenwell 3.4.30 p.m.; Bishopsgate in evening. Service, Clerkenwell, 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea, by 21st, please, to W. N. Genna, 17, Tintern Way, West Harrow. Phone Byron 5197. 4215

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—Meeting will be held at Buxton on Saturday, April 24th. Bells (6) from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. in Village Hall. Also Lammass bells (5) in the evening. Names or numbers for tea, by Wednesday, April 21st, to Mr. H. G. Smithson, Verger's Cottage, Buxton, Norwich.—A. Tooke, Branch Sec. 4251

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Quarterly at Somerton (6) April 24th. Service 4. Tea 5. Deddington (8) evening. Please notify for tea.—E. C. Pearson, Adderbury West, Oxon. 4205

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Annual meeting, Cookham, Saturday, April 24th, 3 p.m. Names by April 19th, or no tea.—Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 4214

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Meeting at Speen (6) Saturday, April 24th. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Shaw bells 6 p.m. Names, by April 21st, to J. Goddard, 11, Council Houses, Lambourn Road, Speen, Newbury. 4219

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Annual meeting, Faringdon, Saturday, April 24th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea by Tuesday, April 20th.—R. F. J. Gilling, Fernham, Faringdon, Berks. 4200

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Mears Ashby, April 24th. Service 4.30. Names to W. G. Callis, 2, Ivy Cottages, Mears Ashby, Northampton. 4221

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Isham (6), Saturday, April 24th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Names for tea, by Tuesday previous, to Mr. T. Garley, May Cottage, Isham. 4232

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Brigstock (5), April 24th. Names for tea by Tuesday previous, please.—L. R. C. Witten, 4, John Street, Thrapston, Kettering. 4270

SALISBURY GUILD.—Calne Branch.—Meeting, Yatesbury (5), April 24th. Bells 3 p.m. Names for tea essential.—J. Goddard, 19, Yatesbury, Calne, Wilts. 4268

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—Meeting at South Perrott, April 24th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea by Monday, April 19th.—Barrett, Proutbridge, Beaminster. 4248

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Nottingham, Saturday, April 24th. St. Mary's bells (10) 2.30. Service 4.30. Please note following amendment: Tea will be provided at 1s. 6d. per head at 5 p.m. in Church

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Institute, Barkergate, for those notifying, by Wednesday, April 21st, Mr. W. Nichols, 179, Eltham Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham. Business meeting in same room after tea. 4207

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury-Lavenham District.—Meeting, Clare (8), Saturday, April 24th. Names for tea to Mr. S. Twitchett, Station Road, Clare, Sudbury, Suffolk. 4245

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Meeting, Brandon, April 24th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—E. M. Peckett, Hon. Dis. Sec. 4266

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Practice meeting, Waldron, April 24th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Look up Double Norwich. Names for tea, by April 21st, to R. W. Pankhurst, 11, Salehurst Road, Eastbourne. 4264

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting, Wonston, April 24th. Bells (6) 2. Service 4.15. Tea 5, Swan Inn, Sutton Scotney. Names, previous Wednesday, to R. F. Brewer, Dean, Sparsholt, Winchester. 4217

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—Quarterly meeting, Baughurst, April 24th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names, by April 21st, to Mr. F. West, Church Green, Baughurst. 4256

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—Corporate Communion, Portishead, April 25th, 8 a.m. Bells 7 a.m. Breakfast reserved for those notifying by April 22nd.—R. Gale, 21, Albert Road, Portishead. 4259

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.—Annual general meeting in Prof. Moule's rooms, Clare College, Cambridge, after practice Wednesday, April 28th. Election of officers and one Central Council representative.—J. H. Fielden, St. Catherine's. 4272

DEVON GUILD.—South-West Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Lamerton, May 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, by April 26th, to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth. 4233

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Crusader meeting, Rayleigh, Saturday, May 1st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Tea at nearby cafe 5 p.m. Specially requested—names for tea to Mr. E. J. Blower, 37, Highfield Crescent, Rayleigh. Special facilities for Kent Major. 4235

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting will be held at Edenbridge on May 1st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Individual names for tea, please, to Mr. E. C. Leigh, Holmesdale, Station Road, Edenbridge. 4265

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY GUILD.—Annual general meeting, May 1st, St. Philip's, Hulme, 3 p.m. Ringing after tea. Tour, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, July 5th-15th, 60s., to secretary before Easter.—Valerie Gutteridge, Hon. Sec., 34 Gordon Street, Ilkeston, Derbys. 4168

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District.—Meeting at Sutton-on-Trent, Notts, Saturday, May 1st. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, not later than Tuesday, April 27th, to Miss G. Burchall, Pembroke House, Sutton-on-Trent, Newark-on-Trent. 4262

LADIES' GUILD.—North-Eastern District.—Meeting at Morpeth Watch Tower on Saturday, May 1st. Names for tea, by Friday, April 30th, to Mr. A. H. Pegg, 19, Mitford Road, Morpeth. All ringers welcome. 4234

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—Spring meeting at Banham (6), Saturday, May 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15; preacher Canon R. W. Longley. Tea 5 in the Church Hall for those who notify, by Tuesday, April 27th, Mr. W. G. Saunders, New Buckenham, Norwich. Quidenham (8 bells) after meeting.—A. G. Harrison, Hon. Sec. 4263

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Salisbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, May 1st, Broadchalke. Bells 2.15. Service 4. Tea at Queen's Head 4.45. Bells at Coombe Bissett from 6.30. Names for tea by April 27th, please.—Miss Eloie, 7, Victoria Road, Salisbury. 4261

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Ruddington (8), Saturday, May 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. for those notifying, by Wednesday, April 28th, Mr. R. A. Bartlam, 38, Kirk Lane, Ruddington, Notts. 4253

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Brighton, Saturday, May 1st. Bells available: St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' from 2.30 p.m. Service St. Nicholas' 4.15 p.m. Tea Union Church Hall 5 p.m. (3s. per head) Names for tea by April 28th.—R. Percy, Esperance, Oldfield Road, Willington, Eastbourne. 4237

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held jointly with the SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY at Doncaster on May 1st. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea (2s. 6d.) 5 p.m. in Memorial Hall, followed by meeting. Names, by April 28th, to D. A. Chapman, 31, Firbeck Road, Doncaster. Subscriptions now due and reports for 1953 will be available. A large and representative attendance is desired.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford 9. 4271

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Leicester, May 8th, by invitation. Train, 8.10 St. Pancras. Ringing: St. John-the-Divine 11 to 12; Cathedral 2 to 3 p.m.; St. Margaret's 3 to 4 p.m. Meeting 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Ringing St. Mary-de-Castro 6 to 7 p.m. Names for tea, by May 1st, please, to Mr. H. J. Poole, 150, Narborough Road South, Leicester. Phone Leicester 33140. 4269

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, May 8th, at Norwich. Bells available: Mancroft (12) 3.15-4; St. Giles' (8), St. Mile's (8), St. John de Sepuchre (8) and St. George Colegate (6) 1.30-4; all bells after business meeting. Service, Mancroft, 4; preacher the Rev. J. L. Turney, Rector of Sculthorpe. Tea (with ham, etc.) Mancroft Parish Hall, 4.45 (3s. 9d. each). Tea only for those notifying general secretary by May 1st. Business meeting 5.30. Now, make this new Saturday annual meeting the best ever! People who do not attend the tea are equally welcome to the business meeting.—A. G. G. Thurlow, Gen. Sec., 67a, The Close, Norwich. 4196

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual dinner will take place on Saturday, October 2nd, at the Old Bell, Holborn. Tickets, price 13s., now available from the undersigned. Please apply early.—Peter N. Bond, Gaywood, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent. 4243

QUARTER PEALS

DUFFIELD, DERBYS.—On March 21st, at St. Alkmund's Parish Church, 1,260 Doubles (being 240 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 240 April Day, 360 Plain Bob and 420 Grandsire) with 4.5.8 coveting: Miss B. Nelson (first on working bell) 1, D. Gebbett (first as cond.) 2, Miss E. Foulke 3, Miss V. Horton 4, F. W. Stone 5, J. MacArthur 6, M. Hatch 7, G. Baker (first quarter) 8. Rung by the Duffield Society for St. Alkmund's Day (March 19th).

HORSELL, SURREY.—On March 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Pauline Drury 1, Anthony Sibbick 2, Doreen M. Gibbons 3, George Oliver 4, John A. Martin 5, Jack R. Worrall (cond.) 6. First of Minor 1 and 4. First of Minor 'inside' 2 and 3.—Also on March 28th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Betty Olney 1, Pauline Drury (first of two Minor 'inside') 2, Doreen M. Gibbons 3, George Oliver 4, Jack R. Worrall (cond.) 5, Ernest Warner 6. Both the above were rung before evensong.

TWYFORD, BERKS.—On April 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. White (first quarter) 1, A. Brown 2, Miss J. D. Cudby 3, L. Hall 4, Mrs. H. Smith 5, W. Hunt 6, H. Smith (cond.) 7, F. Wigmore 8. Rung for the wedding of Miss W. E. Hunt and Mr. E. H. Lewendon. The bride is a member of the local band.

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