



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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THE THREE RINGERS: A CAUTIONARY TALE

IT was a fine, frosty New Year's Eve, and Santa Claus, who had been a little delayed on his rounds by the number of ringers asking for handbells to be put in their stockings, was making his weary way home to the North Pole.

An inn-sign at the side of the road caught his attention, and he hesitated. Then he halted the reindeer, and after a quick look round, to make sure that he was not shattering the life-long illusions of some tiny tot, pulled up his collar, and scuttled into the 'Eight Bells.'

It was a small, shabby place, and only three men were drinking under the faded wreaths of holly. Santa Claus ordered himself a large whisky; he took stock of his companions, and decided, from their conversation and from their poor but honest garments, studded with guild badges, that they were ringers.

One of them was a Teacher, one a Student, and one a Worker—all virtuous men, though of humble origin; and, as he listened to them, Santa Claus, impressed with the recital of their good deeds during the past year, decided that the next year should bring each of them a gift of inestimable value—fifty peals!

'I,' said the Worker modestly to his friends, 'have done very little of note this year, except perhaps to call less peals of Stedman than any man in the country.' Santa Claus nodded approvingly to himself.

'I cannot claim any great deed, either,' admitted the Student, 'but I have made it my solemn rule to attempt a handbell peal every Friday night.' 'Did you get them all?,' asked the others enviously. 'We didn't get any of them,' said the Student, 'but it's the principle that counts.' Santa Claus lifted his glass in a silent toast to the determined young man. The Teacher spoke last, a fine figure of a man, though not in his first youth, and told them, not without emotion, that only the month before, he had called 'stand' in a peal of Triples because the tenor was down to fourth's place.

Santa Claus choked over his whisky, and a tear trickled down his cheek, as he murmured: 'Noble fellow! He shall have not fifty peals next year, but a hundred!' He muttered a few magic words, and passed into the night like a shadow, without paying for his whisky.

A year later, on the anniversary of the date, he was passing the 'Eight Bells' again, and dropped in, for sentiment's sake. There were the same three ringers, covered with the glory of many peals—but how altered from their former happy selves! The Worker was saying peevishly that it was a well-known fact that only spite prevented him from being universally acclaimed as the best doubles ringer in the world. The Student was affirming that half the handbell peals called that year had been false—the other half had been called by him. The Teacher was saying very little; but all his sentences began: 'Well, of course, when you chaps have rung a hundred in a year like me . . .'

Horried at the results which his gifts had produced, Santa determined to punish the ringers with the most awful fate he knew. A wave of his hand, and it was done; and as he stood back to behold his work, he felt a hand on his shoulder, and heard the landlord's voice saying: 'You're the chap as skipped out o' here without paying last year. Now I want a word wi' you . . .'

But you want to hear what happened to the ringers. The Worker was spirited away by the fairies into the Services; he was drafted abroad, and now spends his days impotently listening to carillons. The Student took a psychology degree, and was sent to experiment with the morale of lighthouse keepers. They say that he is attempting to call Holt's Original on the lighthouse bells of Britain, but is troubled by interference from those possessing hooters. The Teacher was dragged off by goblins and shut up under the box of Sherborne tenor; and to this day tenor ringers there who are slow with their backstroke leads sometimes imagine that they hear a faint voice crying in agony: 'Let me out, and I'll show you how to do it!'

FOOTNOTE.—The writer's friends assure her that there is a moral to this story, but she has so far been unable to discover it for herself.

D. R. C.

OLYMPIC COMMEMORATION PEALS

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.
THE ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY OF BELLRINGERS.
On Sun., Nov. 25, 1956, in 3 Hours,
At THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 27 lb. in G sharp.

*ERNEST H. HUGHES... .. Treble	*ARTHUR H. FISHER 5
KENNETH J. MINCHINTON .. 2	GERALD WESTON 6
BRENDA L. SHEPPARD 3	*CECIL H. PEARSON 7
*GEORGE W. PIPE 4	JOHN J. F. ROPER Tenor

Composed by JOHN E. BURTON. Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

* First peal outside England.

Specially arranged and rung in honour of the XVIth Olympiad.

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.
THE ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY OF BELLRINGERS.
On Sun., Dec. 2, 1956, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
At THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB TRIPLES

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 27 lb. in G sharp.

ERNEST H. HUGHES Treble	ARTHUR H. FISHER 5
GEORGE W. PIPE 2	CECIL H. PEARSON 6
BRENDA L. SHEPPARD 3	JOHN J. F. ROPER 7
KENNETH J. MINCHINTON .. 4	CYRIL R. WILLIAMS Tenor

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD. Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

First peal of Plain Bob Triples by all the band except the conductor.
Rung in honour of the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh to Melbourne. His Royal Highness attended morning service in this Cathedral prior to the commencement of the peal.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 15, 1956, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb.

*JACQUELINE S. EVANS .. Treble	†DAVID J. KING.. .. 7
R. GEORGE MORRIS.. .. 2	†CYRIL A. WRATTEN 8
†SHIRLEY M. PARSONS .. 3	WILLIAM E. THOMPSETT.. 9
DAVID W. BEARD 4	DAVID BEACHAM 10
†TUDOR EDWARDS 5	ROGER O. FRY 11
RICHARD J. BOWDEN .. 6	ROBERT E. COLES Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by DAVID W. BEARD.

* First peal in the method. † First peal on 12 bells. First peal of Cinques as conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

ELTHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.	Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. in G.
*ROBIN E. CLARKE Treble	ALFRED B. PECK 5
BERTIE ALDRIDGE 2	ERNEST B. CROWDER.. .. 6
†KENNETH D. SMALL 3	GEORFFREY J. HURRELL .. 7
WILLIAM J. RAWLINGS .. 4	JIM HURRELL Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST B. CROWDER.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

Rung for the Eve of Advent. Also a wedding compliment to Peter Andre (late of St. Mary's, Lewisham) and Joyce Goodwin, married this day at St. Mary's, Holloway.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Dec. 2, 1956, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND THOMAS OF CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF 5088 BOB MAJOR

Tenor 25½ cwt. in D.

CHARLES E. G. BANHAM.. Treble	JOHN S. BARNES 5
*C. FRANK W. PHILLIPPO.. 2	THOMAS E. SPIGHT 6
WILLIAM CLOVER 3	HENRY TOOKE 7
*FRANK C. J. ARNOLD .. 4	GEORGE P. ADAMS Tenor

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by WILLIAM CLOVER.

* 100th peal together. W. Clover has now 'completed the circle' as conductor.

Rung to mark the opening of the 850th anniversary year of the above church: 1107-1957.

BARROW-ON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 5, 1956, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5088 BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in F.

MICHAEL W. CROWDER .. Treble	STEPHEN BROMFIELD 5
W. ARTHUR CROWDER 2	J. BENJAMIN BUDD 6
ARTHUR W. HOODLESS 3	GWEN I. RUSBY.. .. 7
NORMAN BELL 4	FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD .. Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN. Conducted by FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD.

A birthday compliment to Margaret Eastoe.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Dec. 5, 1956, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13½ cwt.

LEONARD STILWELL Treble	JUNE M. CLEMENTS 5
DOROTHY K. SAUNDERS .. 2	ERNEST TREAGUS.. .. 6
*JEAN EGERTON 3	A. PATRICK CANNON 7
GEORGE FRANCIS 4	RALPH BIRD.. .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by GEORGE FRANCIS.

* First peal on eight bells.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Thurs., Dec. 6, 1956, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

At THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.

*JOHN R. JOYNER Treble	H. DAVID HOLLAND 5
EVELYN M. FLETCHER 2	NORMAN J. GOODMAN .. 6
MURIEL REAY 3	JOHN PINFOLD 7
GEORGE E. FEARN 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by WM. BARTON. Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* First peal of Major.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Dec. 6, 1956, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUFFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in A.

C. EDWARD LANKESTER .. Treble	*THOMAS J. LOCK 5
JOHN L. MORRIS.. .. 2	DENNIS KNOX 6
MARY LAWRENCE 3	ALFRED J. HOUSE 7
ALICK CUTLER 4	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

* 450th peal. First peal in the method by all the band, in the county, and for the Association.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 16 cwt.
WILLIAM T. PETTY Treble	*D. WALFORD DAVIES .. 5
EDMUND J. MORRIS 2	ALBERT J. PITMAN 6
MALGWYN H. WILLIAMS .. 3	WILLIAM DARE 7
THOMAS YEOMANS 4	HAROLD PREECE Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT J. PITMAN.

* First peal of Triples 'inside.'

CHOBHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5056 BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. in G.

ROBIN G. LEALE.. .. Treble	ROLAND W. MORANT.. .. 5
WILLIAM J. PAICE 2	GEORGE TALBOT 6
EILEEN M. TURNER 3	WILLIAM J. H. PARKER .. 7
ROY COLLINS 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.
In memoriam Harry J. Collis, who was for 50 years a ringer, and for 68 years a chorister, at this church.

COOKHAM, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY WINGROVE Treble	PERCY NEWTON 5
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER 2	*ARTHUR NEWTON 6
*DAVID CORNWALL 3	JOHN KAPE 7
ROLAND BIGGS 4	ANTHONY E. COX Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT.

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

* First peal in the method.

Rung to mark the 75th anniversary this year of the foundation of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

DARLINGTON, COUNTY DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,
At the Collegiate Church of St. Cuthbert,

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 14 lb. in F.

*DORIS M. KILLINGLEY .. Treble	KENNETH LAWSON 5
*THOMAS COOKE 2	CHARLES N. LEA 6
J. ALAN AINSWORTH 3	W. NORMAN PARK 7
†ROLAND PARK 4	†DENIS A. BAYLES Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER.

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

* First peal of London Surprise. † 50th peal together.

In memoriam Mrs. C. C. Venus, wife of Mr. L. Venus, a ringer and former steeple-keeper at this church for many years.

GREAT DUNMOW, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt.

H. WALTER SMITH Treble	RONALD SUCKLING 5
LEWIS W. WIFFEN 2	†CHARLES E. WILLMINGTON .. 6
*BRIAN J. HOWARD 3	HILDA G. SNOWDEN 7
TERRY EARLE 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.

* First peal of Bristol. † 100th peal.

ISLIP, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas.

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. in G

CYRIL H. KINCH Treble	EDMUND E. PEARSON 5
ALAN R. PINK 2	*DONALD H. NIBLETT 6
*VALERIE W. WILLARD 3	GEORGE F. BURTON 7
CHARLES COLES 4	EDGAR J. SMITH Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in the method. The first peal on the octave (two trebles added by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank and dedicated on November 18th, 1956).

Rung for the Feast of St. Nicholas.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALBERT DUNK Treble	*EDWARD C. BARTON 5
GEORGE KENWARD 2	TERENCE BARTON 6
GEORGE J. BUTCHER 3	FREDK. A. MITCHELL 7
RALPH BIRD 4	†CYRIL S. JARRETT Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by CYRIL S. JARRETT.

* First peal in the method. † 200th peal. Mr. F. A. Mitchell has now 'circled the tower' twice.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Stanley Kenward, son of the second ringer.

NORTHOWRAM, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Matthew.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in E.

*MRS. EILEEN HUDSON .. Treble	E. MARTIN FIELDEN 5
M. VIVIEN COPPING 2	*PHILIP J. H. HUDSON 6
WILLIAM H. SENIOR 3	JOHN PEARSON 7
W. GEORGE TURNER 4	†VERNON BOTTOMLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN PEARSON.

* First peal of Surprise. † 100th peal. First peal of Surprise as conductor.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Joe Greenwood, oldest ringer and surviving member of the original band of the above church. Also for the birth of Judith Elizabeth, grand-daughter of the conductor.

PAKEFIELD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints and St. Margaret.

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 88 lb.

GEORGE W. HOWLETT .. Treble	EDWIN T. CHAPMAN 5
BEN S. THOMPSON 2	A. WILLIAM BIRD 6
HORACE W. EASEY 3	JOHN W. G. KINDRED 7
MICHAEL SOLLEY 4	PETER KINDRED Tenor

Composed by J. PLATT.

Conducted by GEORGE W. HOWLETT.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Thomas.

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt.

JEAN C. BROWN Treble	SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN. 5
*SYDNEY SAGE 2	GEOFFREY D. FEARNEHOUGH .. 6
*PETER WATSON 3	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD 7
*IVOR JENKINS 4	NEIL D. LOMAS Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

* First peal in the method 'inside.'

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
At the Church of St. John.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt.

MILTON C. FOWLER .. Treble	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 5
ELIZABETH BATE 2	DENNIS A. CHAPMAN 6
*IAN M. HOLLAND 3	FREDERICK J. JACKSON 7
NORMAN CHADDOCK 4	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

* First peal in the method.

RINGWOOD, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul.

A PEAL OF 5120 RUGBY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

ROBERT C. KIPPIN .. Treble	*ADRIAN J. TUMBER 5
NELIA M. LEAHY 2	*J. MICHAEL LAKIN 6
S. KATHLEEN M. KNIGHT .. 3	ROGER BALDWIN 7
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH .. 4	R. ROGER SAVORY Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN IVIN.

Conducted by J. MICHAEL LAKIN.

* 50th peal together. First peal of Rugby by all the band and for the Guild. Composition rung for the first time.

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Dec. 9, 1956, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin.

A PEAL OF 5120 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb. in E flat.

DAVID C. VINCENT .. Treble	NEIL D. LOMAS 5
RUTH M. JACKSON 2	ALAN J. BROWN 6
PERCY W. CAVE 3	BRIAN HARRIS 7
BASIL JONES 4	PETER BORDER Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.



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FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

HOAR CROSS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Nov. 24, 1956, in 3 Hours and 27 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in eight methods: (1) Thelwall Bob and Childwall Bob, (2) Double Oxford Bob, (3) St. Clement's Bob, (4) Cambridge Surprise, (5) Kent Treble Bob, (6) Oxford Treble Bob, (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 28 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in C sharp.

BRIAN G. WARWICK Treble	BRIAN S. CHAPMAN 4
ALAN G. FOSTER 2	G. RONALD EDWARDS 5
ERNEST J. JELLEY 3	JOHN M. JELLEY Tenor

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

The quickest peal on the bells.

CRANFORD, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents, with 5-6 the right way throughout.

Tenor 7 cwt. in B.

JOHN E. CHILCOTT Treble	FREDERICK R. SCOTT 4
JOHN S. MASON 2	MICHAEL P. MORETON 5
FRANK C. PRICE 3	JOHN R. MAYNE Tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. MAYNE.

First peal of London Surprise Minor by all the band except the conductor.

GREAT STAUGHTON, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise, and three extents of Plain Bob, each extent being called differently.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

EDMUND J. WHITING .. Treble	R. FRANK BAKER 4
*DOROTHY ROBINSON 2	HAROLD S. PEACOCK 5
BRYAN F. SIMS 3	BRYAN PATTISON Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

* First peal in more than one method.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

HAMBLEDON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising two different extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three different extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

*JOHN A. G. BALL Treble	*ALAN H. STURGESS 4
*RENEE STURGESS 2	FREDERICK W. BURNETT 5
E. WINIFRED KEYS 3	JOHN H. HUNT Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. HUNT.

* First peal in more than one method.

MARSTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 10 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (different callings). Tenor 6 cwt.

*BRIAN MACHON Treble	ALEC GAMMON 3
†ROY H. JONES 2	MALCOLM JOURNEAUX 4
DAVID C. WOODWARD Tenor	

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire. First peal by a local band.

Quickest peal on the bells.
Rung for the Patronal Festival, and to mark the arrival of Miss Madeline S. Liles as parish worker. Also a 21st birthday compliment to Roy H. Jones.

NASEBY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being four six-scores each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, April Day and Plain Bob, and 30 six-scores of Grandsire. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*WILLIAM C. CROPLEY .. Treble	WILLIAM C. BROWN 3
STANLEY A. BROWN 2	DEREK E. GRIFFIN 4

ARTHUR J. MILLWARD Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR J. MILLWARD.

* First peal and first by a Naseby ringer. First peal for the Guilsborough Branch by tower captains.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. F. Lane. Mr. F. Lane is a Naseby ringer.

POLSTEAD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents with 5/6 right way. Tenor 9½ cwt.

FRANK G. OLIVER Treble	FREDERICK R. DAY 4
*WILLIAM J. BRUNT 2	†BERNARD FAIRHEAD 5
*FRANK PIKE 3	HARRY J. MILLATT Tenor

Conducted by HARRY J. MILLATT.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Surprise Minor. Believed to be the first peal of Surprise on the bells.

Rung in honour of the 82nd birthday of Sir Winston S. Churchill.

SANDON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In ten methods: (1) Spliced Chester and Munden, (2) Spliced York and Durham, (3) Spliced London and Wells, (4) and (5) Spliced Beverley and Surfleet, (6) Ipswich, (7) Cambridge. Tenor 10 cwt.

PETER J. EVES Treble	*PETER J. CAME 4
HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE .. 2	DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS 5
*PATRICK W. SALTmarsh .. 3	JOE E. G. ROAST Tenor

Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.

* First peal in ten Surprise methods.

Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the conductor.

WILMSLOW, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

In 33 methods: (1) Skipton, Chepstow, Balmoral and Fotheringay Delight; (2) Knutsford, Rostherne, Wilmslow and Bogedone Delight; (3) Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal, St. Werburgh and Abbeyville Delight; (4) Willesden, Newdigate, College Bob IV, Old Oxford and Marple Delight; (5) College Exercise, Norbury, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk and Morning Star Treble Bob; (6) Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby and Braintree Delight; (7) Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN. .. Treble	*WILLIAM A. SMITH 4
M. JILLIAN BRIERLEY 2	ALEXANDER RICHARDSON .. 5
IVOR JENKINS 3	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. Tenor

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

* First peal in 33 methods.

Rung as an 84th birthday compliment to Mrs. J. Wheadon, wife of a local ringer.

WISSETT, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 1, 1956, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents (C.C.C. Nos. 37, 34, 48, 50, 49, 51, 29). Tenor 10 cwt.

REGINALD R. DARCH .. Treble	*ALAN R. BRIDGES 4
JACK PILGRIM 2	JOHN W. G. KINDRED 5
EDWIN T. CHAPMAN 3	PETER KINDRED Tenor

Conducted by PETER KINDRED.

* First peal of Minor. Rung for the Patronal Festival.

RODMERSHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 2, 1956, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

ALBERT DUNK Treble	*†EDWARD C. BARTON 4
*TERENCE BARTON 2	GEORGE KENWARD 5
†CYRIL S. JARRETT 3	RALPH BIRD Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* First peal in seven Minor methods 'inside.' † 25th peal together.

APSLEY END, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 3, 1956, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents in eight methods: (1) York, (2) London, (3) Wells, (4) Cambridge and Primrose, (5) Bourne, (6) Netherseale, (7) Norwich. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*JOYCE GOOD Treble	AUGUSTIN V. GOOD 4
†MRS. G. MANCHIP 2	WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT 5
WALTER AYRE 3	WILLIAM C. HUGHES Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First Surprise peal. † First peal in eight methods.

FINBOROUGH MAGNA, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thurs., Dec. 6, 1956, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 Cambridge Surprise and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

RAYMOND F. TAYLOR .. Treble	WILLIAM B. DUNCAN .. 4
ROBERT E. LESTER .. 2	DOUGLAS H. ROOKE .. 5
*LESLIE N. MELTON .. 3	KENNETH G. BROWN .. Tenor

Conducted by KENNETH G. BROWN.

* First peal in four methods.

Rung for St. Andrew's Day.

ASHBOCKING, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Fri., Dec. 7, 1956, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Being seven extents, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt. 21 lb. in G.

PETER R. J. LESTER (13) Treble	URBAN W. WILDNEY .. 4
LESLIE N. MELTON (14) .. 2	*†DAVID F. WELHAM .. 5
*WINSTON S. GIRLING (15) 3	ROBERT E. LESTER .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT E. LESTER.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal 'inside.' The conductor has now 'circled' this tower.

ABSON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 10½ cwt.

GILBERT S. SPRULES .. Treble	†VERNON J. JONES .. 4
*RITA M. WEBB .. 2	JAMES W. SPRULES .. 5
*BARBARA J. ROGERS .. 3	HENRY TAYSON .. Tenor

Conducted by GILBERT S. SPRULES.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal away from the treble.

BODENHAM, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HERFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents (ten callings). Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

*DOROTHY M. RUSHTON (14) Treble	THOMAS RUSHTON .. 4
*MRS. DORIS MINTON .. 2	LESLIE EVANS .. 5
†ROSEMARY BRAY .. 3	A. ROLAND BILLINGS .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE EVANS.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

COALPIT HEATH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

*BRIAN J. WYLDE .. Treble	DAVID HEIGHTON .. 4
MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING .. 2	PATRICIA M. BOURN .. 5
†PATRICK J. BIRD .. 3	FRANK D. MACK .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK D. MACK.

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

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Hinckley District.)

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob.

FREDERICK WATSON .. Treble	JOHN H. BAILESS .. 4
*RODNEY RICHARDSON .. 2	GRAHAM T. BALL .. 5
MICHAEL VERNON .. 3	MICHAEL E. BROWN .. Tenor

Conducted by MICHAEL E. BROWN.

* First peal and first attempt (aged 13).

WELLINGORE, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 8, 1956, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods, being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Single Court, Single Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb.

JOHN R. KETTERINGHAM .. Treble	G. LEONARD THOMPSON .. 4
GILES C. GALLEY .. 2	WILLIAM R. PARKER .. 5
*AMOS INGALL .. 3	*LOUIS WILDERS .. Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS WILDERS.

* 75th peal together.

MILTON REGIS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 9, 1956, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Oxford Bob and two extents each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

STANLEY V. RAYFIELD .. Treble	EDWARD C. BARTON .. 4
GEORGE A. NAYLOR .. 2	GEORGE KENWARD .. 5
TERENCE BARTON .. 3	ERIC NAYLOR .. Tenor

Conducted by ERIC NAYLOR.

Rung to welcome the Rev. Paul E. Richman, who was inducted on December 4th.

BURWELL, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Sat., Dec. 15, 1956, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB DOUBLES

Tenor 13 cwt. 17 lb.

W. JOHN COUPERTHWAIT Treble	ALBERT G. FULLER .. 4
A. GEORGE ORBELL .. 2	RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN .. 5
CHARLES F. SARGEANT .. 3	SIDNEY FENN .. Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN.

First peal and first attempt for all except conductor.

Rung by the local Sunday service band to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Philip Taylor (son of a local ringer) and Miss Mary Balls.

HANDBELL PEALS

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Dec. 3, 1956, in 2 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT 13, KNOWSLEY ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Hudson's 'New Light' variation. Tenor size 15 in C.

WILFRED L. ROBINSON .. 1-2	ROBIN G. TURNER .. 5-6
FREDK. WM. GROCOTT .. 3-4	LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. 7-8

Composed by ED. C. GOBEY. Conducted by FREDK. WM. GROCOTT.

First peal in the method on handbells.

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 4, 1956, in 1 Hour and 44 Minutes,

IN THE RINGING CHAMBER OF THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 720 each of St. Simon's, St. Martin's, Plain Bob. Old Bob. April Day, Grandsire and Reverse Canterbury Pleasure.

D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 1-2	EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. 3-4
ALAN SHEPPARD .. 5-6	

Conducted by ALAN SHEPPARD.

NORWICH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Dec. 5, 1956, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT 27, CHALK HILL ROAD, NORWICH,

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

*GEORGE SAYER .. 1-2	H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 3-4
ARTHUR G. BASON .. 5-6	

Conducted by ARTHUR G. BASON.

* First peal 'in hand.'

LEVERSTOCK GREEN, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Dec. 9, 1956, in 1 Hour and 52 Minutes,

IN THE SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In two methods, being one extent of Double Bob and six of Plain Bob. Tenor size 11 in G.

*GEOFFREY DODDS .. 1-2	WALTER AYRE .. 3-4
*JOYCE DODDS .. 5-6	

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Minor in two methods 'in hand.' Conductor's 250th handbell peal.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Dec. 10, 1956, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

A PEAL OF 5040 BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 15 in C.

VALERIE WILLARD .. 1-2	JOHN THOMAS .. 5-6
*DAVID J. MARSHALL .. 3-4	MRS. J. THOMAS .. 7-8
†VIVIAN BARNES .. 9-10	

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by DAVID J. MARSHALL.

Witness: MRS. D. J. MARSHALL.

* First peal of Bob Royal. † First peal of Royal.

QUARTER PEALS

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCs.—On Dec. 2nd, at St. Peter's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Allott (first quarter) 1, Miss P. S. Gatty 2, D. Ogden 3, A. W. Stone 4, J. P. Schoolden (first quarter as (cond.) 5, N. Bennett 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to the 2nd ringer.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—On Dec. 8th, 1,280 Spliced Surprise Major (640 London, 320 Bristol, 160 Cambridge, 96 Superlative, 64 Yorkshire, with 32 changes of method): Beverley A. Thompson 1, A. F. Thirst 2, D. Jackson 3, D. N. Layton 4, J. Armstrong 5, P. P. Brown 6, R. Keeley 7, D. Beresford (cond.) 8. First quarter of Spliced Surprise Major for all the band except the ringers of the second and fourth.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 6th, 1,280 Spliced Yorkshire and Cambridge Major: Miss S. Streeter 1, E. R. Ropley 2, Miss J. Clements 3, G. Francis 4, A. P. Cannon 5, L. Stilwell 6, R. Bird (cond.) 7, W. L. Weller 8. First quarter of Spliced Surprise for 1, 3, 4 and 8. Rung after peal failure.

BRUTON, SOMERSET.—On Nov. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Gare 1, Miss A. V. White (first 'inside') 2, W. J. Tiley (cond.) 3, H. G. White 4, H. Doel 5, F. L. Andrews 6.

COSELEY, STAFFS.—On Dec. 8th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: K. W. Knowles 1, F. E. Wilshaw 2, P. G. Golder (first of Surprise Major) 3, J. D. Holden 4, E. E. Speake (cond.) 5, D. J. Tranter 6, R. J. Warriolow 7, A. Pritchard 8. A birthday compliment to the mother of the 4th ringer. Rung after an unsuccessful peal attempt.

DERBY.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Ryde (first quarter) 1, P. B. Knight 2, Miss P. Forster 3, F. R. Lowe 4, H. Letts 5, B. Manning 6, D. P. Jones (cond.) 7, F. Murfin 8. For special patronal festival service.

EASTON MAUDIT, NORTHANTS.—On Dec. 9th, 1,260 Doubles (420 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 360 Bob, 360 Grandsire and 120 Spliced Canterbury, Bob and Grandsire): H. Wooding 1, Miss C. Coleman 2, R. Line 3, N. Line 4, E. Smart (cond.) 5. Rung as a compliment to Miss E. J. Labutt on her 90th birthday.

EARDISLAND, HEREFORDS.—On Nov. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (4, 6, 8 covering): Joyce Davies (first quarter) 1, F. R. Harris 2, P. Powles 3, S. Daniels 4, L. T. Mainwaring 5, Rosemary Bray 6, L. Evans (cond.) 7, G. E. Arnett 8. Rung by the Sunday service band for Evensong, and as a farewell to the Vicar (the Rev. P. E. Rock), who has retired.

EDINBURGH.—At the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, on Dec. 15th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. H. Pickett 1, Kate Branson 2, A. Smith 3, R. Wilson 4, J. Killick 5, A. W. Lloyd 6, C. R. Raine (cond.) 7, J. Newton 8. First of Stedman for 3 and 5. Rung to celebrate the success of the ringers of 3 and 5, who are both now qualified as doctores.

FRINDSBURY, KENT.—On Dec. 9th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Miss R. Highley 1, Miss D. Borer 2, J. C. S. Benson 3, R. Burns 4, C. S. Jarrett (cond.) 5, P. F. Borer 6. First of Minor for 2 and 3. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Dorothy Borer.

GRANTHAM, Lincs.—On Dec. 8th, 1,260 Bob Royal: Pamela Clarke 1, R. Woods 2, C. Towers 3, B. M. Buswell (cond.) 4, D. A. Frith 5, F. Pinchbeck 6, E. J. Jelley 7, L. Squires 8, J. D. Clarke 9, J. Jelley (first of Royal on tower bell) 10. First of Royal for 1, 4 and 8. Also on Dec. 9th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: H. R. Woods 1, B. Hunt 2, J. B. Cook 3, F. W. Pinchbeck 4, J. Watson 5, W. R. Read 6, D. A. Frith (cond.) 7, P. E. Parry 8. First in method by all. To honour the first visit of the new Bishop of Lincoln to Grantham.

HARROW, MIDDLEX.—On Dec. 16th, 1,260 Doubles (780 Grandsire, 6 callings, and 480 Bob, 4 callings): C. W. Simpson 1, Shirley H. Dorey 2, Sylvia J. Heasman 3, R. E. Waters 4, C. E. Slade (cond.) 5, B. W. Huntley 6. First quarter in two methods by all the band. For Evensong.

HENDON, MIDDLEX.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Bob Minor: J. Maltby (first of Minor) 1, M. Carter 2, J. Voss 3, A. Butler 4, G. Ellis 5, A. Warren (cond.) 6. Rung for Confirmation service.

HIGH WYCOMBE, Bucks.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Biggs 1, A. Foxall 2, A. Newton 3, K. Biggs 4, N. Cornwall 5, J. D. Kape 6, A. E. Cox (cond.) 7, D. Cornwall 8. Rung in memory of Ralph H. Biggs, who met with a fatal accident 25 years ago this day.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: T. Grainger (first of Triples) 1, S. Penfold 2, Miss H. Lowings 3, T. D. Belben (first of Triples) 4, J. W. Stephenson 5, A. J. Salisbury 6, F. V. Gant (cond.) 7, A. Gargrave 8. For the patronal festival.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY, BEDS.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Bob Minor (with 7, 8 covering): Miss B. Stapleton (first quarter) 1, B. Grainger (first 'inside') 2, Miss A. Grainger 3, R. Churchill 4, A. Butcher 5, P. Newing (cond.) 6, B. Stapleton (first quarter) 7, D. Hall 8. Rung to the Glory of God.

LLANBADARN FAWR, CARDIGANS.—On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Harris 1, T. Gwilliam 2, G. Harris 3, R. Hitchcock 4, T. Wortley 5, P. Romney 6, G. Thomas (cond.) 7, M. Edwards 8. Also 1,320 Grandsire Triples: G. Harris 1, R. Hitchcock 2, T. Gwilliam 3, D. Thomas 4, G. Harris 5, P. Romney 6, D. Werty 7, W. Harris 8. Both rung to commemorate the enthronement that day of the Rt. Rev. John Richard Richards, a native of this parish, as Bishop of St. David's.

MARESFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss J. Butcher (first quarter) 1, R. Bennett 2, Miss B. Catt (first quarter) 3, J. Pell 4, A. Hart (cond.) 5, T. Brett 6. Rung for the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. F. Butcher.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.—On Nov. 4th, 1,260 Bob Minor: R. Smith 1, F. Osbaldiston (first 'inside') 2, A. Osbaldiston 3, B. Groves 4, M. J. Pryor 5, A. McFall (cond.) 6. Also on Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (660 Plain Bob, 600 Grandsire): Miss D. Stafford (first quarter) 1, W. Dowse (first 'inside') 2, A. Osbaldiston 3, R. Smith 4, M. J. Pryor (cond.) 5, A. McFall 6.

NORTHAMPTON.—At the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, on Dec. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss N. Williams 1, R. Finch 2, Mrs. G. F. Roome 3, Miss J. Downing 4, Miss D. Miller 5, T. Jennings 6, G. F. Roome (cond.) 7, B. Linnell 8. Rung by members of the local company as a compliment to Mr. B. Linnell and Miss E. Chaplin on their engagement.

OLD HEADINGTON, OXON.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Doubles (600 Bob and 660 Grandsire): Angela Mellor (first quarter) 1, T. Smith 2, J. Cruickshank 3, J. Dart 4, R. J. Trebilcock (cond.) 5, R. Brown 6. For Evensong. Also on Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Bob Minor: Linda Forward 1, Ruth Hodgson 2, D. Simms 3, S. A. Scott 4, T. Smith 5, R. J. Trebilcock (cond.) 6. A farewell to the Revd P. Symes, who is leaving for St. Michael's, Abingdon.

OTLEY, YORKS.—On Dec. 8th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Dawson (first of Grandsire Triples) 1, E. H. Simpson 2, J. Cooper 3, Margaret S. Rhodes 4, D. Thorp 5, W. Dixon 6, P. Whitaker (first as cond.) 7, M. K. Duxbury (first of Grandsire Triples) 8. Rung to welcome the new Vicar (the Rev. F. P. B. Ashe, M.A.).

OXFORD.—On Dec. 2nd, at New College, 1,296 Little Bob Royal: S. J. Ivins 1, D. H. Niblett (cond.) 2, A. J. Sanger 3, P. R. Sanders 4, W. H. Jackson 5, G. G. Salmon 6, C. J. B. Taylor 7, R. A. Hodgson 8, E. Naylor 9, D. Hoare 10. First of Little Bob Royal for 3, 6 and 10.

READING, BERKS.—At St. Laurence's Church, on Dec. 14th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: A. Diserens (cond.) 1, Mrs. A. Diserens 2, Miss P. Hart 3, K. Cottrell 4, B. C. Stirland 5, T. N. Lanaghan 6, R. G. Burton 7, R. F. Diserens 8, N. J. Diserens 9, V. T. Cherrill 10. Rung half-muffled in memorial Edgar Humfrey.

RUGELEY, STAFFS.—On Nov. 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Sharratt 1, Miss A. Ward 2, J. H. Joyner (cond.) 3, C. A. Brass 4, J. A. Townsend 5, E. H. Norman 6. For Confirmation service, and also a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Townsend.

ST. NICHOLAS-AT-WADE, KENT.—On Dec. 8th, 1,956 Minor (comprising 1,440 Cambridge Surprise and 516 Plain Bob): P. Westwood 1, A. Butler 2, M. Stephens (cond.) 3, F. Lawrence 4, D. Chatfield 5, B. Luck 6. Rung, after an unsuccessful peal attempt, for the Feast of St. Nicholas; also as a welcome to Neil, son of Janet and Fred Lawrence, of the Walmer band, born December 8th, 1956.

SHOREDITCH, E.—At the Church of St. Leonard, on Dec. 9th, 1,263 Stedman Caters: Mrs. R. F. Deal 1, C. A. Hughes 2, T. H. Francis (cond.) 3, Miss B. A. Thompson 4, F. E. Hawthorne 5, P. P. Brown 6, R. Keeley 7, E. V. Williams 8, T. W. Sheppard 9, A. R. Ling 10. First of Stedman Caters for 4 and 8.

SOUTH CADBURY, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Gare 1, C. Thomas 2, H. F. Creed 3, W. J. Tiley (cond.) 4, D. Gare 5, C. Lamb 6.

STEPNEY, E.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: L. J. Fox 1, Miss B. Tester 2, G. J. Boomsma 3, C. W. Ridgway 4, A. F. Lewry 5, R. W. Sumner 6, W. A. Theobald (cond.) 7, H. W. Knauss 8. First of Stedman for 2, 3, 4 and 8. For Evensong.

STREATHAM, S.W.—On Dec. 16th, at St. Leonard's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Sinkins (92) 1, Mrs. R. Sanders 2, R. Sanders 3, J. Chapman (cond.) 4, M. Williamson 5, J. Cook 6, J. Euston 7, G. Miles (first quarter) 8.

SWINDON, WILTS.—At Christ Church, on Dec. 2nd, 1,299 Stedman Caters: W. W. T. Daniell 1, R. G. Townsend 2, G. W. Townsend 3, R. C. Westney 4, H. W. Bishop 5, M. B. Kemp (first of Caters and in method) 6, G. Wells 7, E. Sutton 8, T. Townsend (cond.) 9, E. Vincent 10. Rung for Advent Sunday and a birthday compliment to Eli Vincent.

TAMWORTH, STAFFS.—On Nov. 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Pratt 1, G. Peers (jun.) 2, E. Elton 3, N. Pratt 4, B. Rackham 5, H. Dakin 6, G. Peers (sen. cond.) 7, N. Attaway 8. Rung half-muffled in respect of the death of Mrs. E. Chaplin. Also on Nov. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Molly Smith 1, N. Attaway (first 'inside') 2, G. Peers (jun.) 3, E. Elton 4, B. Rackham 5, H. Dakin 6, G. Peers (sen. cond.) 7, C. Pratt 8. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to N. Attaway, and in honour of the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. B. Rackham.

THETFORD, NORFOLK.—On Nov. 24th, 1,440 Bob Minor (with tenor covering): G. Peck 1, D. M. Reeve 2, H. Fuller 3, N. Watson 4, T. Stagg 5, J. Paul (cond.) 6, J. Banks tenor. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. Watling.

TOTTENHOE, BEDS.—On Dec. 11th, 1,264 Bob Major: J. S. Crew 1, A. E. Rushton 2, R. J. Scott 3, A. J. Smith 4, J. R. S. Jordan 5, R. Kendall 6, J. G. Newman 7, J. W. Sinfield (cond.) 8. First quarter for 1 and 5.

WHATTON, NOTTS.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Buswell 1, Pamela C. Clarke 2, J. D. Clarke (cond.) 3, T. Goodwin 4, T. O. Greasley 5, C. Wise 6. First quarter of Grandsire Doubles for all the band. Rung for Confirmation service.

WALMER, KENT.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss Francis 1, A. E. Rye 2, P. Rye 3, F. Rye 4, T. Wickens 5, F. Lawrence 6, F. B. Lufkin (cond.) 7, A. Dixon 8. For Evensong.

WANLIP, LEICS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: O. T. Northwood (cond.) 1, G. C. J. Wakefield 2, R. Yates 3, P. Morris 4, T. A. Yates 5, G. Northwood 6. First 'inside' for 3 and 4. Rung for the patronal festival and to mark the inauguration of a monthly family service.

WANTAGE, BERKS.—On Dec. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples (half-muffled): W. Seymour 1, A. E. Fullbrook 2, H. V. Booker (first quarter) 3, K. Leach (cond.) 4, H. Gregory 5, A. R. Wood (first 'inside') 6, H. C. Mulford 7, H. White 8. To the memory of the Rt. Rev. Roscoe George Shedden, D.D., 21 years Vicar of this parish, who died on December 11th.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFS.—At All Saints' Church, on Dec. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Ellis 1, J. Cooper 2, A. Mills (cond.) 3, F. Pickering 4, W. D. Peart 5, W. A. Partridge 6, J. N. Hadley 7, J. R. Cottrell 8. For Evensong and the dedication of two stained glass windows by the Archdeacon of Stafford (the Venerable W. A. Parker).

WIVELSFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Oct. 7th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Plain Bob, 240 April Day, 240 Reverse Canterbury, 240 Reverse St. Bartholomew and 300 Grandsire): Dilys Smith 1, B. Harfield 2, Edna M. Everest (cond.) 3, Agnes F. Millam 4, S. W. Brown 5, A. Osborne 6. For harvest festival.

WOBNURN, BEDS.—On Dec. 16th, 1,260 Bob Minor (7, 8 covering): Frances Spavins 1, H. D. Harris 2, Angela Grainger 3, Anne Spavins 4, K. G. Spavins 5, P. Newing (cond.) 6, B. Grainger 7, R. E. Atkins 8. First quarter 1 and 8. For Evensong.

NORWICH DIOCESAN

Members and friends gathered at Mulbarton on December 8th to pay tribute to the memory of the late Rev. Alexander St. John Heard, president of the Association from 1942 to 1955. Mrs. Heard, who was unable to attend through ill health, was represented by Mrs. Derry Cooke, of Bergh Apton Manor.

The occasion was the dedication of a bronze memorial tablet by the president, the Rev. H. G. Lillingston. The service was conducted by the Rector, Dr. J. Mosley, who also gave the address. The lesson was read by Mr. Arthur G. Bason, chairman of the Northern Branch.

The tablet has been placed in the ringing chamber, and the inscription reads:—

In grateful memory of Alexander St. John Heard, M.A., president of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers, 1942-1955; Rector of this parish, 1943-1955.

The cost has been defrayed by individual donations from members and also a donation from Mrs. Heard.

Gratefully Acknowledged

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

Personal.—A. P. Knights 3s., J. I. Williams 4s.

Peals.—Milton Regis 3s., Sherburn-in-Elmet 1s. 6d., Burwell 3s., Escrick 4s., Bury St. Edmunds 5s., Sutton-on-Trent 4s., Roydon 3s., North Bradley 4s.

Quarter Peals.—Edenbridge 4s., Hendon 3s., Maresfield 2s. 6d., Mangotsfield 4s., Husborne Crawley 2s., Coseley 2s. 6d., Rugeley 3s., Wantage 4s., Swindon 4s., Tamworth 10s., Otley 2s. 6d., Edinburgh 4s., Streatham 2s. 6d., Harrow 3s., Solihull 2s., Woburn 4s.

BALDOCK DINNER

Canon Branchley was welcomed and re-introduced to the Baldock Guild at the Rose and Crown on December 15th, when the annual dinner was held.

After an excellent meal and the loyal toast, Mr. T. Southam proposed the health of the Baldock Guild, saying that the Guild was fighting the defeatist attitude found in many towers.

The captain, Mr. E. Buck, replied. He said that the Guild had taught 25 learners, but only 12 remained as ringers. Progress could only be maintained if new people were taught. Six quarters had been rung this year, and two peals, including the one that afternoon.

Mr. B. Scoot proposed the toast to 'The Ladies,' and Miss J. Sanderson replied. Afterwards Mr. Harris showed his lantern slides of old Baldock. They were most interesting, and were followed by more handbell ringing and some conjuring by Mr. P. Mehew. J. S.

Memorial Belfry Clock

A fairly large congregation representative of many church organisations was present at Evensong at Weston Favell, Northants, on Sunday, December 16th, to witness the dedication of a new belfry wall clock (by Smith and Son, of Derby). The clock is to the memory of Joseph W. L. Linnett, a keen ringer, who died in 1949 at the age of 26 years from a rare, incurable disease. He was a College Youth and a member of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, and had several peals—mainly Doubles and Minor—to his credit. He was also a chorister and loved his church and all it stood for. The dedication was performed by the Rector (the Rev. Douglass Hopkins), and all the local ringers with their leader, Mr. P. Amos, were present.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION**Ilchester Deanery Branch Dinner**

The second annual dinner of the Ilchester Branch was held at Somerton, Somerset, on December 15th.

The evening began with short touches on the church bells prior to 7.30 p.m. Evensong, after which 36 guests sat down to dinner at the White Hart Hotel.

In the absence of the Branch chairman, the Rev. L. E. Walsh, grace was said by the Vicar of Somerton, the Rev. T. H. O. Hayter, who also proposed a vote of thanks to the organisers of the gathering, Mr. W. E. Turner, the Branch Ringing Master, and Mr. W. G. Turk, of Martock.

After dinner the programme was varied. Mr. Ricketts of Yeovil, entertained the company with songs; Mr. B. Watts, of Hardington, played the piano and organised some amusing games, including a paper hat making competition; handbells were brought out for a few changes, and particular delight was given by Mr. P. Sparks and his team from Templecombe, who rang a selection of songs and carols on 16 handbells. Mr. Turner warmly thanked all who had contributed to the evening's entertainment, and the party concluded with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' and the National Anthem.

Tower represented were: Martock, Yeovil, Templecombe, Hardington Mandeville, Shepton Beauchamp, Ash and Somerton.

The Bedfordshire Young Ringers published last week their Christmas greetings. Their Yorkshire tour was in July and not August. Will their new friends please accept this correction to their greeting.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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FRANK I. HAIRS.
JOSEPH T. DYKE.
R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Our congratulations to the ringers of Burwell, Cambs. Five of the band rang their first peal on December 15th. Among them was Mr. A. G. Orbell, who is now 66 and rang his first quarter last November, although he learnt to handle a bell in 1908.

BELFRY

The ringer of the second in the peal of Stedman Cinques at Lincoln on December 1st (p. 786) was John Waters, and not as submitted for publication.

The quarter peal from Woburn, recorded this week, is the first long touch by a local band for 45 years, and was rung by a band recently starting from scratch. A peal of Bob Major in December, 1911, conducted by Mr. H. D. Harris, was the previous local performance.

Hudson's 'New Light' Variation of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, of which a handbell peal was rung at Norbury (Hazel Grove), Cheshire, was first rung at Sheffield in 1843. The peal consists of leads of the two methods with various peculiarities for bobs.

Recordings of the bells of Bucklebury and East Hagbourne, Berks, were relayed by a Swindon radio firm as part of their Christmas appeal. Swinging bells on headstocks (two bells to one headstock) are part of the firm's window display. The records include rounds, Queens, Tittums, Grandshire, Stedman and Kent T.B. Major.

Geoffrey Miles, who took part in his first quarter at Streatham, is a son of the late E. L. Miles and a nephew of the late H. G. Miles (for many years a ringer at Kensington and St. Paul's Cathedral, who was also the composer of the 21,000-odd Stedman Caters, rung at Appleton). The veteran F. Sinkins, who also took part, wishes it to be a birthday compliment to Walter Wolstencroft, 82 on December 17th, both old ringing friends at Slough for many years.

GOSSIP

The peal of Stedman Cinques at Newport was rung as a compliment to Mr. C. Greedy, who can be justly proud of his record of being a ringer for 40 years, the last 27 years of which he has held the position of tower captain at St. Woolos'. The excellent 'go' of the bells and the cleanliness of the ringing chamber are themselves a fine tribute to his keen work.

Carlton Colville bells have recently been retuned and rebung in a new steel frame with provision made for an additional treble by John Taylor and Co. Summer visitors to Pakefield will be pleased to note that 'Uncle George,' as he is affectionately known by many, rang his first peal on these bells.

Four members of the local band took part in a quarter peal of Bob Minor on December 13th at Husborne Crawley, Beds. This is the first time for many years that as many as four local ringers have realised such an achievement and it is hoped that a quarter peal may soon be accomplished entirely by the local band. Most of the members have been ringing only for a short time, and their effort speaks well for the instruction of Mr. R. Churchill and the enthusiastic support of Brigadier Springhall.

The quarter peal at Hornchurch for the Patronal Festival was also a farewell to Mr. T. D. Belben. A native of Lytchett Matravers, Tim Belben has been employed as an accountant at Ford's Motor Works. Practically all his method-ringing has been done with the local band and at Havering-atte-Bower. His keenness, enthusiasm and good humour have made him a welcome visitor to all practices at these towers. He leaves the district to enter the Friary of the Society of St. Francis at Cerne Abbas, Dorset, with the best wishes of both bands. May his work be blessed.

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OLYMPIC YEAR OF MELBOURNE CATHEDRAL SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting

THE annual meeting was held on August 15th in the Cathedral belfry. The chairman was the Dean of Melbourne (the Very Rev. S. Barton Babbage), assisted by Rev. H. H. Girvan (the Precentor). Seventeen members were present.

The chairman opened the meeting with prayers, and after being welcomed by the captain (Mr. John Roper) thanked the Society for its excellent service to the Cathedral over the past 12 months. Apologies for absence were received and the minutes of the previous A.G.M. read and adopted. The balance sheet, which was healthy, was then read by the Precentor in the absence of the treasurer, and was adopted.

The captain in his report thanked the officers for their good work over the year. He welcomed four English ringers to the tower—Messrs. Arthur H. Fisher (Hampshire), Cecil H. Pearson (Oxon), Ernest H. Hughes (Cheshire) and George W. Pipe (Suffolk), stating that the influx of experienced ringers would help the team to higher achievements. Mr. Roper also paid tribute to the work of Mr. and Mrs. Philip M. J. Gray, now back in England, and gave a farewell to Miss Elizabeth Smith, who was to leave in November, thanking her for the help and service she had given. The captain stressed that visitors, both interstate and overseas, were always very welcome, and he was glad to say that many had honoured St. Paul's by their presence during the year.

Four new members were welcomed as learners—the Misses K. Phillipson and B. Sayce, and Messrs. Cox and Simpson. The captain closed his report by stating that the following year's ringing looked very promising with many able ringers in the band. He hoped that many quarter peals and peals would result due to this factor.

In the steeple-keeper's absence the tower captain read his report, stating that the bells were in very good order.

The election of officers. These were as follows: Tower captain, John J. F. Roper; vice-captain, Brenda L. Sheppard; secretary, Kenneth J. Minchinton; assistant secretary, Tom Barnett; treasurer, Francis Sheppard; auditor, Rev. H. H. Girvan; librarian, John Willis; steeple-keeper, Alan Bennett; assistant steeple-keepers, Dennis Cornish and Tom Bennett.

The captain then asked the Dean to dedicate three peal boards recording peals of Grandsire Triples, 15/6/52, Stedman Triples 28/11/54, and Bob Major, 17/4/55. The Dean, dedicating, mentioned the importance of a record of this nature as a reminder of past achievements and to the memory of service by others. There was still ample room on the belfry walls for more boards, and he expressed a wish that the Society would uphold this tradition. He then thanked the members for their service rendered to God, the Cathedral and to the city of Melbourne.

The secretary, Mr. K. Minchinton, then opened the discussion on ringing for the Olympic Games, reporting that a letter was sent to 'The Ringing World' inviting overseas ringers who might be coming to the Games to join St. Paul's. An effort was made by Mr. J. L. Garner-Hayward to organise a party; this had to be abandoned due to lack of members willing to make the journey to Australia. A letter was sent to Mr. Garner-Hayward, thanking him for his enthusiasm and work, by the secretary, who expressed a wish that a party might be seen there in the near future, and assuring them of a good welcome. It was unanimously decided that the captain make Olympic ringing arrangements with extra practice nights if necessary. There were two important occasions for ringing during the festival: one being at the service to be attended by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the other for the special Olympic service at the Main Stadium.

Arising out of 'Any other business,' a discussion opened concerning a badge. Mr. Cyril Williams asked whether the Society could purchase a badge, adding that he felt sure every member would be proud to wear one and would advertise his or her calling. This would help the Society in many ways, with a possibility of drawing recruits.

Before speaking on the subject, Mr. George Pipe took the opportunity of thanking all members of the band for the very warm welcome he had received on his arrival from England in July. He went on to say that due to the very small number of badges required, members would

The Devil's Knell

Mr. C. Woodcock, of Ipswich, sends us a newspaper cutting which indicates that the Devil's Knell was rung at Dewsbury Parish Church as recently as 1953.

The tenor is tolled once for every year since the birth of Christ. In 1953 the ringing at Dewsbury was shared by several ringers. According to legend the custom was started in the 13th century.

possibly find the cost prohibitive. Mr. T. Bennett offered to make enquiries about this, a proposal which was unanimously agreed upon. The Rev. H. H. Girvan was asked to draft a design, along with one for a certificate of membership proposed by Mr. J. Roper.

It was suggested by the secretary that the Society should explore the possibilities of having the bells and the actual ringing of them televised. People took bells so much for granted that a pictorial programme about them would be both educational and a means of finding recruits. The meeting moved that the secretary be appointed to make enquiries into this matter.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with prayer. Supper was then served.

Ringing in 1956

When a prominent member of a band leaves a tower his place is generally very hard to fill, but when four or five leave within the space of about three months one can imagine the rife they make. Such was St. Paul's misfortune at the beginning of this year, and it wasn't long before even Grandsire Triples was a struggle.

This is typical of towers outside the British Isles: migrants come and go, and just when perseverance is being crowned with success the band is broken. Somehow it is always replenished though. No less than six members have joined the Society in 1956, three being Englishmen. Apart from the Australian ringers the following counties are represented: Cheshire, Derbyshire, Oxon, Gloucestershire, London, Hampshire, Wiltshire and Suffolk. It has been good to see so many visitors, too, both from Australian and British towers. About four more members are expected in the New Year. Now, once more, under the captaincy of John Roper, an enthusiastic band is being built up on the foundations laid by Philip and Joan Gray, and others. Plain Bob Minor, Triples and Major, Stedman and occasionally Little Bob, relieve the monotony of Grandsire. If all goes well, Caters and Bob Royal will be our aim in 1957.

At the end of September several of the Society attended a joint meeting at Ballarat, the garden city of Victoria. We were the guests, together with the Bendigo ringers, of the Ballarat company, and spent a most enjoyable day. The fine octave (22 cwt. in E flat) of the City Hall and the six (12 cwt.) of St. Peter's were put to very good use. These two rings, together with the eight at Bendigo and the 13 at St. Paul's, complete those ringable in Victoria.

English ringers will appreciate that the chances of extending one's scope and tower-grabbing are very limited, but that need not deter the Roving Ringers or other aspirants from visiting our shores. There are some very good rings in Sydney and in Adelaide, whilst we in Melbourne hope to have the octave at St. Patrick's R.C. Cathedral in ringing order soon.

On December 15th a similar excursion will see us in Bendigo, 100 miles from Melbourne. Scoring all the ringable towers in Victoria is hardly worth mentioning, so 'prime number' or not, we shall decline! (R. F. B. S. ref. A. P. C.!)

Ringing for the Olympic Games

The greatest disappointment to Australian ringers in the Games was that, due to lack of support, a band from England was unable to visit us. Nothing before or since the great adventure of 1934 has materialised, but we hope that 1957 or 1958 will see the fruition of a 'second attempt' to visit us 'down-under.'

For the past eight weeks or so everything in Melbourne has been 'Olympic.' Avenues and festivals, cornflakes and sealing-wax all bear the insignia. The five-circle emblem has been found in the most original places. Even alcoholics have achieved their 5,000 litres in record time. To crown it all, the Press, with its usual impeccable accuracy, has proclaimed that marathon *chimes* have been played on the great bells of St. Paul's!

The St. Paul's Cathedral Society rang two peals in two attempts, celebrating the XVth Olympiad. One of Plain Bob Major commemorated the opening of the Games, and one of Triples on December 2nd honoured the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh. Nine members took part in these peals, which enabled four to score their first peal outside England.

This was certainly the most memorable occasion in Melbourne's history: we can only hope that good citizenship and comradeship, modelled and fostered by the Olympic Games, will spread abroad to all nations and bring forth more in hundredfold.

K. J. MINCHINTON.
E. H. HUGHES.
G. W. PIPE.

Melbourne.

RAILWAYMEN'S GUILD

A further meeting of railwaymen church bell ringers was held on December 15th, at 17, Euston Square, London, for the purpose of hammering out the final constitution and rules governing the Guild.

The meeting, though not quite as large as the inaugural meeting at Crewe in June, was thoroughly representative and lively, but very friendly discussion took place on the two outstanding items—officers and membership.

It was eventually decided to print and circulate copies of the amended constitution and rules, two clear months before the annual general meeting, which will be held at Crewe between Easter and Whitsuntide. Due notice of the meeting will appear in 'The Ringing World.' Any further amendments to rules and constitution should be sent to the hon. general secretary a clear month before the A.G.M.

Despite some of the arrangements going awry, ringing after tea was enjoyed at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, thanks to the Vicar, the local ringers and Mr. Sid Foskett (joint prime mover, who arranged the meeting).

The peal of Stedman Cinques at Newport was rung as a compliment to Mr. C. Greedy, who can be justly proud of his record of being a ringer for 40 years, the last 27 years of which he has held the position of tower captain at St. Woolos. The excellent 'go' of the bells and the cleanliness of the ringing chamber are themselves a fine tribute to his keen work.

THE FAMILY SPIRIT AT ALDERSHOT

Influence of Mr. W. Denyer

Bell ringing has almost become a family concern at St. Michael's Church, Aldershot, states a recent special article in 'The Aldershot News.' Forty-five years ago Mr. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot, now the captain of the tower, became a church bell-ringer, and since then his sons and daughters, and now his grandsons and grand-daughters, have followed in his footsteps. Five of his sons and daughters are, or have been, ringers, and now he has five grand-children perfecting the art of campanology.

Mr. Denyer, at 74, is the oldest member of the bellringers, and the youngest member is 10-years-old Mary Bragg—yes, you have guessed it, a grand-daughter. Mary has only recently joined and she looks very, very small at the end of one of the long eight ropes in the tower.

Mr. Denyer is very proud of his eldest son, Mr. C. W. Denyer, who is not only captain of the Farnham Parish Church tower, where they have a 20½ cwt. bell, as compared to St. Michael's biggest weighing 8½ cwt., but is also a vice-president of the Guildford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers.

Another member of the family, grand-daughter Josie Whitford (15), 96, Ash Road, Aldershot, one of the more recent members, has just rung her first quarter peal. Bellringing has not only been spread among the Denyer family either; they believe in spreading the gospel to their friends as well, for also having recently rung their first quarter peal are three other girls—two of them recruited by Josie.

They are Stella Tate-Mitchell (17), 121, Roberts Road, Aldershot, and Diana Lathan (17), 113, Roberts Road, Aldershot. The third girl is Valerie Clist (14), 35, Brighton Road, Aldershot. She was recruited by her brother, who is a member. It appears that bellringers are not happy until they have all their friends and relations gathered around them in the tower. Mr. Denyer adds, too: 'It is a regular little marriage bureau here, you know; two of my daughters met their husbands here.'

It has taken the four girls over a year to learn to ring a quarter peal. Their next step is to ring a full peal. A peal lasts three hours and must contain 5,000 or more changes, while a quarter peal only occupies about three-quarter hours and contains 1,250 changes. Either way it sounds a great deal of standing still, but another member, Mr. W. H. Viggers, says: 'When you are concentrating on the ringing you don't notice how long you are standing—and you have to concentrate. It is fatal to let your thoughts wander.'

Normally ringers don't ring peals and quarter peals, however. There are about 24 ringers at St. Michael's and there are only eight ropes, so ringers take it in turns to ring shorter lengths called touches. There is no lying-in on Sunday mornings for bellringers, as they have to start ringing the bells at 9.30 for the 10 o'clock service. For evensong they start ringing 40 minutes before the service. Easter is a busy time, too, especially when there are a number of weddings.



Ringling their first quarter peal on the bells of St. Michael's, Aldershot — Valerie Clist (14), Josie Whitford (15), Stella Tate-Mitchell (17), Diana Lathan (17).
[Photo by permission of 'Aldershot News.']

In spite of having to get up early both summer and winter to ring for the 10 o'clock service, St. Michael's ringers can claim that since the lifting of the ban on ringing at the end of the war, the bells have rung out every Sunday morning and evening.

JOINT MEETING AT BISHOP'S STORTFORD

Despite the petrol situation and the uncertain weather, the N.W. District of the Essex Association and the Eastern District of the Hertford County Association had a very successful joint meeting at Bishop's Stortford on December 8th. The Master of the Essex Association, Mr. R. C. Heazel, and Mr. T. Southam, secretary of the Herts Eastern District, welcomed about 50 ringers from many parts of Essex, Herts and Middlesex.

The Rev. Mr. Minall conducted the service and gave a short address. Miss D. Mansfield, a Nazeing ringer, was at the organ. The service was followed by tea in the Church Hall, prepared and served by lady members of the Bishop's Stortford Guild. Mr. Heazel thanked all those who had helped to make the meeting a success.

After tea, ringing continued with touches of Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, Plain Bob Royal, Bob Major and Superlative Surprise Major.

Odd and Even Bob and Single Peal Stedman Triples

Arranged by LOUIS HEAD.

231456 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

346125 S

245136													
623145		S					S						
216435				S	S								
145623	S												
143256								S					
615243		S					S						
126453			S	S									

Repeat the calling of the last 7 courses four times adding S at 14 at end produces

3467251

625431		S				S							
246351			S	S									
541326													
562341	S					S							
536421			S	S									
341652	S												
342516							S						

Repeat the calling of the last 7 courses four times.

240 Bobs. 102 Singles. All 67s at back stroke.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'AN OBSERVATION'

Dear Sir,—After a recent peal of London Major to mark the anniversary of the first peal in this method, I think the time may now be ripe to put forward one or two ideas which I have been considering for quite a while.

Firstly, it is possible to obtain a method which is almost a true *reverse* of London Surprise Major, and this method I have called Greenwich:—

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

21354768	38
12537486	X
21573846	38
25178364	14
52718634	58
25176843	X
52716483	58
57261438	16
75624183	X
75261438	12
57624183	X
75264813	58
72546831	16
27458613	X
24785631	16
42758361	38

Lead head:

1 4 6 2 8 3 7 5
1 4 2 6 3 8 5 7

Next, comparing the two methods together with London Minor leads to the conclusion that the *true extension* of the latter to eight bells is *not* London Major (as rung) nor Greenwich, but Greenwich 'up' and London 'in.'

Thirdly, the true extension of Greenwich to twelve bells is an *acceptable method*:—

3T, X, 3T; 14, 5T, X, 5T; 16, 7T, 12, 7T;
58 (16 and 9T), X (16 and 9T); 70, 18, X, 18;
9T, 10, X, 10; with 3T at the half-lead.

Lead head:

1 4 6 2 8 3 0 5 T 7 E 9
1 4 2 6 3 8 5 0 7 T 9 E

Finally, let us review the problems which arise from the foregoing considerations:—

(a) There is, I believe, only one peal of Greenwich Major obtainable—a 5,184 by Mr. S. Burton (bearing in mind, of course, the desirability of keeping the tenors together). Greenwich Maximus has a clean proof scale, however.

(b) The true extension of Greenwich to ten bells is *not* an acceptable method, although it can be made so by 'fiddling' some of the work below the treble. (For clarity, this could perhaps be referred to as Woolwich, by virtue of its similarities and dissimilarities to Greenwich.)

To sum up then, it is apparent that the result of any attempt to extend London Surprise will depend very much on the starting-point (i.e., 'parent' method). If London Minor is taken as the basis, then Greenwich 'up' and London (as rung) 'in' is the method obtained on eight bells. This, however, is not an acceptable method, nor are the further extensions to ten and twelve bells.

If London Major be the point of commencement, the corresponding Royal method can be 'fiddled' below the treble to give various 'Versions,' e.g., No. 3. The extension to Maximus along this line of reasoning must also be adjusted in a similar manner.

Taking Greenwich Major as fundamental, the method obtained on ten bells requires 'fiddling' (again below the treble) to be acceptable. The resulting Maximus method, however, is acceptable as it stands. To understand clearly the following conclusion, it is *very* helpful to write out Greenwich Maximus from the place-notation already given. Then it will be seen that the route followed in extending Greenwich is the same as that for Cambridge, etc. In fact, with one exception, this same route is taken in the case of

all popular methods. The exception is referred to in the last paragraph, i.e., it must be concluded that the route generally chosen for extending London Major, albeit musical, is anomalous even before any 'fiddling' takes place. This fundamental anomaly occurs in the work above the treble, the most apparent result being that the slow work behind is not in the correct position relative to the treble's lying full (c.f. paragraph three, immediately after the figures for Greenwich Major).

In concluding, I should like to mention my indebtedness to Mr. C. J. Sedgley for investigating the occurrence of falseness in Greenwich Major, and in two slight variations thereof.—Yours faithfully,

D. MOTTERSHEAD.

Wilmslow, Cheshire.

Let 1957 Be Your Red Letter Year

No young ringer can feel he is part of the great ringing fraternity until he is a regular reader of 'The Ringing World.' We are now enrolling subscribers for 1957. We ask District representatives to make a special effort so that 1957 will be a red letter year. The drop in circulation reported at the Central Council annual meeting has been made good, but we want to do much better.

Remittances should be sent to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro. Rates: 12 months, £1 8s.; 6 months, 14s. 6d.; 3 months, 7s. 6d.

'THE TOWER-GRABBER'

Dear Sir,—The 'tower-grabber,' of the type mentioned by Mr. T. W. Clark in his letter—and a member of the Crayford band is one of the keenest of them—always seems to me to be like a cricketer who does not take part in matches because that would be 'associating himself with ten or a dozen like-minded' people at fixtures 'mainly in their own neighbourhood' and half of them on the same ground. Instead, he indulges in net-practice at Toads-in-the-Hole all over the country because he has never had a ball bowled at him there before!—Yours sincerely,

E. A. BARNETT.

Crayford, Kent.

NO CRITICISM OF CORNISH RINGERS

Dear Sir,—How Mr. Box can read criticism of Mr. Carveth into my letter (p. 763) I don't know, but just to make my position absolutely clear, may I make these final remarks?

I did *not*, either at the Guildford dinner or in my letter, express, intend or imply any criticism of Mr. Carveth in particular or Cornish ringers in general. On the contrary, I have the greatest respect for them, particularly men like Charles Sangwin and Rev. A. S. Roberts.

I would still like to say to Mr. Carveth, as I did in a sentence deleted from my last letter, that he should not take umbrage at reports of speeches as they appear in the 'R.W.', as they are so condensed (through no fault of the editor) that they often take on a quite different meaning in print to the words as spoken.

As regards Mr. Box's own unkind remarks about Cornish scenery, climate, etc., I entirely disagree with him. I know of no finer setting for any church than that of St. Morwenna, Morwenstone. The bus service may not be quite up to Birmingham standards, but I know which I prefer. (No criticism of St. Martin's intended or implied, Mr. Box.)—Yours sincerely,

ROY COLLINS.

Chobham.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Exeter Branch Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Exeter Branch was held at St. Thomas', Exeter, on December 8th. The attendance was rather disappointing, about 30 members and visitors being present, the price and scarcity of petrol and the cup-tie football match being possible causes.

The Vicar (the Rev. J. P. Henton) gave the Branch a warm welcome and proceeded with the Guild 'form of service.' In the sermon he gave an inspiring Advent message and referred to the part the ringers could play in the seasons of the Church.

At the business meeting, which followed a sumptuous sit-down tea, the chair was taken by the Rev. C. J. Poulton, supported by the president (Preb. E. V. Cox).

The business opened with those present standing in silence in respect of those members who had passed on during the year, viz.: Bishop W. F. Surtees, Chancellor D. McLaren, the late general secretary (Mr. E. J. Taylor) and Mr. Harry Spicer. Apologies were received from Mr. H. W. Butt and the Thorverton band.

Arising from the minutes, Mr. E. J. Ryall asked about the progress of a previous resolution about invitations to the University and St. Luke's. The meeting asked Mr. Ryall to contact the authorities concerned with a view to getting a University Guild of Ringers started.

The annual report was presented and adopted. The main points were the serious position of the steady decline in membership over the past five years; the failure of getting a band going at St. David's, Exeter; the success of meetings held during 1956, and the proposal that a regular practice for learners be started soon. Messrs. E. J. Ryall, E. W. Biffin and W. H. Howe spoke at some length about the decline in membership.

The financial report, with balances of £18 3s. 9d. in the general account and over £40 in the instruction fund, was adopted.

All the officers were re-elected for 1957: Chairman, Rev. C. J. Poulton; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. F. Wreford; assistant secretary, Mr. F. Wills; Ringing Master, Mr. E. W. Biffin; deputy Ringing Master, Mr. N. Mallett; representatives to the General Committee, Mr. H. W. Butt, Mr. E. W. Biffin and Mr. H. J. Corry.

Meetings arranged for 1957 were: February 9th, St. Mark's; July 13th, Ide; September 14th, Bramford; December 14th, St. David's; subject to permission being obtained.

Guild proficiency certificates were presented by the president to Miss S. Fry, Miss P. Randall and Mr. H. Baker, all of St. Mark's, Exeter. New members elected were Miss P. Randall, Mr. J. Pearce, Mr. F. Radbourn, Mr. C. T. Williams and Miss M. Clowes.

The meeting closed with the usual thanks extended to those contributing to the success of the meeting.

A SOLIHULL GOLDEN WEDDING

On December 16th, Mr. and Mrs. William Leeson, of Solihull, celebrated their golden wedding. Since he was a small boy Mr. Leeson has been closely associated with St. Alphege's Church, Solihull, first as choirboy and then as bellringer. In the latter office he has served for well over 50 years, and has been noted for his sincere devotion to the Sunday service ringing. In this latter duty his regularity and punctuality may well be models for all ringers.

The band at St. Alphege's tower conveyed to Mr. and Mrs. Leeson their congratulations and good wishes, and on the Sunday evening a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in celebration by: T. Hayward 1, C. Dale 2, V. W. Rigg 3, R. Cann 4, T. Warner 5, C. Bragg 6, G. E. Fearn 7, E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 8.

The quarter peal was followed by 50 well-struck rounds.

OBITUARY

MR. ISAAC EMERY

Mr. Isaac Emery, whose sudden death at Ottery St. Mary on December 17th was briefly recorded in our last issue, will for many years be remembered with the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Bromley. He was 84 years of age.

As a boy at St. Mary Cray, he rang his first 120 there in 1887, but in 1911 he moved to Bromley, and thus had a record of 45 continuous years of faithful and enthusiastic service to that church. He was promptly elected secretary of the band, and became its leader in 1927, a position he held until the autumn of last year.

Even during the hazards of recent winters and in spite of living some distance from the church, Mr. Emery set his band an example in attendance and punctuality. However, he had found this a strain, and last year at the annual general meeting of SS. Peter and Paul's ringers expressed a wish to retire from the leadership, which then passed to Mr. Percy Spice, who has been a member of the band since 1915 and secretary since 1921. The secretary and deputy leader is now Mr. David Martin.

The church with its bells was destroyed in the blitz during the early days of the last war, and on those bells Mr. Emery rang 64 peals, many of them as conductor. He had, of course, been a member of the Kent County Association for many years, and Lewisham District meetings will be the poorer for his absence. A staunch College Youth, he was the oldest member to be present at the last annual dinner in London in November.

In 1951, when the new ring was installed in the restored tower of Bromley, he took his part in training a band with the vigour and patience of a man many years younger. A. S. R.

MR. EDGAR HUMFREY

Ringers in Reading were sorry to hear of the death of Edgar Humfrey in his 87th year.

He first commenced ringing at Abingdon in 1887, where he was foreman for two periods of four years. His first peal was in 1887, conducted by Rev. F. E. Robinson. In all he rang 43 peals with F. E. R.

Mr. Humfrey first conducted a peal in 1888, calling Holt's Ten-part, and in 1925 he called Holt's Original at Caversham. He rang his first peal of Surprise at the age of 78, and rang in a peal of Stedman Cinques at Reading on his 80th birthday.

In one of his diaries Mr. Humfrey records that in 1886 he rode a pennyfarthing from Abingdon to Crystal Palace, to Brighton and back to Abingdon, in four days—a distance of 230 miles. In more recent years he used to cycle from Reading to Abingdon at the time of the Oxford Festivals.

Mr. Humfrey served in the Yeomanry in the Boer War and was a volunteer in the 1914-18 war. He was on the staff of the National Pig Breeders' Association, from which he retired 20 years ago. Whilst a ringer at St. Laurence's, Reading, he was for many years churchwarden at Woodley Church and also its treasurer for 19 years.

He was very active for his age, and only two days before his death he had lopped all the trees in Woodley churchyard.

HIS PEALS

Doubles.—One of 7 methods, one of 12 methods.

Minor.—One Plain Bob, one of 3 methods. Triples.—28 Grandsire (cond. 2), 51 Stedman (cond. 1).

Major.—Plain Bob 6, Kent 8, Oxford 2, Cambridge 1, Double Norwich 10.

Caters.—Grandsire 29 (cond. 3), Stedman 20 (cond. 5).

Royal.—Kent 1. Cinques.—Grandsire 3, Stedman 8

MR. GEORGE E. PANNELL

With regret we record the death on November 30th of Mr. George E. Pannell, of Twinstead, Essex, aged 75 years. A native of Gestingthorpe, he learned to ring there after the rehanging of the bells in 1910, and was a member of the then well-known Gestingthorpe band.

He was also a cricketer, being a member of the local club at a time when it included Captain Oates, of Antarctic fame. George was good with the ball, once capturing all ten wickets in an innings. During the first world war he was wounded, which resulted in a permanent disablement.

About 1925 he moved to Wickham St. Paul, and it was here he was largely responsible for the rehanging of the five bells and the teaching of a change-ringing band. Being a wheelwright and carpenter he was a handyman about the belfry.

Never a great peal ringer, he was a regular Sunday service ringer, good striking being his aim. Despite his disability, he frequently walked to Gestingthorpe for a practice to help a struggling band.

On retirement ten years ago, he moved to Twinstead, but poor health prevented him doing but little ringing. Nevertheless, he retained an interest in ringing and was a regular reader of 'The Ringing World' until his death. He leaves a widow, two sons and a daughter.

He was buried at Gestingthorpe on December 5th. On December 7th his fellow ringers at Wickham St. Paul, as a last token of respect, rang with clappers half-muffled a well-struck quarter peal of 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Corder 1, C. Weavers 2, T. Bird (conductor) 3, A. Bird 4, R. Rippingale 5. T. B.

MR. E. E. PRATCHETT

It is with sincere regret that we announce the death, on December 14th, of Mr. E. E. Pratchett, of 10, Florence Street, Hendon, N.W.4, in his 82nd year. Known to his old ringing friends as 'Old Mac,' and to all members of St. Mary's, Hendon, Guild affectionately as 'Pop,' he will be greatly missed, having been a ringer at St. Mary's for over 66 years. While owing to ill health he had not been able to attend for some while, his interest never lagged, and he always looked forward to friends calling on him so that he could keep in touch with everything going on in the belfry. He was a wonderful inspiration to all.

The funeral service took place in his old church of St. Mary on December 20th. May he rest in peace.

MR. WILLIAM E. LEIGH

The death occurred on September 28th of Mr. William Edward Leigh, aged 80, the oldest member of the Edenbridge band of ringers. He was a ringer for 60 years, but retired a few years ago through illness. However, living close by the church he was able to enjoy hearing the bells.

The funeral was held on October 2nd, and in the evening the local band rang a half-muffled quarter peal of Grandsire Triples in his memory.

MR. HEDLEY GREGORY

With regret we record the death on November 2nd of Mr. Hedley Gregory, only son of Mr. H. Gregory, of 39, Royal Park, Bristol, tower Master of Emmanuel, Bristol. From an early age Hedley had suffered from infantile paralysis, which he endured with great courage, and in spite of his affliction he was able to take his place regularly with the ringers. His last visit to the tower to do duty was Sunday, September 16th. He leaves a widow and two children.

The funeral service at Christ Church, Clifton, on November 7th, was largely attended.

MR. JOHN HOLME

Mr. John Holme, of Silverdale, Lancashire, whose recent death at the age of 92 was reported in 'The Ringing World,' was one of the best-known ringers in the north-west. Until two years ago he was to be seen regularly in the belfry, and his ringing career extended over 75 years.

Mr. Holme was born at Ambleside in 1864, and first learnt to handle a bell at Ambleside when he was 15 years old.

Change-ringing bands were not so easy to come by in those days in this district, and it was not until 1904 that he rang his first peal, one of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor. This was rung at Brathay, where John was then ringing regularly, and in that year five peals were scored by this same band of ringers on the bells of Brathay and Langdale, the methods including Plain Bob, Duke of York, Violet, College Single, Woodbine, Cambridge and New London Pleasure.

In 1908 he was appointed sexton at Brathay Church, and in that year and the following year he took part in two peals, both of 10,080 changes each. These peals were regarded as a feat of some magnitude by people in the north-west, and were mentioned extensively in the local newspapers. So far as the writer knows, they still remain record lengths for this part of the country.

The years 1905 to 1909 were the most active of John's ringing life. In these five years he took part in no less than 597 720's of Minor, mostly for Sunday service. He kept records of all these 'peals' with considerable care.

In 1921 he moved to Silverdale for health reasons and there joined the local ringers. His presence probably encouraged the many peals rung there from 1925 to 1929 and laid the foundations for the change-ringing bands that followed in the 1930's, who subsequently formed the Lancaster Branch of the Lancashire Association.

His peal total is not high, 29 in number, but considering where and when they were rung, his last in 1929, they must have been achieved only after much perseverance.

MR. FRED ROBSON

All ringers in the north-east and many throughout the country will note the passing of Mr. Fred Robson, for 50 years a ringer at St. Oswald's, West Hartlepool, except for his 1914-1918 war service.

He was of a kindly disposition, a patient teacher with beginners; always a smile and a cheery word. His last ring was at an Association meeting at his own church some five weeks ago and, although a sick man, he climbed the tower steps and had a short touch. He will be very much missed. E. C.

MR. ARTHUR J. FARR

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of Mr. Arthur Joseph Farr, of 16, Halmer Gate, Spalding, who died at Woodlands Court, Kirton, on December 8th. He was 71.

A member of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild for 56 years, he moved to Spalding as cemetery superintendent after the 1914-18 war, and was for many years captain of the belfry, retiring from this position in 1950. He was also a Guild committee representative and Branch auditor for many years.

Although his health has not permitted him to do any ringing for the past three or four years, he was always pleased to see ringers and hear of local activities. He had rung and conducted quite a number of peals, but unfortunately did not keep a full record of all his performances.

The funeral service took place at Spalding on December 12th, followed by cremation at Nottingham. Many ringers and friends attended and half-muffled ringing took place both before and after the service. R. C. N.

COLLEGE OF CAMPANOLOGY

ADMINISTRATION.—The College is now represented in 'areas' of some 14 counties and in South Wales and Ireland, and the (acting) Administrative Committee is functioning with books of record and account.

DEVELOPMENT POLICY.—It has always been seen that the College should be organised by the many and not by a few, but that general support could not be expected without general knowledge of its proposals and possibilities. Also that, *when these had been proved*, the blessing of Central Council might be forthcoming. To this end the draft of the working basis (Part I of the Manual) was first made public, and 'trial' courses and tests in accordance with it have been carried out, before approval for general adoption. Members of the College, therefore (potential as well as enrolled), are now in a position to form views towards finalising Part I, and shaping the Constitution of the College, before its work is launched, generally, in the New Year. Circular letters on these matters are shortly going to members, but ALL who are interested in the planned teaching of ringing still have the opportunity to take part in establishing and running the College. (They should write in before December 31st.)

TRAINING MANUAL.—Attention focused on the recent serial of Part I has tended to obscure the importance of the ringing aspects and the work of the College covered by the remaining six Parts; but it has evoked anticipated helpful comments, for which the Administrative Committee is grateful. Part I is now undergoing entire revision, as intended, and the main amendments include: (a) A reversion to a former order of teaching strokes in ringing action. (b) The concept of a 'rise' stroke instead of a 'check' stroke, and of a 'balanced rise' stroke. (c) Further breakdown of drill action for bell lowering. (d) Generally, simpler exposition where possible without impairing full meaning. By courtesy of the Editorial Committee of 'The Ringing World' and by arrangement with them and with the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., it is hoped shortly to issue the (revised) reprints of Part I of the Manual, in booklet form at approximately cost price.

SERVICE RINGING.—A first practical result, in a main objective of the work of the College, is the training (Hampshire area) of a band of beginners, enabling the bells of St. Thomas' Cathedral Church, Portsmouth, to be rung for Evensong regularly for the first time since before the war. (Commenced Remembrance Sunday.)

TRAINING TRIALS.—Courses for Tutors I and Ringers I, running concurrently, have recently concluded with examinations, with these results:

Tutor I.—S. Kathleen Mary Knight (1st Class), Roger Baldwin.

Ringer I.—(1st Class) Marjorie Anne Baker, Christabel Hussey, Jennifer Peate, Angela Jane Sandiford, Anthony Keeble Shaw, Una P. Woodward; (2nd Class) Judith Baker, Judith Anne Bowles, Christopher Whitaker, Christopher Woodward; (Pass) Roger Geoffrey Bishop.

Two candidates deferred test; two left district; one failed. Further courses locally are under consideration.

SCHOOLS OF RINGING.—Arrangements are formulated for autonomous working (in College courses) of schools affiliated to the College, in accordance with Article XII of the draft constitution. Details will be sent gladly on application to the Registrar's Office, 24, Doyle Avenue, Portsmouth.

A MEMORABLE DAY FOR MASONIC RINGERS

Saturday, December 8th, will be a day to be remembered by a number of Masonic ringers, for it was on this day that Dee 'Cee' Vee, otherwise known as David Vincent, was installed as Master of his Lodge in Sale in the Province of Cheshire.

Right from the word 'go,' everything went off perfectly, both in the 'upper room' and at the festive board. Nothing had been spared to make this a red letter day.

The entertainment was of a high order. One ringing visitor, after an amusing 'solo,' joined other artistes present and finished with 'Running them in,' a request item. Handbells were included, the Master evoking comment from his predecessor by claiming the two smallest bells to a well-struck course of Grandsire Caters. Finally, in response to a 'demand' for more, a perfect course of Stedman Triples was briskly 'tapped' off by four well-known ringing brethren.

An innovation was the heralding in of the new Master, not by trumpets and shawms, but by a touch of Grandsire Triples—not only surprising, but judging by the applause delighting the entire assembly and obviously filling the Master with pride. The good gathering of ringing members present were sufficient to man a tower for Maximus, another for Minor the same time, leaving some to criticise, and had arrived punctual it was noted, and in spite of petrol shortages were not short in spirit after having travelled from Beckenham, Slough, Coventry, Wallasey, Twinpool, Southport, Bolton and Manchester area. One member states he arrived home after travelling all night and after rockin' 'n' rollin' for 23 hours and 55 minutes—almost twice around the clock.

Although it was such a splendid ceremony, etc., there was one character missing—Bess, David's red setter dog; she generally goes wherever D. V. goes in his car, and it is said that whenever that passes a church with a tower she expects to get out. Having snatched many towers she has yet to score a peal, although she has listened in to several when the car has been parked in close vicinity. We understand Bess is no stranger in De Sala and is well known in the kitchens. P. C.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Chew Deanery Annual Meeting

The Chew Deanery Branch visited Wraxall for the annual meeting on December 1st, and ringing on the fine octave there commenced promptly at 3 o'clock and continued until the service, which was conducted by the Rector (Preb. W. N. Kempe), who gave a short address.

A very fine tea, arranged by the wives of the local ringers, was enjoyed in the Library adjoining the church, and after the minutes of the previous annual meeting were read and confirmed, all the existing officers of the Branch were re-elected for 1957, with the exception of Mr. L. Pullin, who said that due to his business he felt he was unable to fulfil the duties of deputy Ringing Master. Mr. C. Bishop was elected in his place. Officers for 1957, therefore, will be: Chairman and Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Knight; deputy Ringing Masters, Messrs. L. Derrick and C. Bishop; secretary and representative on the Association general committee, Mr. P. G. Yeo; and reporter, Mr. M. Horseman.

If permission is forthcoming it was agreed to hold meetings as follows: St. John's, Clevedon (January), Portishead (February), Clutton (March), and Chew Magna (April) for the quarterly meeting, with Winford as an alternative. Although no specific invitations have been received, it was suggested that it might be possible to visit Winford or Portishead for the Corporate Communion on the fourth Sunday in April.

One new member from Wraxall and four from Kingston Seymour were elected, and the secretary then brought forward several matters which had been sent to him by the general secretary. The Master of the Association, Rev. M. B. Hurst-Bannister, will be resigning at the end of the year due to his moving out of the county, and suggestions for a new Master were requested. The meeting decided that the names of the Rev. H. Warren, of Exford, and Rev. W. H. Young, of Failand, should go forward to the general committee. It was agreed to recommend to the general committee that the present Central Council representatives should be re-elected.

Votes of thanks, proposed by Mr. D. Yeo, to all those who had contributed to a happy meeting, concluded the business. Ringing was then resumed in a variety of methods up to Camberidge Major. M. J. H.

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SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Financial Amendments

A special general meeting of the Sussex County Association was held in the Union Church Hall, Brighton, on December 8th, to approve the final design for the new certificates, and to discuss the financial position of the Association. Fifty-eight members attended. Apologies were received from Messrs. F. Dallaway, K. Knight and L. Stilwell.

Two designs obtained by Mr. Blackburn and Mr. Cracknell were passed round, and the design by the friend of the latter was accepted. This was proposed by Mrs. Percy, seconded by Mr. G. Beene, and carried. The meeting passed a unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Cracknell for all the assistance he had given, and the chairman was asked to write and thank the two gentlemen who had supplied the designs.

FINANCE

The chairman drew the attention of the meeting to the agenda, regarding finance, which had been circulated to all the affiliated towers.

ITEM 1.—To amend rule 3 paragraph 3 as follows: 'That the annual subscription for membership be 3s. and that towers be affiliated to the Association on payment of this subscription per registered member of the band, with a minimum of £1 ls.' This was proposed by Mr. Overy and seconded by Mr. Elphick. After much debating it was found that this amendment would not benefit the Association, and was withdrawn.

Mr. Stalham then proposed that the affiliation fee be raised from 21s. to 25s: This was seconded by Mr. Laker and carried, 25 voting for, 13 against.

ITEM 2.—'That any gifts to divisional funds this year shall not be taken into account by the hon. treasurer when declaring his levy.' This was proposed by Mr. Butcher, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and carried by 20 for and 3 against.

Mrs. Percy gave the normal 14 days' notice for alteration to rules 7 and 13, to enable the accounts to be held in one central fund, the divisional secretaries holding sufficient moneys for their own needs. This was seconded by Mr. Overy.

Mr. Weller gave the normal 14 days' notice regarding War Stock held by the Association. He proposed to sell the existing investments, earning little interest, and re-invest in new stock at a greater interest. This was seconded by Mr. Francis.

ITEM 3.—(a) That efforts be made to increase the number of honorary members of the Association. This was proposed by Mr. Butcher, seconded by Mr. Overy, and carried.

(b) That the price of the Annual Reports sold to individual members shall be the full cost of producing same. This was proposed by Mr. Stalham, seconded by Mr. Francis, and carried.

(c) That a fee of 6d. per rope be charged for all peals rung for the Association, this fee to be paid to the treasurer of the Association. This was proposed by Mr. Weller, seconded by Mr. Francis, and carried by 27 for, 3 against.

(d) Mr. Francis proposed that the fee for non-resident members be raised from 5s. to 7s. 6d. Mr. Weller seconded, and this was carried.

(e) The secretary asked the meeting to fix a price for the new certificates, the money obtained to be put aside for future reprinting of same. Mr. Overy proposed 2s. 6d. each, seconded by Mr. Weller, and this was carried.

Mr. Cracknell suggested a collection to cover the expense of the special meeting. The amount collected was in excess of the cost of the meeting.

Fifty-seven members attended the meeting.

'DEDICATION'

There's a new ring just been hung—
great rejoicings;
The dedication, full-robed choir,
and much ringing;
The band, all local men, jealously guarding
their rights for first trying
The bells that have just been hung.

Many ringers are present, from near
and afar,
To try these new bells, and to sample the tea—
Prepared by the ladies, of this well-known
[belfry].
To meet old colleagues of days long ago,
And to ring with the young ones,
with faces aglow—
On these bells that have just been hung.

At times such as this, I pause and wonder
If those that are present
On this wonderful day,
Give thought for the man who spends his life
[in the tower].
He may not be known—but he's the bellhanger.

I see him now at the back of the church,
During the service, he sat there alone,
An onlooker was he, with no real part
to play
In this service today
Of the bells that have just been hung.

His work is done,
And so, forgotten, he sits there alone
With his thoughts—and memories of other
Like some well-fitted equation, [occasions]
And of these bells that have just been hung.

His thoughts are not centred on what is around
[him],
He has other things at the back of his mind—
Of his wife and his children,
who love him so dearly,
And his train that leaves on time.
And soon he will leave this church and its
And the bells he has recently hung, [ringers]
To make his way homewards—
His lonely way homewards
To his home and his own fireside.

For many years now, he has travelled around—
In belfry and tower,
In village and town,
And cities with celestial spires.
He knows them all,
He's worked them all,
And he's heard some heavenly choirs—
When at work of an eventide.

A shrewd judge of men,
For has he not seen
The rougher seam
Of human frailties.
And he knows well
The two-faced hell
Of landladies' hypocrisies!

Of lodges—good and bad—has he,
Whilst working 'out of town.'
And all he asks, he ever asks,
Is a feeling to be free—
From worries that do abound
Within the family tree.

Strong is the word,
For this man's constitution.
Through all these years, he's had to be,
Enabling him,
Through thick and thin—
To make his contribution
For his family's security.

When working aloft of a fine summer's morning,
The school bell rings at nine,
He hears the young children, happily calling,
And with a feeling described as fine—
Thinks of his boyhood days, those good old
[days],
And the air that he breathes is like wine!

What of his life?
And the question crosses his mind—
Has it been well spent?
From family ties that for a married man do
[bind],
Would he again (not by choice) be rent!

A hard life, a good life,
A sweet life, a bitter life—
Such has been his life.
And he's weathered the storms
Of human strife,
In his travels around
God's holy ground,
In tower and spire—
His hands for hire.
With his own philosophy!

Judge not this man, my friends,
For know you well
His 'daily bread'
Has wrought for you—a well-hung bell,
And pride goes not to his head.
Nor looks he for gratitude
From the average multitude
Of ringers.

Now the service is over
And the priests and choir are gone.
But the organist staying—
Begins and starts playing
The tune of his favourite psalm.

His favourite psalm,
The (23rd) twenty-third,
How often he has sung,
When the bells in their maiden speech
Out from the tower are heard,
When they first time are rung.

It's time for him to leave;
And with a last look round
O'er this familiar ground,
Steps quietly from the scene.

By 'TRAVELLER.'

THE LADIES' GUILD

A quarterly meeting of the Western District was held at Nailsea on December 8th when, in spite of the appalling weather, petrol shortage and the counter-attractions of the local 'bring and buy' sale, there was a good attendance.

A very enjoyable service, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Russell Davey), was preceded by an all-ladies touch of Stedman Doubles.

A good example of co-operation between church and ringers was shown over the question of tea for this meeting. An excellent 'knife and fork' repast was provided by the organisers of the 'bring and buy' sale, which was in aid of church funds, and the entire proceeds of the meal were given to the fund, resulting in a sum of £5 being raised.

At the short business meeting which followed, two new members were elected—Miss J. Parsons and Miss B. Jewell, both from Corston. Owing to petrol rationing, it was decided that the next meeting should be held in Bath. M. de J.

STANWELL, MIDDLEX.—On Nov. 24th, 1,680 Minor (720 Plain Bob, Double Bob, St. Clement's and Double Oxford, 720 Plain Bob, Double Bob, St. Clement's and Single Oxford and 240 Little Bob): P. A. Lawrence 1, F. T. Blagrove (cond.) 2-3, R. Woodcock 4, F. R. Scott 5, W. Butler 6.

NOTICES

New Scale of Charges

Meetings: 3/6 (minimum) for 30 words, afterwards 1½d. a word. Each additional insertion half charge.

Other Notices: 4/- (minimum) for 36 words, afterwards 1½d. a word.

Displayed: 6/6 per single column inch.

Latest Date: Monday first post.

NEW YEAR GREETINGS

A very happy New Year to all our ringing friends, especially members of the Cumerlands, is the wish of Marjorie and George E. Cross. 9481

Best wishes for the New Year to all ringing friends, especially members of the Eastern District, Yorkshire Association and the Beverley and District Ringing Society, from Albert E. Sellers, 3, Elwell Avenue, Beverley. 9483

BIRTH

MATTHEWS.—On Tuesday, December 18th, 1956, at Middlesex Hospital, to Frank and Marjorie, the gift of a daughter, Hazel Amela. 9493

ENGAGEMENTS

AGG—MUIRHEAD.—The engagement is announced between Anthony Rex, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Agg, of Wolverhampton, and Constance Anne, the elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Muirhead, of Backford, Cheshire. 9484

HORSEMAN—FRAY.—The engagement is announced between Michael John, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Horseman, of Hill View, The Grove, Nailsea, Somerset, and Monica Enid, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Fra of Upper Barrow Hill Farm, Farmborough, Somerset. 9485

RUSS—RITCHIE.—The engagement is announced between Ronald Keith, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Russ, 1, Wood Lane Close, Sonning Common, near Reading, Berks, and Edith, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. S. Ritchie, 46, Kenilworth Avenue, Wishaw, Lanarkshire, Scotland. 9486

DEATH

ROBSON.—Fred Robson, of 13, Grainger Street, West Hartlepool, aged 66 years. For 50 years a ringer at St. Oswald's and 50 years a member of Durham and Newcastle Association. 9489

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MISCELLANEOUS

COMPLETE YOUR FILE.—Back numbers of 'The Ringing World' are available for most issues of 1956, 1955, 1954 and 1953. Also odd copies back to 1945. 6d. per copy post free.—'Ringing World' Ltd., c/o Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Onslow St., Guildford.

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MEETINGS

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Meeting at Wood Green on Saturday, Dec. 29th. Bells 3 p.m. Service and tea. Important business to follow. All ringers cordially invited. 9428

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD.—Annual meeting at Halifax Parish Church (12) on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells 2.30 p.m. until late evening (8.30 approx.). Tea 5 p.m., and business meeting afterwards. Names for tea by Jan. 1st to Mr. V. Bottomley, 21, Bankfield View, Halifax. 9449

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Next meeting at Whitnash, on Saturday, Jan. 5th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 2nd, please.—H. M. Windsor, The Bakery, Long Itchington, near Rugby. 9486

DEVON GUILD.—N.E. Branch.—A.G.M., Tiverton St. Peter's, Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Numbers by Jan. 1st.—W. H. Ware, 1, Holly Road, Cowley-moor, Tiverton. 9429

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Annual meeting at Ely, Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Streatham bells available after tea. Names for tea to R. Housden, 20, Carter Road, Burwell, Cambs. 9488

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Watford District.—Practice meeting at Rickmansworth (10), Saturday, Jan. 5th. 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Everyone welcome.—K. R. Dunstan, Dis. Sec. 9467

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Tonbridge District) and LADIES' GUILD (Kent District).—Joint meeting at Hadlow on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, with cash, please (2s. 6d. each), by Wednesday, Jan. 2nd, to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. Ladies' Guild members please note change of tower. 9440

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at the Cathedral, Jan. 5th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 9497

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, Jan. 5th. St. Luke's, Chelsea, 3.45–5; St. Mary's, Battersea, 6.30–7.45. Business and nominations of officers 8 p.m. Practice, Monday, Jan. 7th, St. Mary's, Lambeth, 7.30 p.m.—Rogers, 14, The Grove, Isleworth. HOU 3921.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Newcastle, Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, Jan. 2nd, to A. Gaunt, 125, Orme Road, Newcastle, Staffs.—E. H. Edge, Hon. Sec. 9456

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Stony Stratford Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (8) at 5 p.m. All welcome.—R. H. Howson. 9478

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—Annual meeting, Thrapston (8), Saturday, Jan. 5th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., Names for teas by Tuesday previous, please, to L. Witten, Thrapston, Kettering, Northants. 9491

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting, Jan. 5th. Chesterfield, 3–5.15 and 6–7, Old Brampton 6–8.30. Names to Mr. S. Scattergood, 797, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield, by Jan. 3rd, please.—J. Scager, Sec. 9495

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Winter meeting, Sedgley, Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea not later than Wednesday, Jan. 2nd, to Fred Bennett, Pool House Road, Wombourne. 9454

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Annual meeting, St. Mary's, Nottingham, Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Names for tea by previous Tuesday to Mr. W. Nichols, 179, Eltham Road, West Bridgford.—C. W. Towers. 9457

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—Annual meeting, Andover, Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. in Copper Kettle Café. Meeting 6 p.m. in Church Room. Names for tea by Jan. 1st to G. K. Dodd, Ball Hill, Woolton Hill, near Newbury, Berks. 9492

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Quarterly meeting at Howden on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (8) available at 2 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in Church Hall 5 o'clock. Names by Jan. 3rd to Mr. E. A. Newham, 31, Pinfold Street, Howden, near Goole.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec. 9443

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—Annual meeting to be held at Great Baddow, Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30 p.m. Business meeting, election of officers for 1957, 6.15 p.m. Numbers for tea to A. H. Everett, Cornerway, Plantation Road, Boreham. 9469

LADIES' GUILD.—Sussex Division.—A.G.M. at St. Nicholas', Brighton, Saturday, Jan. 12th. Ringing 3 to 8 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., followed by meeting. Ladies please support. Gentlemen cordially invited. Names for tea, please, by Tuesday, Jan. 8th, to Miss K. Yeo, Hon. Sec., 118, Station Road, Hailsham. 9477

LADIES' GUILD.—North-Eastern District.—A joint meeting with the Eastern District of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association will be held at St. Andrew's, Roker, on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells available 3 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, Jan. 8th, to Mrs. N. I. Lea, 9, St. Vincent Street, South Shields. 9487

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—Annual meeting at Wymondham on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells from 2 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., Abbey Hotel. Names for tea by Wednesday, Jan. 9th, to Mr. H. Tooke, 11, Long Row, The Lizard, Wymondham. 9422

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Bloxham (8), Saturday, Jan. 12th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. Good bus service from Banbury. All welcome. Please notify H. L. Roper, Adderbury, Banbury, Oxon. 9482

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Daventry on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Important—names for tea to me by Tuesday previous.—F. W. Hancock, Willoughby, Rugby. 9494

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Practice meeting, Petworth, on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Names for tea, please, by previous Tuesday to G. Francis, Hook Cottage, Itchingfield, Horsham.—W. L. Weller. 9494

BARNSELY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

The December meeting was held at Earlsheaton, where the ring of eight was found greatly to the liking of the members. Tea was served by lady members of the church, and a good meal was enjoyed, thanks to the efforts of Mr. H. Dransfield and the local company.

Mr. J. W. Moxon presided over the meeting which followed, with Mr. N. F. Moxon as acting secretary in the absence of Mr. D. Smith. It was learnt that Mr. Smith is out of hospital and recovering from his leg injury; he is in good spirits and looking forward to resuming his ringing activities.

The chairman in his remarks recalled that the Earlsheaton ringers of 60 years ago were supreme in contest ringing. He also paid tribute to the ladies for the excellent tea, and his remarks were endorsed by Mr. J. W. Buxton.

Towers represented were Batley, Cawthorne, Crofton, Horbury, Liversedge, Kirkheaton, Ossett, Sandal, Shelley and Wakefield.

N. F. M.

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* Start slow six and bobs at 1, 4, 5, 6S, 8S, 11S, 15.

Repeat once, calling first course 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11S, 15, 18, and omit last course.

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